

RESOLUTION LC.51(16)
adopted on 12 November 1993

AMENDMENTS TO THE ANNEXES TO THE CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION OF
MARINE POLLUTION BY DUMPING OF WASTES AND OTHER MATTER, 1972
CONCERNING DISPOSAL AT SEA OF RADIOACTIVE WASTES AND
OTHER RADIOACTIVE MATTER

THE SIXTEENTH CONSULTATIVE MEETING,

RECALLING articles I and II of the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter which state, *inter alia*, that Contracting Parties shall individually and collectively promote the effective control of all sources of pollution of the marine environment and that they shall harmonize their policies to prevent marine pollution caused by dumping,

BEING AWARE that the dumping of high level radioactive wastes or other high level radioactive matter is prohibited under article IV in connection with Annex I, paragraph 6 of the Convention,

NOTING resolution LDC.21(9) on the suspension of all dumping at sea of radioactive wastes and other radioactive matter and recognizing that, such suspension shall continue until the entry into force of the amendment to Annex I, paragraph 6 of the Convention,

NOTING ALSO that the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) is the competent international body to define waste and other matter considered to be radioactive for purposes of regulatory control under the Convention and has been requested by Contracting Parties to develop quantitative limits for de minimis (exempt) levels of radioactivity,

RECOGNIZING that in the interim, the Parties shall be guided by IAEA Safety Series 78 and 89, and decisions and recommendations taken at the Consultative Meetings,

NOTING FURTHER that amendments to the Convention relating to the issue of inclusion of sub-sea-bed repositories accessed from the sea in the definition of "dumping" are under consideration by the Contracting Parties,

RECALLING ALSO resolution LDC.44(14) on the application of a precautionary approach to environmental protection within the framework of the London Convention 1972,

BEING ALSO AWARE of the encouragement by UNCED, Agenda 21, chapter 22.5(b) to the Contracting Parties to expedite work to complete studies on replacing the current voluntary moratorium on disposal of low-level radioactive waste at sea by a ban,

NOTING FURTHER the conclusions and the options on disposal at sea of radioactive waste as contained in the final report (LC/IGPRAD 6/5) of the Inter-governmental Panel of Experts on Radioactive Waste Disposal at Sea which was established on the basis of resolution LDC.28(10) and expressing its appreciation to the experts involved in the preparation of this final report,