

- .2 Every amendment adopted by such a Conference by a two-thirds majority of the Parties present and voting shall be communicated by the Secretary-General to all the Parties for acceptance.
 - .3 Unless the Conference decides otherwise, the amendment shall be deemed to have been accepted and shall enter into force in accordance with the procedures specified in paragraphs 2.6 and 2.8 or 2.7 and 2.9 respectively, provided that references in those paragraphs to the expanded Maritime Safety Committee shall be taken to mean references to the Conference.
- 4 Any declaration of acceptance of, or objection to, an amendment or any notice given under paragraph 2.9 shall be submitted in writing to the Secretary-General, who shall inform all Parties of any such submission and the date of its receipt.
- 5 The Secretary-General shall inform all the Parties of any amendments which enter into force, together with the date on which each such amendment enters into force.

ARTICLE 11

Signature, ratification, acceptance, approval and accession

- 1 The Convention shall remain open for signature at the Headquarters of the Organization from 1 January 1996 until 30 September 1996 and shall thereafter remain open for accession. States may become Parties to the Convention by:
- .1 signature without reservation as to ratification, acceptance or approval; or
 - .2 signature subject to ratification, acceptance or approval, followed by ratification, acceptance or approval; or
 - .3 accession.
- 2 Ratification, acceptance, approval or accession shall be effected by the deposit of an instrument to that effect with the Secretary-General.