12. "Type-series container" means any container manufactured in accordance with the approved design type.

13. "Prototype" means a container representative of those manufactured or to be manufactured in a design type series.

14. "Maximum Operating Gross Weight or Rating" or "R" means the maximum allowable combined weight of the container and its cargo.

15. "Tare Weight" means the weight of the empty container including permanently affixed ancillary equipment.

16. "Maximum Permissible Payload" or "P" means the difference between maximum operating gross weight or rating and tare weight.

ARTICLE III

Application

1.   The present Convention applies to new and existing containers used in international transport, excluding containers specially designed for air transport.

2.   Every new container shall be approved either in accordance with the provisions for type-testing or for individual testing as contained in Annex I.

3.   Every existing container shall be approved in accordance with the relevant provisions for approval of existing containers set out in Annex I within 5 years from the date of entry into force of the present Convention.

ARTICLE IV

Testing, Inspection, Approval and Maintenance

1.   For the enforcement of the provisions in Annex I every Administration shall establish an effective procedure for the testing, inspection and approval of containers in accordance with the criteria established in the present Convention, provided however that an Administration may entrust such testing, inspection and approval to organizations duly authorized by it.

2.   An Administration which entrusts such testing, inspection and approval to an organization shall inform the Secretary-General of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (hereinafter referred to as "the Organization") for communication to Contracting Parties.

3.   Application for approval may be made to the Administration of any Contracting Party.

4.   Every container shall be maintained in a safe condition in accordance with the provisions of Annex I.