DRAFT TEXT OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
FOR THE PREVENTION OF POLLUTION FROM SHIPS, 1973

Text of the Preamble as agreed by the Committee

THE CONTRACTING PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION,*

BEING CONSCIOUS OF THE NEED to preserve the human environment in general
and the marine environment in particular,

RECOGNIZING that deliberate, negligent or accidental release of oil and
other harmful substances from ships constitutes a serious source of pollution,

RECOGNIZING the importance of the International Convention for the
Prevention of Pollution of the Sea by Oil, 1954, as being the first multi-
lateral instrument to be concluded with the prime objective of protecting
the environment, and appreciating the significant contribution which that
Convention has made in preserving the seas and coastal environment from
pollution,

DESIRING to achieve the complete elimination of intentional pollution
of the marine environment by oil and other harmful substances and the
minimization of accidental discharge of such substances,

CONSIDERING that this object may best be achieved by establishing rules
not limited to oil pollution having a universal purport,

HAVE AGREED as follows:

* The Committee agreed that this term should be used in the Preamble but,
elsewhere in the Convention the term "Party(ies) to the Convention" should
be used in place of "Contracting States" (see footnote to Article 1
(MP/CONF/DA/1/Rev.1)).