THE ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING Article 15(j) of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization concerning the functions of the Assembly in relation to regulations and guidelines concerning maritime safety and the prevention and control of marine pollution from ships,

NOTING the continuing concerns about the inconsistent provision and use of port waste reception facilities,

NOTING ALSO that States Parties to MARPOL 73/78 have undertaken to ensure the provision of adequate waste reception facilities in their ports, and should, to this end, take appropriate measures to ensure the effective implementation of their obligations,

NOTING FURTHER that Governments may delegate this duty to their ports industry or to other public or private bodies, but that States Parties retain the ultimate responsibility for ensuring that their undertaking is fulfilled and review how they may meet their obligations,

RECOGNIZING that, to achieve adequacy, it is necessary to have regard to the operational needs of users and to provide reception facilities for the types and quantities of waste from ships normally using a port,

RECOGNIZING FURTHER that, while the Comprehensive Manual on Port Reception Facilities provides guidance and technical advice, there is a need for guidelines on how best to plan the provision and utilization of port waste reception facilities that meet the needs of their users,

1. REQUESTS the Marine Environment Protection Committee to develop guidelines on the provision and use of port waste reception facilities;

2. REQUESTS FURTHER that the Marine Environment Protection Committee consider the most appropriate means of promoting the guidelines, and subsequently requests the Secretary-General to promote them;

3. INVITES the Marine Environment Protection Committee to keep the guidelines under review and to amend them as necessary in the light of experience.