

INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON MARITIME SEARCH AND RESCUE, 1979

ARTICLES OF THE CONVENTION

*(Text adopted by the Conference)*

*THE PARTIES TO THE CONVENTION,*

*Noting* the great importance attached in several conventions to the rendering of assistance to persons in distress at sea and to the establishment by every coastal State of adequate and effective arrangements for coast watching and for search and rescue services,

*Having considered* Recommendation 40 adopted by the International Conference on Safety of Life at Sea, 1960, which recognizes the desirability of co-ordinating activities regarding safety on and over the sea among a number of inter-governmental organizations,

*Desiring* to develop and promote these activities by establishing an international maritime search and rescue plan responsive to the needs of maritime traffic for the rescue of persons in distress at sea,

*Wishing* to promote co-operation among search and rescue organizations around the world and among those participating in search and rescue operations at sea,

*Have agreed* as follows:

ARTICLE I

*General obligations under the Convention*

The Parties undertake to adopt all legislative or other appropriate measures necessary to give full effect to the Convention and its Annex, which is an integral part of the Convention. Unless expressly provided otherwise, a reference to the Convention constitutes at the same time a reference to its Annex.