ON CIVIL LIABILITY FOR OIL POLLUTION DAMAGE

The States Parties to the present Convention,
CONSCIOUS of the dangers of pollution posed by
the worldwide maritime carriage of oil in bulk,

CONVINCED of the need to ensure that adequate compensation is available to persons who suffer damage caused by pollution resulting from the escape or discharge of oil from ships,

DESIRING to adopt uniform international rules and procedures for determining questions of liability and providing adequate compensation in such cases,

HAVE AGREED as follows:

ARTICLE I

For the purposes of this Convention:

- 1. "Ship" means any sea-going vessel and any seaborne craft of any type whatsoever, actually carrying oil in bulk as cargo.
- 2. "Person" means any individual or partnership or any public or private body, whether corporate or not, including a State or any of its constituent subdivisions.
- 3. "Owner" means the person or persons registered as the owner of the ship or, in the absence of registration, the person or persons owning the ship.