

CONVENTION ON THE INTERNATIONAL REGULATIONS
FOR PREVENTING COLLISIONS AT SEA, 1972

THE PARTIES TO THE PRESENT CONVENTION,

DESIRING to maintain a high level of safety at sea,

MINDFUL of the need to revise and bring up to date the International Regulations for Preventing Collisions at Sea annexed to the Final Act of the International Conference on Safety of Life at Sea, 1960,

HAVING CONSIDERED those Regulations in the light of developments since they were approved,

HAVE AGREED as follows:

ARTICLE I

General Obligations

The Parties to the present Convention undertake to give effect to the rules and other Annexes constituting the International Regulations for preventing Collisions at Sea, 1972, (hereinafter referred to as "the Regulations") attached hereto.

ARTICLE II

Signature, Ratification, Acceptance, Approval and Accession

1. The present Convention shall remain open for signature until 1 June 1973 and shall thereafter remain open for accession.

2. States Members of the United Nations, or of any of the Specialized agencies, or the International Atomic Energy Agency, or Parties to the Statute of the International Court of Justice may become Parties to this convention by:

- (a) signature without reservation as to ratification, acceptance or approval;
- (b) signature subject to ratification, acceptance or approval followed by ratification, acceptance or approval; or
- (c) accession.

3. Ratification, acceptance, approval or accession shall be effected by the deposit of an instrument to that effect with the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (hereinafter referred to as "the Organization") which shall inform the Governments of States that have signed or acceded to the present Convention of the deposit of each instrument and of the date of its deposit.