

absolute flag state jurisdiction can prevail much longer in light of the developments at the Law of the Sea Conference, particularly the growing recognition of the right of a coastal state to play a central and expanded role in the protection of the marine environment.

7. In light of the objectives which Canada sought to achieve at the outset of the LOS negotiations, the Composite Text provisions on vessel-source pollution contain many positive features. However, the provisions dealing specifically with coastal state regulatory powers in the territorial sea and with enforcement rights out to 200 miles will have to be examined carefully in the context of Canadian requirements and existing legislation.

8. The U.N. Conference on the Law of the Sea reconvenes for a seventh session at Geneva in March, 1978. It is hoped that on the basis of the Composite Text substantial progress will be made towards achieving a consensus for the adoption of a draft convention.

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9. Under existing international law, different rules apply as regards coastal state powers to regulate foreign shipping within internal waters, within the 12 mile territorial sea and within the proposed new 200 mile economic zone under discussion at the Law of the Sea Conference.