

marine environment embraces all sources of marine pollution. However, the negotiations largely focused on vessel source pollution since it involves the respective rights and obligations of coastal, flag and port states. It is essential, on the one hand, for coastal states to be assured that their marine environment will not be imperilled, but also, on the other hand, to guarantee that international commerce and communications by sea are not unjustifiably impeded.

The RSNT, Part III was^a a major improvement over the Geneva text, particularly in that it provided much more adequately for the control and regulation of vessel-source pollution. Coastal states could now enforce in their economic zones laws and regulations for the prevention of pollution from vessels "conforming to and giving effect to international rules and standards established through the competent international organization or general diplomatic conference". Together with a new article on "ice-covered areas" that would give international sanction to Canada's 1970 Arctic Waters Pollution Prevention Act, these provisions represent^e progress. However, the draft text still imposed severe restrictions on coastal-state powers to protect the marine environment with respect to actual or apprehended violations both within the territorial sea and in the economic zone.

With respect to marine scientific research, the key issue has been, and is likely to remain, whether the consent of the coastal state is required before any research activities are undertaken in its economic zone or on its continental shelf. The solution incorporated in the RSNT, Part III went some way towards a workable compromise, by making the consent of the coastal state necessary but also specifying that this consent would not be withheld unless the project:

- "a) bears substantially upon the exploration and exploitation of the living or non-living resources;
- b) involves drilling or the use of explosives;
- c) unduly interferes with economic activities performed by the coastal state in accordance with its jurisdiction as provided for in this Convention;
- d) involves the construction, operation or use of such artificial islands, installations and structures as are referred to in Part Two of this Convention."

New Part IV

In addition to the three parts produced in Geneva and revised in New York, a new Part IV, which was circulated after the Geneva session by the President of the Conference, was revised in light of the debate that took place during the New York spring session. Part IV is