

shall be the largest ship-owning nations, and the remainder shall be elected so as to ensure adequate representation of members, Governments of other nations with an important interest in maritime safety, such as nations interested in the supply of large numbers of crews or in the carriage of large numbers of berthed and unberthed passengers, and of major geographical areas.

(b) Members shall be elected for a term of four years and shall be eligible for re-election.

#### Article 29

(a) The Maritime Safety Committee shall have the duty of considering any matter within the scope of the Organization and concerned with aids to navigation, construction and equipment of vessels, manning from a safety standpoint, rules for the prevention of collisions, handling of dangerous cargoes, maritime safety procedures and requirements, hydrographic information, log-books and navigational records, marine casualty investigation, salvage and rescue, and any other matters directly affecting maritime safety.

(b) The Maritime Safety Committee shall provide machinery for performing any duties assigned to it by the Convention, or by the Assembly, or any duty within the scope of this article which may be assigned to it by any other inter-governmental instrument.

(c) Having regard to the provisions of Part XII, the Maritime Safety Committee shall have the duty of maintaining such close relationship with other inter-governmental bodies concerned with transport and communications as may further the object of the Organization in promoting maritime safety and facilitate the co-ordination of activities in the fields of shipping, aviation, telecommunications and meteorology with respect to safety and rescue.

#### Article 30

The Maritime Safety Committee, through the Council, shall:

(a) Submit to the Assembly at its regular sessions proposals made by members for safety regulations or for amendments to existing safety regulations, together with its comments or recommendations thereon;

(b) Report to the Assembly on the work of the Maritime Safety Committee since the previous regular session of the Assembly.

#### Article 31

The Maritime Safety Committee shall meet once a year and at other times upon request of any five of its members. It shall elect its officers once a year and shall adopt its own rules of procedure. A majority of its members shall constitute a quorum.

#### Article 32

The Maritime Safety Committee shall invite any member to participate, without vote, in its deliberations on any matter of particular concern to that member.

### PART VIII

#### THE SECRETARIAT

#### Article 33

The Secretariat shall comprise the Secretary-General, a Secretary of the Maritime Safety Committee and such staff as the Organization may require. The Secretary-General shall be the chief administrative officer of the Organization, and shall, subject to the provisions of article 23, appoint the above-mentioned personnel.