

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON **SALVAGE (1989)**

FINAL ACT OF THE CONFERENCE AND CONVENTION ON SALVAGE

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FINAL ACT OF THE CONFERENCE AND CONVENTION ON SALVAGE



INTERNATIONAL
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FOREWORD

This publication contains the texts of the acts adopted by the International Conference on Salvage, which was held under the auspices of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) from 17 to 28 April 1989.

In addition to the Final Act, the Conference adopted the International Convention on Salvage, 1989. The Conference also adopted a Common Understanding concerning articles 13 and 14 of the Convention, and two resolutions dealing respectively with the amendment of the York-Antwerp Rules of 1974 and international co-operation for the implementation of the 1989 Salvage Convention. The texts of the Common Understanding and the two resolutions are annexed to the Final Act as Attachments 1, 2 and 3.

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Final Act of the International Conference on Salvage, 1989

1 In accordance with Article 2(b) of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization, the Council of the Organization decided, at its fourteenth extraordinary session in November 1987, to convene an international conference to consider the adoption of a new convention on the law of salvage. This decision was endorsed by the Assembly of the Organization at its fifteenth regular session by resolution A.633(15) of 20 November 1987 on the work programme and budget for the fifteenth financial period 1988-1989.

2 The Conference was held in London, at the Headquarters of the International Maritime Organization, from 17 to 28 April 1989.

3 Representatives of 66 States participated in the Conference, namely the representatives of:

Algeria	Germany, Federal Republic of
Argentina	Ghana
Australia	Greece
Bahamas	Hungary
Barbados	India
Belgium	Indonesia
Brazil	Iran (Islamic Republic of)
Bulgaria	Ireland
Canada	Israel
Chile	Italy
China	Japan
Colombia	Kiribati
Congo	Kuwait
Côte d'Ivoire	Liberia
Cuba	Malaysia
Cyprus	Marshall Islands
Czechoslovakia	Mexico
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Morocco
Democratic Yemen	Netherlands
Denmark	Nigeria
Ecuador	Norway
Egypt	Panama
Finland	Peru
France	Poland
Gabon	Portugal
German Democratic Republic	Republic of Korea
	Saudi Arabia

Seychelles
Spain
Sweden
Switzerland
Tunisia
Turkey
Union of Soviet Socialist
Republics

United Kingdom of Great Britain
and Northern Ireland
United States of America
Uruguay
Venezuela
Yugoslavia
Zaire

4 The following State sent an observer to the Conference:

Romania

5 Hong Kong, an Associate Member of the International Maritime Organization, sent observers to the Conference.

6 A representative of the following body of the United Nations attended the Conference:

Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

7 The following two intergovernmental organizations sent observers to the Conference:

International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund (IOPC FUND)
Arab Federation of Shipping (AFS)

8 The following 19 non-governmental international organizations sent observers to the Conference:

International Chamber of Shipping (ICS)
International Union of Marine Insurance (IUMI)
International Maritime Committee (CMI)
International Association of Ports and Harbors (IAPH)
Baltic and International Maritime Council (BIMCO)
Latin American Shipowners Association (LASA)
Oil Companies International Marine Forum (OCIMF)
European Tugowners Association (ETA)
International Shipowners' Association (INSA)
Friends of the Earth International (FOEI)
International Association of Drilling Contractors (IADC)
International Salvage Union (ISU)
Oil Industry International Exploration & Production Forum
(E & P Forum)
International Association of Independent Tanker Owners
(INTERTANKO)
International Group of P and I Associations (P and I)
International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources
(IUCN)

Advisory Committee on Pollution of the Sea (ACOPS)
 International Lifeboat Federation (ILF)
 International Association of European General Average Adjusters
 (AIDE)

9 His Excellency, Dr. Francisco Kerdel-Vegas, Head of the delegation of Venezuela, was elected President of the Conference.

10 The Vice-Presidents elected by the Conference were:

Rear Admiral F. Lazcano	(Chile)
Mr. Meng Guangju	(China)
Mr. S. Rosadhi	(Indonesia)
Dr. H. Tanikawa	(Japan)
Mr. M.M.R. Al-Kandari	(Kuwait)
The Rt. Hon. Lord Justice Kerr	(United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)
Mr. G.G. Ivanov	(Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)
Rear Admiral J.E. Vorbach	(United States of America)
Citoyen Tito Yisuku Gafudzi	(Zaire)

11 The Secretariat of the Conference consisted of the following officers:

Secretary-General	Mr. C.P. Srivastava Secretary-General of the Organization
Executive Secretary	Mr. T.A. Mensah Assistant Secretary-General
Deputy Executive Secretary	Mr. C.H. Zimmerli, Senior Deputy Director, Legal Affairs and External Relations Division

12 The Conference established a Committee of the Whole with the mandate to consider the draft articles for a Convention on Salvage. The Conference also established a Committee on Final Clauses with the mandate to consider the draft final clauses of the Convention.

13 The Drafting Committee established by the Conference was composed of representatives from the following nine States:

China	Spain
Egypt	United Kingdom of Great Britain and
France	Northern Ireland
Mexico	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Netherlands	United States of America