



TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION
COMMITTEE
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Agenda item 19

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REPORT OF THE TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION COMMITTEE ON ITS FIFTY-THIRD SESSION

1 GENERAL

Opening of the Session

1.1 The Technical Co-operation Committee held its fifty-third session on 11 and 12 June 2003 under the chairmanship of Captain Moin Ahmed (Bangladesh).

Secretary-General's Opening Statement

1.2 The Secretary-General, in welcoming the participants, stated that it was an historic occasion as it was the first Committee session to be held separately from the Council, the need for this having become more evident as the Committee's responsibilities and workload increased.

1.3 Recalling that, in his fourteen years as Secretary-General, and particularly more recently, he had seen the Committee's work grow in substance, quality and volume, he noted that the Committee had taken on a stronger role in shaping technical co-operation policies and practices and ensuring that the Integrated Technical Co-operation Programme (ITCP) supported the objective of developing capacities for more effective and uniform implementation of global maritime standards. He also noted that, as that role developed further, the Committee would need to be more active in devising methods of addressing future challenges faced by Member States, such as the proposed Model Audit Scheme, thereby demonstrating the Organization's capability of achieving improved and uniform compliance with, and enforcement of, standards.

1.4 The Secretary-General stated that the Committee would be considering a number of reports on results achieved during 2002 through ITCP activities and that, as a consequence of the reforms introduced under the Change Management Programme, the Secretariat had been able to enlarge the range of partnerships and mobilize further resources – both financial and in-kind – for the implementation of the ITCP. This had enabled IMO to deliver a larger volume of technical assistance activities than ever before with a greater number of partners and improved resources which had raised overall TC expenditure levels. The Committee would also be asked to approve the ITCP for 2004-2005 taking into account new priorities identified by the other IMO Committees, which had been incorporated in the future programme.

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1.5 He noted also that the Committee would be invited to approve a financial allocation of £5 million from the Technical Co-operation Fund (TC Fund) to cover some 56% of the funding requirement of the new ITCP but that further resource mobilization work would be needed to ensure that, together with complementary inputs from external partners, all of the new ITCP's programmed activities could be implemented.

1.6 In that context, the Secretary-General recalled that he had convened the Workshop on Partnership Building, which had been held immediately prior to this session of the Committee, in the knowledge that despite recent partnership successes, with the decline in official development aid, and more focused targeting on certain development issues by donors, it had been necessary for IMO to adjust the ITCP along with the method of its funding and execution. The purpose of the Workshop, therefore, was to promote further co-operation and co-ordination between IMO and interested institutions in the financing and provision of technical assistance to the maritime sector of developing countries.

1.7 He stated that, with the entry into force of IMO's maritime security regime on 1 July 2004, there had already been a large demand for advice and training on compliance requirements relating to SOLAS Chapter XI-2 and the ISPS Code which would undoubtedly increase substantially, because failure to implement the new standards properly would put at risk the continuity of national shipping and port operations. Additionally, the proposed introduction of the Model Audit Scheme would have an impact on the TC Programme and the TC Fund since there would be considerable pressure to provide guidance and assistance in preparing for the Audit and subsequently to assist in the correction of any deficiencies which may be revealed by the Audit.

1.8 In view of these new challenges, the Secretary-General considered that IMO, its Member States, the Secretariat and interested partners would need to consider innovative means of securing durable short and long term support which developing countries may require if their maritime sector activities are to continue to flourish. He stated that, as current developments progress and the Organization strengthens its enforcement powers, it should concurrently expand and secure its technical assistance outreach capability.

1.9 In concluding, the Secretary-General recalled that this would be the last occasion on which he would address the Committee in his present capacity, and thanked the Chairman, his predecessors and the Committee Members for the guidance and support provided over the years to him and the Secretariat, and especially to the Technical Co-operation Division. This had enabled IMO to introduce lasting reforms and make significant achievements in its TC work. He wished the Committee every success in addressing the new challenges it would face in the future.

Adoption of the agenda

1.10 The Committee adopted the agenda as it appeared in document TC 53/1.

2 INTERIM REPORT ON THE INTEGRATED TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION PROGRAMME FOR 2002-2003

2.1 Report on 2002

2.1.1 The Committee had before it document TC 53/2, which provided a comprehensive report on the ITCP programmes in their first operational year of the 2002-2003 biennium.

2.1.2 In introducing the main aspects of the document, the Director, TCD, pointed out that the annual report format was amended regularly to give the Committee a clear analysis of TC implementation. The baseline information on the trends in resource contributions and expenditure represented the core of the document, with supporting explanations by the Secretariat on the comparative delivery of those resources, by regional distribution and by discipline. The general implementation data, including outputs and overall expenditure results, was summarized under the Programme Overview. One of the key outcomes for 2002 was the remarkable and sustained increase in expenditure against activities implemented through the Secretariat, or through partnerships with external bodies and programmes. The Director drew the Committee's attention to the significant upward trend in overall disbursement that had been sustained since 1999 was confirmed by the aggregate expenditure levels that amounted to over US\$ 12 million in 2002. There was a sharp increase of some 27 percentage points in the volume of expenditure since 2001, generating a 78% rate of increase between 1999 and 2002.

2.1.3 The Director summarized the details of the regional deliverables, which had been implemented through 28 programmes and 84 projects: 91 missions were carried out; 11 packages of model primary or secondary legislation were developed; 110 courses, seminars and workshops were held; and these activities resulted in the training of some 3,150 persons.

2.1.4 Regarding the financial elements of the annual report, it was noted that available resources rose in 2002 to some US\$24 million, representing a significant increase of 26% over 2001. The Director, TCD, also summarized other financial aspects of the annual report, notably the ITCP's funding profile for 2002, expenditure by regional and global components, as well as expenditure distribution by discipline. The increases recorded during 2002 demonstrated that there had been clear improvements in programme resourcing and, especially, in implementation.

2.1.5 Details of the ITCP funding profile for 2002 were illustrated under "overview of financial resource delivery". Two major donors, the GEF and the TC Fund respectively, represented an increasingly dominant proportion of the ITCP funding base, while a large percentage of the increase in financial resources since 1999 could be ascribed to the support from those two sources towards large-scale global programmes. The Secretary-General had referred to the issue of funding in his opening address, forewarning of the increasing demands on the ITCP in light of emerging technical issues that should be considered within the context of the diminishing donor base and the declining volume in TC Fund surpluses.

2.1.6 In concluding his introduction, the Director, TCD, stated that the annual report on 2002 gave the Committee a clear view of the results achieved in the first year of this ITCP biennium. Notwithstanding the remarkable increase in expenditure, the Secretariat anticipated building on these results through the reforms introduced by the Secretary-General under the Change Management Programme. The Director commended the efforts of all the implementing agents within the Secretariat and in the regions, who had all contributed to the notable achievements in delivering the ITCP. The Director also thanked all the donors for their commitment to the ITCP and encouraged them to continue and, if possible, to increase their support to the ITCP.

2.1.7 Many delegations expressed their satisfaction with the presentation and content of the comprehensive report on 2002, and commended the Director, TCD, for providing the Committee with a consistently high standard of reporting on the ITCP.

2.1.8 The significant improvement in the volume of delivery was a testament to the efforts made by the Secretariat to address the issue of implementation management, and delegations noted the increasing trend which was established from 1999 onwards.

2.1.9 A number of delegations referred to the importance of providing technical assistance to encourage developing countries to become Parties to the CLC and IOPC Fund Conventions. In this respect it was suggested that the oil companies and tanker interests should be able to provide support for such activities, either financially or by providing expertise free of all costs.

2.1.10 The representative of IPIECA confirmed that the PEMSEA Programme had an agreement with ITOPF to conduct workshops in Singapore in 2003 and 2004. Liability and compensation were already addressed within the context of the Global Initiative in Africa, and it was anticipated that the Global Initiative would be extended to Asia.

2.1.11 In responding to the query raised during the discussion, the Director, TCD confirmed that IMO advisory missions could be fielded, under the technical advisory services programme, to provide expert information on the restoration of the environment in the case of oil spill damage.

2.1.12 In response to remarks concerning the mobilization of financial support from the oil industry, the Director, TCD, recalled that funds had been approved by the Council to promote co-operation with industry, with the aim of triggering counterpart contributions towards projects and activities which were co-financed by the TC Fund. An approach had already been made to IPIECA to expand jointly supported TC activities.

2.1.13 In summing up, the Chairman expressed his gratitude to the delegations for their comments and to the Secretariat for the further clarifications provided. The Committee was most appreciative of the periodic revisions that were made to the structure and presentation of the annual report, and welcomed the efforts made by the Secretariat to present a structured and clear analysis of the activities of the individual programmes within the ITCP.

2.1.14 It had been most encouraging to note the exceptional increase in the volume of assistance delivered over the period in question, and more especially to see that it represented a trend which has been increasing sharply since 1999. The Committee had observed closely the volume of expenditure over the previous few sessions, and the results for the year 2002 were clear evidence that the steps taken by the Secretariat had been instrumental in improving the levels of delivery.

2.1.15 In concluding the sub-item, the Committee (a) took note, with appreciation, of the information provided in the interim report on the ITCP for 2002 - 2003; and (b) thanked the many donors and recipients for their commitment to the ITCP, requesting them to maintain and, if possible, increase their support.

2.2 Technical Co-operation Fund: report on activities of the 2002-2003 programme Rationalization of technical co-operation practices

2.2.1 The Director, TCD, introduced document TC 53/2/1, which, at annex, provided a progress report on the status of implementation of the technical co-operation activities financed or co-financed by the Technical Co-operation Fund (TC Fund) during the current biennium. The Director stated that, during 2002, the TC Fund had again provided priority assistance to Africa through regional and global programmes, and that the delivery rate had been 49%, rising from 43% in 2001. The TC Fund was supporting many aspects of IMO's mandate and, in 2002, it had accounted for some 42% of all monies available to the ITCP, and for 40% of all disbursements, turning the Fund into the programme's largest contributor. This position, however, was due perhaps to the exceptional programme on maritime security, which was launched early last year in response to resolution A.924(22).

2.2.2 The Director also referred to the proposal that the reports to TCC be rationalized, so as to avoid the duplication of data and to consolidate the information provided to the Committee over a given year. It was his objective to publish a biennial document on the ITCP, in the form of a bound publication that would receive more extensive a distribution and would also help in promoting the ITCP to a wider audience.

2.2.3 A number of delegations thanked the Director, TCD, for the report on the TC Fund and for the excellent standard of reporting to TCC in general. It was suggested that the Secretariat might, in addition, also report on the extensive activities undertaken amongst the countries themselves, in order to reflect the emphasis given by the recipients in promoting technical co-operation within their own respective regions. The Director, TCD, informed that this aspect of TCDC was already being addressed under the Partnerships for Progress Inventory of bilateral assistance, and that further information on the establishment of two new websites in this regard would be presented to the Committee under item 14 of the agenda.

2.2.4 One delegation noted that the global programme for institutional development made no provision for fellowships to the International Maritime Academy, Trieste (IMA). In light of the regulatory developments within IMO, it would be advantageous to support the sponsorship of short courses on priority maritime safety issues. Such support to IMA should be achieved without any reduction to the proposed assistance to WMU and to IMLI.

2.2.5 The Director informed that assistance was currently provided to IMA through the upgrading of the Academy Library, the provision of materials and Model Courses, and through the provision of consultant lecturers. Consideration would now be given to the inclusion of fellowships to the IMA short courses along the lines suggested.

2.2.6 The delegation of Egypt concurred with the need to upgrade seafarers and national officers and to inform them of technical developments. In this regard, the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport, Alexandria, would continue to offer the opportunity for students from the Africa region to participate in such programmes.

2.2.7 The representative of PMAESA expressed satisfaction with the documents under consideration. He informed the Committee that PMAESA intended to continue its fruitful partnership with IMO, in particular through the IMO Regional Co-ordinator's Office in Nairobi.

2.2.8 The proposed rationalization of technical co-operation reporting practices was supported by many delegations, although caution was expressed by one delegation over the potential cost in publishing a bound version of the ITCP report.

2.2.9 The Director, TCD, informed the Committee that the Secretariat would take into account the useful suggestions made by delegates with regard to expanding the coverage of the reporting scheme, although care should be taken not to dilute the utility of the report as an instrument to measure the outputs of the ITCP implementation.

2.2.10 The Committee took note of the information provided in the annex to the document and thanked all donors and recipients for their generous financial and in-kind support to the TC Fund activities.

2.2.11 The Committee also took note of the information contained in the cover note to document TC 53/2/1 regarding the Secretariat's reporting practices, and requested the Secretariat to submit proposals to the Committee, at its next session, for streamlining and consolidating reports made to Member States on the implementation of technical co-operation activities.

3 OUTCOME OF THE WORKSHOP ON PARTNERSHIP BUILDING

3.1 The Committee received a verbal report by the Director, TCD on the outcomes of the Workshop on Partnership Building, which was held at IMO Headquarters on 9 and 10 June, immediately preceding the meeting of the Committee. The purpose of the workshop was to encourage the development of partnerships between IMO and regional organizations, Governments, institutions and industry through the exchange of information and open discussion.

3.2 The Director TCD informed the Committee that it was the intention of the Secretariat to produce a report of the Workshop including the programme, list of participants and all papers, with the permission of the authors. The report would be translated into the IMO working languages (English, French and Spanish). There had been a good exchange of information and discussion. Main outcomes included enhanced understanding on access to TC funds, appreciation of the diversity of IMO partnerships, a consensus to expand IMO's existing partnerships, the need for more efforts to involve industry at the implementation stage and identification of corporate responsibility with IMO objectives, strengthening and expanding IMO's regional presence with clearly defined roles, engaging more effectively with regional organisations, including NGOs, and identification of the importance, with Member States, of making closer linkages between IMO goals and the Millennium Development Goals for poverty alleviation.

3.3 In concluding his remarks, the Director reported that the Workshop participants proposed that the Committee consider a draft Assembly resolution on the development and improvement of partnership arrangements, and this was available as TC 53/WP.1.

3.4 Several delegates commended the Secretariat for taking the initiative of organizing this most successful workshop and the information made available had proved most valuable to all participants. It was agreed that the resolution was very useful but might require some minor editorial changes. An informal drafting group, led by the Cyprus delegation, proposed amendments and the Committee agreed the revised text of the draft resolution as amended and which is shown at annex.

4 INTEGRATED TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION PROGRAMME FOR 2004-2005

4.1 The Committee had before it document TC 53/4 containing, in its annex, the proposed ITCP for 2004-2005, which was introduced by the Director, TCD.

4.2 The Director noted that the proposal had been prepared on the basis of the same structure approved by the Committee for the ITCP 2002-2003. Specifically, the new ITCP has four parts. Part I includes the ITCP's mission statement and priorities, its long- and medium-term goals and also a description of IMO's role in promoting sustainable socio-economic development through the new focus areas of development aid, namely institutional capacity-building and human resource development. Part II explains the principles in the preparation, design and execution of the ITCP. Part III provides the constituent regional and global programmes. Part IV gives a summary of the funding requirements.

4.3 The Director summarized recent additions and other changes that had been introduced in respect of the proposed ITCP's medium-term goals and its constituent programmes. These changes include maritime security; implementation of the revised IMDG Code and the 1995 STCW-F Convention; implementation of the OPRC-HNS Protocol and AFS Convention; assisting in control and management of ships' ballast water; and supporting training of personnel in ship/port interface activities. In this respect, it was emphasized that the new ITCP represents

the collective efforts of the Technical Co-operation Division and all the technical Divisions in the Secretariat.

4.4 The Director further noted that the proposed ITCP comprises 26 programmes with funding requirements of US \$14.1 million. To develop a modest, realistic and deliverable programme, the Secretariat tried to reduce the number of programmes and activities based on the ITCP activities for 2002-2003. However, after careful consideration of the assessed needs of the developing regions, the new thematic priorities identified by the technical Committees, especially the fact that there have been increasing requests for assistance in compliance with the requirements of the ISPS Code, the proposed programmes and activities contained in the ITCP 2004-2005 are the minimum to be delivered.

4.5 Finally, the Director noted that the proposed ITCP should be viewed as a living programme, to be adjusted as circumstances require. Full programme delivery nevertheless depended on the availability of the required resources, and the Committee was invited to consider and recommend modalities to secure such funding.

4.6 Many delegations intervened on this agenda item, expressing their appreciation for the comprehensive document. One delegation proposed amendments to the narrative parts of the documents. The Committee agreed that the first sentence in paragraph 3 of Part I can be misleading and suggested that the following text be used in future: "However, developing countries still encounter problems in analysing the consequences of becoming Party to IMO instruments and in developing the necessary national legislation and regulations which would facilitate acceptance of these instruments. Developing countries which have accepted IMO conventions may also experience difficulties in fully implementing the instruments."

4.7 One delegation pointed out that certain elements identified as the medium-term goals, or thematic priorities, such as promoting the acceptance of the 1993 Torremolinos Protocol and the 1995 STCW-F Convention, may not address the needs and priorities of the developing countries. It was noted that the wording of thematic priorities is established by the technical Committees and changes to it should be proposed and discussed in the technical Committees. The same delegation pointed out also that in its opinion, TCC should have the right to override the proposals of the technical committees.

4.8 In addition, information was provided regarding the action taken by the seventy-seventh session of MSC, which reiterated the invitation of the Assembly at its twenty-second session (see operative paragraphs 1 and 2 of resolution A.925(22)), to urge Governments to accept the 1993 Torremolinos Protocol and the 1995 STCW-F Convention, recognizing that fishing might be one of the world's most dangerous activities with an estimated 24,000 deaths in the population of fishermen per year. Noting that a specific technical assistance programme had been proposed for the ITCP 2004-2005 to address safety of fishing vessels, the same session of the MSC invited Governments experiencing difficulties in the process of becoming Parties to these instruments to inform the Organization of the circumstances thereof so that assistance might be provided to overcome such difficulties.

4.9 Suggestions were made to increase coverage of the IMDG Code implementation for the Arab States and Mediterranean and also to strengthen activities to assist in establishing port reception facilities for that region. Several delegations supported inclusion in the new ITCP of activities to assist countries in building capacity to implement the Model Audit Scheme, which were later discussed in detail under item 10. Supports were expressed to indicate in the programmes co-operation with regional institutions and a request was also made to continue to use the services of the IMO Regional Maritime Adviser for the Caribbean.

4.10 The delegation of Turkey, while appreciating the need to enhance technical co-operation in the areas of maritime safety, security and marine environment protection at the regional and global levels, expressed concern that, on three occasions, Turkish nationals were not able to attend regional training events hosted by the Russian Federation due to visas not granted to them. The delegation of Turkey informed the Committee that this concern has been subject to various correspondence and notifications between Turkey, the Russian Federation and IMO. It was the view of this delegation that any country pledging to host international events should facilitate the participation and that the Committee should instruct the IMO Secretariat to refrain from holding such events in countries where the required facilitation cannot be provided.

4.11 The delegation of the Russian Federation informed the Committee that the host authorities have always tried and will continue to facilitate the participation of nationals from other countries, the provided that all necessary national procedures are followed and requests for visas are timely submitted.

4.12 A suggestion was made that prior arrangements be made between the IMO focal points of countries hosting and the Immigration and Customs Departments concerned in host countries to facilitate the issuance of visas and the clearance of training materials forwarded by IMO for use at the events. The Committee was also informed that it is a normal practice to request facilitation of visa granting when IMO Secretariat identifies host countries and negotiates hostship conditions.

4.13 In concluding this item, the Committee welcomed the efforts of the Secretariat to prepare a modest, realistic and achievable programme and approved the ITCP for 2004-2005.

4.14 The Secretariat was requested to take into account all comments made by delegations when programming future activities. It was also invited to proceed with the necessary resource mobilization work in order to ensure the full implementation of the new ITCP activities.

5 TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION FUND: BIENNIAL ALLOCATION TO SUPPORT THE INTEGRATED TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION PROGRAMME FOR 2004-2005

5.1 Following the Committee's approval of the ITCP for 2004-2005, the Director, TCD, introduced document TC 53/5 setting out the Secretary-General's proposals for an allocation from the TC Fund – in the amount of £5 million (or US\$7.85 million) – to support the delivery of the new ITCP. That sum, which represented 56% of the funding required for the entire ITCP, would be used to finance the core activities of the programme and that level of up-front funding was a clear expression of IMO's commitment to its own technical co-operation work. It was therefore hoped that such a significant contribution would encourage development partners to provide the necessary co-funding so that the entire programme could be delivered as planned.

5.2 In this regard, it was noted that the prior identification of core activities had a beneficial impact since it simplified and made more efficient the Secretariat's planning and delivery processes, as had been seen under agenda item 2 in connection with the rates of delivery. Accordingly, the TC Fund allocation would support the core activities of all the regional and global programmes of the new ITCP, on the basis of 46% of requirements for each region and 71% for the global programmes, with the latter providing additional benefits to all regions. Conversely, those activities that were not identified as core activities in the annex to document TC 53/5 would have to be delivered, if possible, through external donor contributions.

5.3 In discussing this agenda item, the Committee expressed support for document TC 53/5 presented by the Secretariat on the new TC Fund Programme for the 2004-2005 biennium.

5.4 Several delegations recalled Assembly resolution A.873(20), which “authorized the Secretary-General to transfer, at the beginning of each year from January 2000, all surplus funds from the Printing Fund to the Technical Co-operation Fund, unless otherwise decided by the Assembly”. The delegations requested that the TCC should adhere to the provisions of the Assembly resolution, and request Council to approve the transfer of the whole surplus from the Printing Fund to the TC Fund, rather than a specific sum as stated in the document.

5.5 In this respect, one delegation emphasized the need to maintain a core source of stable and secure funding, through the TC Fund, in order to facilitate a degree of forward planning and to secure cost-sharing from external sources.

5.6 One delegation suggested that the discussion regarding the amount to be transferred from the Printing Fund to the TC Fund should be deferred until after auditing of the year’s accounts, when the precise surplus from the Printing Fund would be known.

5.7 In responding to this intervention, the Director, AD, acknowledged the terms of the Assembly resolution. He also noted that, at its twenty-second session in 2001, the Assembly had recognized the competing demands on the Printing Fund to cover the Organization’s other financial obligations. However, it was possible to estimate the volume of the transfer from the Printing Fund to the TC Fund, using the same assumptions on costs and sales as in past years, to allow forward planning for the core activities of the ITCP, bearing in mind that the Assembly decision regarding that transfer was contingent on funds being available. He further informed the Committee that the cost of the Publishing Services would be fully covered by the Printing Fund, thereby reducing the surplus available to just the working capital. As indicated by the figures in the document, a new source of revenue would have to be found to supplement the TC Fund in the future.

5.8 A number of delegations reiterated that it would be inappropriate for TCC to request a transfer that came to less than the full Printing Fund surplus, in contradiction to the Assembly resolution. It was suggested that TCC’s recommendation to Council be revised to request the transfer of the whole surplus, without quoting any figures.

5.9 The Committee agreed to request the Council to transfer all the surplus of the Printing Fund to the TC Fund. For financial forecasting and planning of the activities, £1.4 million will be immediately used for the activities planned for 2004-2005.

5.10 In concluding, the Committee: (a) approved the TC Fund Programme for the 2004-2005 biennium; (b) requested Council to approve a minimum amount of £1.4 million to be transferred from the Printing Fund to the TC Fund, with the understanding that any additional surplus above £1.4 million would also be transferred to the TC Fund; (c) authorized the Secretary-General to use, during the next biennium, the un-programmed funds of the TC Fund should demands or partnership opportunities arise; (d) requested the Secretary-General to transmit these views to the Council at its ninetieth session, with the recommendation that they be endorsed also by the Council; and (e) urged IMO’s development partners to contribute additional resources, so as to ensure the full delivery of the ITCP during the next biennium.

6 METHODOLOGY FOR THE IMPACT ASSESSMENT EXERCISE 2000-2003

6.1 The Committee had before document TC 53/6, which was introduced by the Director, TCD, recalling that, in accordance with the Committee's policy directives, an impact assessment exercise (IAE) had to be carried out every four years to measure the effectiveness of the assistance received by developing countries through the ITCP.

6.2 As the first IAE had been carried in 2000, the second exercise was scheduled for early 2004, covering the period 2000-2003. The organizational framework and terms of reference for that purpose were set out in the annex to document TC 53/6, taking into account the lessons learned from the first exercise and the decisions taken by the Committee at that time. This second IAE would be co-ordinated by TCD and the Internal Oversight Section and carried out by a team of external consultants, in conjunction with the beneficiaries and development partners. The consultants would be asked to assess the impact of ITCP activities focusing on the development of maritime legislation and the enhancement of maritime security, as well as those activities that were delivered through partnerships with national and regional institutions. These three topics had been selected because:

- IMO's support for the development of shipping laws and regulations covered a wide variety of safety, environmental, legal or facilitation issues, and it was therefore highly representative of the Organization's work;
- with regard to maritime security, and given the considerable investment that IMO had already made in preparing countries to comply with the new regime, it was desirable to assess how effective that support had been so that continued assistance on this topic was well-targeted and well-delivered; and
- after some six years of promoting field partnerships for improved ITCP implementation, it would be useful to assess the success of that initiative also.

6.3 The Secretariat intended to begin making all necessary preparations immediately, so that the consultants could start their work early in 2004 and complete it by mid-March, thereby permitting their final report to be considered by the Committee at its annual session in 2004.

6.4 The delegate of Canada informed the Committee that it was prepared to consider providing support to the IAE process.

6.5 The Committee:

- noted with appreciation the kind offer of Canada to provide support for the organization and execution of the IAE;
- approved the operational framework and terms of reference set out in the annex to document TC 53/6; and
- instructed the Secretariat to proceed with the arrangements for this second impact assessment exercise on that basis.

7 RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

7.1 The Director, TCD, in introducing document TC 53/7, highlighted the on-going initiatives to expand and strengthen the ITCP resource base to ensure the delivery of the programme. He provided the Committee with an update on resource mobilization and on contributions received from Member States, UNDP in Sierra Leone and the African Development Bank.

7.2 With regard to in-kind support, the Director informed the Committee that annex 1 of document TC 53/7 gave a complete indication of the substantial contributions and support provided by Member States, donors and regional organizations. These, although not easily quantifiable, were of great value and have sustained the ITCP projects and programmes. He then expressed his thanks for the continuing support given by Member States, donors and regional Organizations.

7.3 Several delegations commended the Secretariat for listing in-kind support in this way and also noted with satisfaction that many developing countries were contributing to the implementation of ITCP activities. Several delegations were of the view that the Secretariat should continue providing this type of information to the Committee on an annual basis. It was further stated that there was no need to provide a financial evaluation of the in-kind support, since its major significance was the service that such assistance provided in facilitating the implementation of a project or activity. A footnote should be added below the tables, to indicate that no valuation would be included for the in-kind elements.

7.4 The Chairman concluded this agenda item by informing the Committee that the Department of Transport of Canada and IMO were about to sign a Memorandum of Understanding on technical co-operation. He explained that Canada had offered to make available expertise on a no-fee basis and, in addition, when Transport Canada could not make individuals available, it would recommend other sources of Canadian expertise.

7.5 The Committee took note of the information provided in document TC 53/7 and its annex, as explained by the Director of the Technical Co-operation Division in his introduction.

7.6 The Committee expressed its gratitude to the Governments and organizations which sustain the ITCP through their generous financial and in-kind support, thereby ensuring implementation of the ITCP activities.

7.7 The Committee supported the Secretariat's continuing efforts to encourage Member Governments, donors and regional institutions to contribute to the delivery of the ITCP activities.

7.8 The Committee expressed its appreciation to the Secretariat for its efforts which have contributed immensely to the favourable developments of partnerships, and urged it to maintain these efforts in the future and keep the Committee informed of any development.

8 REGIONAL CO-ORDINATION AND REGIONAL DELIVERY

8.1 The Committee had before it document TC 53/8, prepared by the Secretariat, which provided information on the status of the IMO Regional Co-ordination scheme, the progress achieved in the expansion of the scheme to other regions, as well as existing partnership arrangements with regional/national organizations and programmes for the delivery of the ITCP.

8.2 The Committee noted that, in 2002, the three IMO Regional Co-ordinators in Africa carried out a total of twenty-five needs assessment and/or advisory missions in twenty-three countries. As a result of these missions, a number of countries including Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Mozambique, Seychelles and Sao Tome and Principe had requested technical assistance to review and update their maritime legislation. The Regional Co-ordinators also represented IMO at a number of regional and subregional meetings such as the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), South African Transport and Communications Commission (SATCC), the Port Management Association of Eastern and Southern Africa (PMAESA), the Port Management Association for West and Central Africa (PMAWCA), the East African Community (EAC), the fifth meeting of the Inter-Agency Co-ordinating Committee on Transport Policy Harmonisation in East and Southern Africa and the fourth meeting of the Annual Regional Consultation of UN Agencies working in Africa. IMO was also represented at the follow-up meeting of the NEPAD-African Process for the Development and Protection of the Marine and Coastal Environment in Sub-Saharan Africa held in Dakar, Senegal, in October 2002 by one of the Regional Co-ordinators.

8.3 In addition to carrying out needs assessment missions, the Regional Co-ordinators represented IMO at various other meetings and continued to facilitate the co-ordination of the implementation of the ITCP in Africa. Some of the major achievements during 2002 include:

- Co-ordinating and organizing seven regional workshops/seminars and six national workshops.
- Participation in the African Ministers of Transport Meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and ensuring that the regional ITCP programmes for Africa were adopted. This included adoption of the Inland Waterways and Non-Convention Size Craft Model Regulations by the meeting. NEPAD Action Plans to be implemented in Africa include IMO's ITCP for the region.
- Holding consultations with a number of organizations and agencies with a view to mobilizing resources for the implementation of the ITCP at national or subregional levels. Some US\$40,000 was mobilized by the Regional Co-ordinator from UNDP Sierra Leone for a feasibility study on Port Reception Facility for seaports in Sierra Leone and for drafting the Marine Pollution Act.

8.4 With regard to the decentralization of the implementation of the ITCP through the regional co-ordinators' scheme and partnership arrangements with regional organizations, the Committee noted that modalities were being put in place for the effective delivery of the ITCP. Following successful co-operation between IMO and the Port Management Association of Eastern and Southern Africa (PMAESA) and the Port Management Association of West and Central Africa (PMAWCA) in organizing two regional Maritime Security seminars/workshops in Mombasa, Kenya and Calabar, Nigeria respectively, arrangements are in progress to sign two MOUs with the two Port Associations before the end of 2003. Both Ports Associations played a key role in the identification of the host State and in sensitizing the workshops to their Member States. It is planned to delegate the implementation of some ITCP activities to PMAESA and PMAWCA in co-operation with the Regional Presence Offices in Africa.

8.5 With regard to the extension of the IMO Regional Presence scheme in India for South Asia and in the Philippines for the East Asian countries respectively, the Director, TCD informed the Committee that consultations had been held between the IMO Secretariat, the Government agencies concerned and the UNDP offices in Manila and New Delhi regarding the agreements, and office locations and that both offices would be established during the second half of 2003.

8.6 With respect to the establishment of partnerships with regional and/or national institutions, which is the second element of the regional co-ordination and delivery of the ITCP, the Committee noted the developments which had taken place in 2002 as follows:

- The Republic of Korea increased its financial contribution to the ITCP and had since established a trust fund in IMO for this purpose.
- The existing MOUs and co-operation between IMO and Singapore, Hong Kong China, ESCAP, PEMSEA, SACEP, SPC and SPREP continued to function effectively in the implementation and delivery of the ITCP activities in Asia and the Pacific Islands region.
- IMO and ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) signed an MOU on technical co-operation in September 2002 to delegate implementation responsibility to ASEAN to deliver a joint IMO/ASEAN programme on drafting and updating maritime legislation, the objective of which is to provide support for implementation of the IMO Conventions. Since the signing of the MOU, preparatory work has been done by the ASEAN Secretariat for consultants to carry out a survey of existing maritime laws being implemented in the ASEAN region and for the ASEAN Secretariat to conduct a workshop in early 2003 to discuss the findings of the consultants and plan activities for the next phase.
- An MOU between IMO and the Secretariat of the Tokyo MOU on PSC was signed in July 2002 to organize two regional training courses for PSC officers during the biennium 2002-2003 on a cost-sharing basis. The first regional training course was held in September/October 2002 in Yokohama, Japan.
- With respect to Latin America, an MOU with the Prefectura Naval Argentina (PNA) was signed on 20 July 2002, enabling IMO to have access to the technical experts of the PNA for the delivery of advisory missions and training events in Latin American countries. Another MOU was signed on 28 November 2002 between IMO and the maritime administration of Chile (Dirección General del Territorio Marítimo y Marina Mercante) to enable IMO to have access to the technical experts of that institution for the delivery of advisory missions and training events in Latin American countries. A number of technical assistance activities, as detailed in the tables in paragraphs 4.16 and 4.18 of document TC 53/8, were delivered in 2002 through the decentralized partnership co-operation arrangements with COCATRAM and ROCRAM.
- The IMO Regional Maritime Adviser for the Caribbean, currently funded by UNDP, continued to support IMO's regional objectives and to provide technical support following *ad hoc* requests from Member States of the subregion. With respect to REMPEITC-Carib, an MOU was signed in September 2002 between the Government of the Netherlands Antilles, IMO and UNEP to facilitate the delivery of a number of technical assistance activities in the Wider Caribbean region.
- The partnership arrangements with the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport in Egypt Arab continued to facilitate IMO's access to the existing technical facilities of the Academy for the delivery of regional ITCP activities in the Arab/Mediterranean region with substantial in-kind support from the Academy.

8.7 Several delegations expressed their appreciation and support for the regional co-ordination and regional delivery scheme and were pleased to note that two new regional presence offices were to be opened in Asia this year. Some delegations reiterated the concept of decentralizing project implementation delivery to the respective regions and called for the strengthening of the three regional presence offices in Africa to ensure that they were sustainable on a permanent basis.

8.8 The delegation of Egypt informed the Committee that the MOU signed between IMO and the Arab Academy for Science, Technology and Maritime Transport in Egypt in October 2001 will be renewed this year for a further period of two years. A focal point has been established in order to serve the MOU which may be developed to be a regional presence for the Arab region. The delegation further informed the Committee that Egypt has contributed US \$20,000 to the World Maritime University and announced the provision of six fellowships (worth over US \$ 100,000) for four years' training at the Academy. These fellowships do not cover expenses or air tickets or living expenses.

8.9 The delegation of the Philippines informed the Committee that the arrangements for the signing of an MOU for the establishment in Manila, Philippines, of the IMO regional presence office for the East Asian countries were at an advanced stage and that office facilities and secretarial staff for the regional co-ordinator had been identified.

8.10 The delegation of Korea made reference to the MOU signed on 2 June 2003 between IMO and the Government of the Republic of Korea on the establishment of a Trust Fund to which the Government of Korea will continue to make appropriate contributions to support the ITCP.

8.11 The delegation of Ukraine offered to use their training institutes as regional presence offices to run on-going courses at local level for the Black Sea region, and also requested the Secretariat to consider the possibility of establishing branches of the WMU, IMLI and IMA in the Black Sea region, perhaps in the Ukraine.

8.12 Several delegations expressed their appreciation for the support of the regional maritime adviser for the Caribbean region and expressed the hope that funding be made available for the continuation of the post. The Director of TCD informed the Committee that IMO could continue to fund the post until the end of the year and was in negotiation with UNDP to cost share its continuance. The delegation of Chile, while supporting the document, pointed out that some TCD initiatives carried out at the local level independently of IMO had not been reflected in the document.

9 GLOBAL PROGRAMME ON MARITIME SECURITY

9.1 The Committee had before it documents TC 53/9, TC 53/9/Add.1 and TC 53/9/1. In introducing document TC 53/9 and TC 53/9/Add.1, the Director of TCD informed the Committee of the outcome of the seventy-sixth and seventy-seventh sessions of the Maritime Safety Committee (2-13 December 2002 and 28 May-6 June 2003, respectively), the SOLAS Conference on Maritime Security (9-13 December 2002), the thirtieth session of the Facilitation Committee and the thirty-fourth session of the Sub-Committee on Standards of Training and Watchkeeping.

9.2 The Committee was also informed that the Conference adopted Conference resolution 5 – “Promotion of technical co-operation and assistance”. The operative section of this resolution:

- .1 urges Contracting Parties and Member States to provide assistance to States that have difficulty in implementing the adopted amendments or the ISPS Code and use the Integrated Technical Co-operation Programme as one of the main instruments to obtain assistance in advancing effective implementation of and compliance with, the adopted amendments and the ISPS Code;
- .2 request the Secretary-General to make adequate provision within the ITCP to strengthen the assistance already provided to promote the Organization's capacity to address future needs of developing countries for continued education and training, as well as the improvement of their maritime and port security infrastructure and measures;
- .3 invite donors, international organizations and the shipping and port industry to contribute financially, human and/or in-kind resources to the ITCP for its maritime and port security activities; and
- .4 invite the Secretary-General to give early consideration to the establishment of a Maritime Security Trust Fund to provide a dedicated source of financial support for maritime security technical co-operation activities, in particular, to support national initiatives in developing countries to strengthen their maritime security infrastructure and measures.

9.3 The Committee was informed that the Secretary-General had written to selected countries in an effort to determine the interest of developed countries in contributing to a Maritime Security Trust Fund were it to be established, as called for by the above mentioned conference resolution 5.

9.4 With regard to the Model Courses, course frameworks have been developed for Ship Security Officer, Company Security Officer and Port Facility Security Officer.

Outcome of MSC 77

9.5 The Committee took note of the outcome of the 77th session of the Maritime Safety Committee, held from 28 May to 6 June 2003, as reported in document TC 53/9/Add.1. The Director of TCD also informed the Committee that MSC 77 endorsed the work programme on maritime security as revised by the Working Group, as far as that Committee was concerned.

9.6 MSC, under its agenda item on "Technical Assistance Sub-programme in Maritime Safety and Security", considered information on technical co-operation activities within the Maritime Security Technical Co-operation Programme. It was noted that the programme has been allocated additional funding from the Technical Co-operation Fund and remains a high priority within the ITCP for 2004-2005. Demand for technical assistance in this field would increase substantially as developing countries are faced with the implementation of the recently adopted SOLAS amendments and the ISPS Code. In this respect, the Secretary-General had also informed MSC of the steps he had taken regarding a Maritime Security Trust Fund as reflected in paragraph 9.3 above.

9.7 The Director of TCD also informed the Committee that he had informed MSC 77 of the outcome of the Meeting of Western Hemisphere Transport Initiative (WHTI) Ministers of Transportation held in Ixtapa, Mexico in early May this year. The joint ministerial statement adopted by the Meeting had expressed support for the efforts of ICAO and IMO and encouraged member countries that had yet to accept and implement the relevant international instruments to do so. The Ministers had also agreed to establish a transportation security working group to identify possible areas of technical co-operation, facilitate contact among governments experts and develop viable financing alternatives to ensure a safe and secure environment for the movement of people and goods throughout the Americas.

9.8 The Committee noted the outcome of the SOLAS Conference and the conclusions reached after deliberations in FAL and the STW Sub-Committee.

9.9 Document TC 53/9/1 provided updated information on the implementation of the global programme on maritime/port security launched in response to operative paragraph 5 of resolution A.924(22) and the execution of the Programme's six activities.

9.10 The Director of TCD informed the Committee that Programme Activities 1 and 2 – Preparation of an outline programme for subsequent training workshops and Development of detailed plans and presentations have been completed. He also informed that the material developed has been revised to incorporate the decisions of the Diplomatic Conference on Maritime Security (held in December 2002) in connection with the adoption of new amendments to SOLAS '74 and the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code.

9.11. The Committee noted that that training materials have been produced in Arabic, English, French and Spanish.

9.12 With regard to the delivery of sub-regional seminars/workshops, seven such events had been conducted in 2002. Since then, two seminars/workshops had been conducted successfully in Calabar, Nigeria and Mumbai, India. By the end of this year, it is envisaged to conduct events for North Africa (Maghreb countries), Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Black Sea and Caspian Sea regions.

9.13 The Director of TCD also informed the Committee that there is an increasing trend in the demand for technical assistance in training and advice at the national level and that to date, IMO has received requests from more than 25 developing countries.

9.14 The attention of the Committee was drawn to document SOLAS/CONF.5/13 that contains the proposal of Colombia to establish a correspondence group on preventing drug trafficking and related to maritime security to give relevant training at the regional level, making use of the experience gained by Colombia in this field. The Committee was informed that the correspondence group had not yet been established but it will be kept informed of progress and any ensuing organization of seminars/workshops falling within the remit of the ITCP in the region. The delegation of Colombia informed the Committee that its Government has offered general assistance to other countries, based on its experience over the years and was pleased to see the action taken by organizations in the Latin American region. Colombia stated that now that such action has been taken it is pleased to see by the Programme that this will be continued.

9.15 In considering the contents of the above-mentioned documents, there was general agreement that the initiatives undertaken were enhancing global maritime security. Governments should continue to be encouraged to take this subject seriously and establish partnerships with IMO, be it through Memoranda of Understanding and or training institutions. The importance of

assisting developing countries to implement the decisions of the 2002 Conference was stressed, as these had significant impact on ports and ships and the whole of the maritime community should commit to this programme which must be implemented without delay.

9.16 It was felt that the whole strategy was fundamental to maritime safety and security and that the various IMO regional presences and the seminars/workshops so far held, had greatly assisted in bringing awareness to this programme.

Proposal to establish a Maritime Security Trust Fund

9.17 The Committee welcomed and supported the proposal to establish a Maritime Security Trust Fund and stated that this would have many benefits for the Programme and might aid in alleviating the financial constraints that may face the ITCP. Several delegations informed the Committee that this proposal had already been brought to the attention of their relevant Ministries. The Committee noted that the Secretary-General had written to developed Member States to ascertain their willingness to contribute to the fund.

9.18 There was concern expressed and clarification requested as to whether the Trust Fund would be partially funded from the Printing Fund surplus or a totally new source and also what operative paragraph 4 of Conference resolution 5 meant by "...for providing support for national initiatives in developing countries to strengthen their maritime security infrastructure and measures."

9.19 In addressing the above concerns, the Secretary-General welcomed and appreciated the support that the Committee had shown for the establishment of the Trust Fund and stated that with such interest the Organization could progress with this issue and that the details of the Trust Fund will be developed. In clarifying the meaning of operative paragraph 4 of Conference resolution 5, specifically with regard to the strengthening of maritime security infrastructure he stated that it is intended to cover legal/administration/operations matters. He also informed the Committee that the Trust Fund would be established to attract "new money" for the purpose stated. The onus on wide and uniform implementation of security programme was apparent, both to States and industry. He was looking to donor countries and the private sector to provide this and has already taken steps to assess interest.

9.20 The Committee was also informed that he had approached Member Governments to advise on steps taken to increase awareness which may aid in the monitoring of the implementation of the Code. He had also approached IACS to ascertain how many of their ships and companies would have to implement SOLAS Chapter XI-2 and the ISPS Code. The Secretary-General would report to the Committee when the above information is received.

9.21 The Committee welcomed the report on progress made in response to operative paragraph 5 of resolution A.924(22), in particular, on materials developed and the delivery of sub-regional seminars/workshops (document TC 53/9/1).

9.22 Several delegations drew attention to operative paragraph 2 in the annex to that document with regard to the Secretary-General writing to all PMAWCA Member States stressing the need for Governments to implement the ISPS Code before the mandatory date of 1 July 2004. It was stated that any communication on this subject should be addressed to all SOLAS Parties. As the resolution is worded, if the Secretary-General were to accept this request, it could create serious problems with regard to port entry, control of ships and port State control.

9.23 The Committee was informed that resolutions emanating from seminars/workshops were not for the Committee to approve but for the Organization to note the salient points and address issues raised, as appropriate. The Committee was assured that no counter productive action would be taken by the Organization.

9.24 In conclusion, the Committee congratulated the Secretariat on the production of the course materials in Arabic, English, French and Spanish and expressed its satisfaction with the good progress being made in the delivery of the sub-regional seminars.

9.25 The Committee took note of the information provided in the documents presented and reiterated its earlier appeal to all development partners to contribute financial, human and/or in-kind resources for the continuation of the programme and, especially, for the provision of training.

9.26 The Committee expressed its thanks to the Administrations of the Governments of Nigeria and India for their willingness to host and facilitate the seminars/workshops, and its appreciations for the offers of Algeria, Argentina, Bahamas, Nicaragua and Romania for further workshops in 2003.

9.27 The Committee also noted with appreciation the action taken with respect to the feasibility of establishing an International Maritime Security Trust Fund.

10 CAPACITY BUILDING ASPECTS OF THE MODEL AUDIT SCHEME

10.1 The Committee had before it documents TC 53/10, TC 53/10/Add.1 and C 90/15/Add.1 prepared by the Secretariat, which provided information on the proposed voluntary IMO Model Audit Scheme. Document C 90/15/Add.1 includes the outcome of the joint MSC/MEPC/TCC Working Group and document TC 53/10/Add.1 summarizes actions to be taken by TCC.

10.2 In introducing these documents, the Director, TCD, informed the Committee that the above Joint Working Group had considered, among other topics, technical co-operation related aspects and that emphasis had been given to two essential elements such as capacity building and funding of the Audit. He also presented a summary of these aspects and drew the Committee's attention to the draft Assembly resolution on the Audit and especially to its paragraph 6, which deals with technical co-operation.

10.3 Some delegations pointed out that the proposed ITCP for the 2004-2005 biennium does not include any specific resources for the implementation of the audit and proposed action plan and that consideration should be given to assigning funds in the proposed ITCP to address pre-audit and post-audit needs. With regard to the needs for infrastructure which may arise from the audit, many delegations proposed that donors should be urged to provide financial support while others commented that, in this particular issue, financing could be secured through bilateral channels or partnerships arrangements.

10.4 Several delegations expressed the view that it was premature for the time being to alter the ITCP for 2004-2005 because some factors remained unknown such as timing and costs and possible impact on other priorities of the ITCP. In answering these points, the Director, TCD, recalled that the ITCP provided some resources that could be used for capacity building aspects of the scheme such as advisory services and if there was any need to provide additional funds the unprogrammed reserves might be used at the discretion of the Secretary-General.

10.5 One delegation pointed out that the ITCP was already providing resources for capacity building activities required by the audit as the audit related to the implementation of IMO Conventions which was the focus of IMO's technical co-operation activities.

10.6 The Committee was informed that the Secretariat as requested was in contact with ICAO concerning the operation of the International Financial Facility for Aviation Safety (IFFAS), which was established with the objective of financing safety-related projects to remedy safety-related deficiencies identified through the ICAO Universal Safety Oversight Audit Programme (USOAP). IFFAS operation had not begun pending the establishment of the governing body which was expected to take place in the near future. To date, total contributions and pledges from ICAO Contracting States and the European Commission amounted to US \$542,248. The Secretariat would provide information to the June 2004 session of the Committee on the operation of IFFAS and its possible application to the capacity building aspects of IMO's voluntary Audit Scheme.

10.7 The Committee reviewed the proposed draft Assembly resolution, particularly its paragraph 6, which calls for the extension of resolution A.901(21) to encompass technical co-operation needs derived from the audit and agreed to suggest that paragraph 6 be amended as follows: "DECIDES that within the context of resolution A.901(21) on IMO and Technical Co-operation in the 2000s, technical co-operation is provided as appropriate including capacity building aspects of the pre and post audit process."

10.8 The Committee took note of the Joint Working Group's report on the IMO Model Scheme and endorsed the outcome of the Joint Working Group's consideration of the various aspects of the scheme (document C 90/15/Add.1, paragraphs 51.1, 51.2 and 51.6 of annex 1). It also endorsed the Joint Working Group's decision on the capacity building, technical co-operation and overall funding for the Scheme (C 90/15/Add.1, paragraphs 34 to 38 and 39 to 42 of annex 1) and approved the draft Assembly resolution on the voluntary IMO Model Audit Scheme (document C 90/15/Add.1, paragraphs 49 and 50 of annex 1), taking into account the aforementioned amendment in paragraph 10.7 above. The Committee approved as well the Joint Working Group report in general. Finally, it agreed on the work plan for the development of the scheme and called on Members of the Committee to participate in the correspondence group.

11 ELECTRONIC ACCESS TO IMO PUBLICATIONS

11.1 The Committee had before it document TC 53/11 submitted by the Secretariat in response to the proposal considered by TCC at its fifty-second session to make IMO publications freely accessible via the Internet. This document presented a report on the assessment, along with proposals on how a suitable test could be conducted and suggestions as to possible success criteria for making selected IMO instruments freely accessible electronically.

11.2 The Director, AD, introduced document TC 53/11 to the Committee. He recalled that the TCC at its fifty-second session considered documents TC 51/9 submitted by the Secretariat and TC 52/9 submitted by Argentina as a follow up to document TC 51/6/1 submitted by Argentina, Germany and Ghana and considered by TCC in June 2002. The initial proposal was to introduce a

“model test phase” to place certain IMO instruments on the IMO website to enable free access to these instruments by users. It had been suggested that the problem of TC delivery and the subsequent implementation of IMO instruments would be improved by making IMO instruments available free of charge.

11.3 The Director, AD further recalled that that the Secretariat’s proposal to TC 52 was that selected IMO instruments be made available in document form, as read-only PDF files, and that the frequency of access and user profiles be monitored for a test period of 12 months. Based on more detailed studies carried out since TC 52, the Secretariat proposed that:

- a trial period would be initiated starting 1 July 2003 for a period of ten months with a view to submitting a comprehensive report in time for the next session of TCC in June 2004;
- four instruments (FAL Convention, MARPOL, STCW Convention and Code, ISM Code) as agreed by TCC would be uploaded onto the IMO website in document form as PDF read-only but downloadable files;
- the files would be made accessible on IMO’s website under the heading “Information Resources” with a sub-heading “IMO free instruments” for ease of search. The site “Information Resources” offers a wide range of free informational material issued by IMO’s Library Services and is therefore believed to be the best site for free instruments; and
- users would be required to give some basic details (for example, country of origin, sector, occupation) before gaining access to the materials, in order to help the Secretariat in analysing the pilot study.

11.4 The Committee was further informed that Member Governments would be invited to inform prospective users of this service through their usual machinery. The Secretariat would monitor the frequency of access, i.e., which instruments are ‘opened’ and read while the registration of users would allow the Secretariat to build up a profile of the users so that, in particular, the levels of access by developing countries could be judged. Part of the success criteria will be to establish frequency of access and preferred texts. Another success criteria will be the number of different individuals utilizing this facility.

11.5 The Director, AD, further informed the Committee that, in parallel with the trial period, the Secretariat would carry out an analysis of the level of sales for the four publications and also consult the Organization’s distributors on their experience. He reminded the Committee that the Secretariat had some reservations about making the Organization’s intellectual property available free on the Internet, but the idea of a pilot study had nonetheless been approached as constructively as possible. He pointed out that the proposals outlined in document TC 53/11 would allow the Secretariat to form an impact assessment and advise the TCC next year to enable both TCC and Council to reach a longer-term view on the basis of sound and comprehensive information. The Committee noted that, as part of the diversification of the Publishing Service’s priced products, the Secretariat had started offering “virtual” editions of its publications (starting with the ISPS Code), and introduced a new “subscriber” service to certain other publications, which would enable users to access and download the publications if they wished, or to pay for access on a fee basis.

11.6 The delegation of Cyprus did not agree with the proposal and raised concerns about the possible loss of revenue for the Printing Fund and hence the effect on the TC Fund. With reference to FAL, MARPOL and STCW publications, the delegation of Cyprus pointed out that without clearly determining which of the basic texts, consequent amendments and/or consolidated texts would be made freely downloadable on the Internet, there could be major problems with port State control users. He further pointed out that the words "IMO free publications" should be used instead of "IMO free instruments" in paragraph 8 (c) of document TC 53/11. The delegation of Malta, while supporting the position taken by Cyprus, did not believe that making publications freely accessible on the Internet would assist developing countries bearing in mind that many developing countries do not have widespread access to the Internet.

11.7 The delegations of Argentina and the USA were of the view that, without undertaking the pilot study, there was no proof that free access to the four publications would have a negative impact on the TC Fund. It was also pointed out that the availability and use of the Internet appeared to be widespread among developing countries.

11.8 Whilst noting the concerns of two delegations, the Committee agreed to recommend to the Council that the Secretariat should go ahead and initiate the pilot study as detailed in document TC 53/11 and submit a report to the fifty-fourth session of TCC in June 2004.

12 WOMEN-IN-DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

12.1 The Committee had before it document TC 53/12, reporting on the activities implemented under the IMO Women in Development Programme in 2002. The IMO Focal Point for Women in the Maritime Sector presented the document, and drew the Committee's attention to some of the salient issues.

12.2 The Programme designation was revised to read "the IMO Programme for the Integration of Women in the Maritime Sector" (IWMS), so as to provide a more specific indication of its objectives. The Programme would continue to focus on human resources development and capacity-building as priority activities, in line with the Organization's overall strategic approach to technical co-operation.

12.3 Since 2001, the Women in Development Programme had been funded through the TC Fund on a biennial basis. The funding covered a modest training programme for women, which was determined on a regional basis.

12.4 IMO had participated at a special meeting of the United Nations focal points for women, convened by the Government of Norway in Oslo, in November 2002. This was the fourth Informal Consultation of Gender Equality, and it was organized by a former Director-General of the Department of Multilateral Development Co-operation, Ms Torild Skard. Ms. Skard had been instrumental in providing Norwegian funding for the original IMO Women in Development Programme in the late Eighties. The report of the Informal Consultations concluded, *inter alia*, that mainstreaming is only one of a number of strategies that can be adopted to promote the strengthening of the role and rights of women through UN-based activities. Certain sectors, including the maritime industry, would require women-specific projects to maintain the focus of this issue.

12.5 The delegation of the United States expressed its active support for participation of women in the maritime sector in general, and for the objectives of IMO's Women in Development programme in particular. In keeping with those objectives, the delegation informed

that women currently represented 10.8% of the US Coast Guard (USCG), and that 14% of all newly commissioned officers in 2002 were women; also noted was the current 27% enrolment of female cadets for the 2006 Coast Guard Academy graduating class. The delegation also urged all nations to actively pursue policies to improve the access of women to all levels of training and employment in the maritime sector.

12.6 The delegation of Trinidad and Tobago expressed its gratitude to the Government of Norway in particular, for its continued support to the integration of women in the maritime sector. The delegation also referred to the value of the sensitisation seminar that IMO had conducted on this topic in the Latin America region, and requested that similar seminars be held in the Latin America and Caribbean regions in the future.

12.7 The Chairman concluded that the role of women in the maritime sector was central to the general capacity-building and strengthening of resources in developing countries. The Secretariat should be encouraged to maintain its efforts under this Programme, and to continue reporting annually to the Committee on activities and results achieved. He noted that the programme was now termed the IMO Programme for the Integration of Women in the Maritime Sector, and stated that this title gave the wider audience a more direct understanding of the focus and purpose of the programme's activities.

12.8 The Committee took note of the report on the implementation activities undertaken under the IMO Programme for the Integration of Women in the Maritime Sector (IWMS) from January to December 2002. The Committee also urged Member States to implement the decisions and resolutions adopted by IMO technical bodies with respect to the integration of women in the maritime sector.

13 INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND FELLOWSHIPS

.1 World Maritime University

13.1.1 The Committee had before it documents C 90/24(a), C 90/24/(b) and C 90/24/(c), which would be presented to the ninetieth session of Council by the Secretary-General.

13.1.2 The Director, TCD, informed the Committee of the progress of an IMO pilot project contracted to the WMU to convert an IMO model course on "Marine Incident and Accident Investigation" into a distance learning tool.

13.1.3 The President of the University updated the Committee on the University's twentieth anniversary celebrations which took place recently in Malmö and were attended by some 300 guests and graduates from all over the world.

13.1.4 He informed the Committee that the WMU continues to make remarkable progress in areas such as academic development, international recognition and collaboration, research and consultancy, student enrolment, and the ongoing expansion of the global network of WMU graduates. On female intake, the Committee was advised that a quarter of the WMU's annual intake of about 200 students are women candidates sponsored mostly by revenue generated from the University's research and consultancy activities.

13.1.5 Referring to the WMU's Professional Diploma Courses which raised a substantial amount of funds for the University, the President informed the Committee that over 300 students attended these courses last year which exceeded the WMU's usual student population of 200.

13.1.6 Three closely related initiatives undertaken by WMU in 2002 testified to its significant academic progress, namely, the substantial strengthening of the faculty through the establishment of four new professorial Chairs, three of which are sponsored by the Nippon Foundation of Japan and one of which is sponsored by the Government of Canada; the introduction of a doctoral programme in collaboration with the University of Wales; and the further expansion of research and consultancy services and scholarly publications by the University.

13.1.7 Although the future of the WMU looks bright, the Committee was warned that the University continued to face some serious financial challenges of the future, particularly with regard to its long-term existence and development, and noted that, to date, response from Member States to the Assembly resolution A.933(22) on “Sustainable Financial Support for the World Maritime University” has been muted.

13.1.8 Referring to the Assembly resolutions A.933(22), A.934(22) and A.935(22) on WMU, IMLI and IMA respectively, the Director of TCD pointed out that since these resolutions were adopted in January 2002, there has been no evaluation of the response of Member States and industry to the operative paragraphs contained in the resolutions. He suggested that, with the agreement of the Committee, a report on this issue could be tabled for the next session of the Committee in 2004.

13.1.9 The delegation of Cyprus raised the issue of donors placing restrictions on to whom WMU fellowships are awarded. He drew attention, as an example, to the speech of the Secretary-General of ITF during the 20 years’ anniversary of the WMU in Malmö, Sweden, in early June 2003..

13.1.10 The WMU President explained that the University provides all donors with a list of those academically cleared candidates. The University appreciated that donors might have different country priorities and in their aid programme, but maintained that these would not interfere with the academic criteria in the selection process.

13.1.11 In reply to a query, the Director, TCD, said that the distance learning project with WMU could benefit similar work being undertaken by the IMA and other institutions, and that the two institutions could co-operate as appropriate.

13.1.12 On the issue of fellowship funding, the delegate of Kenya, who was a WMU graduate sponsored by the European Commission, regretted the fact that the Commission no longer provided funds for fellowships at the WMU and requested that the Secretariat take steps to amend the situation.

13.1.13 The Chairman informed the Committee that the Secretariat is currently taking the initiative to pursue this issue, and in response to one delegation’s suggestion, not only in respect to WMU, but also IMLI and IMA.

13.1.14 The Committee duly noted the information provided.

.2 IMO International Maritime Law Institute

13.2.1 The Committee also considered documents C 90/25(a), C 90/25(a)/Add.1, C 90/25(b) and C 90/25(b)/Add.1 which the Secretary-General would be presenting to the Council after TCC 53. The Committee was advised that the Institute continued to thrive with a total of 253 graduates from 93 States and territories.

13.2.2 The Secretariat thanked those donors who contributed to the Institute's operational fund and the donation of fellowships which enabled the Institute to raise sufficient income to cover its budget for the academic year 2002/2003.

13.2.3 The Committee duly noted the information provided.

.3 IMO International Maritime Academy

13.3.1 The Director, TCD, introduced document TC 53/13/2 which listed courses conducted by the Academy during 2002 and its academic programme for 2003.

13.3.2 The President of the Academy presented document TC 53/13/4/Rev.1 which highlighted the progress made by the Academy with regard to its current projects in the past year and its activities in the immediate future. He listed technical assistance rendered by the Academy in maritime security, hydrography and cartography to countries in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea regions, and South America, mostly with funds provided by the European Commission and the Government of Italy.

13.3.3 He also informed the Committee of the Academy's intention of venturing into distance-learning in the near future, pending the availability of resources.

13.3.4 On the Academy's proposal to introduce a flag State implementation and a port State control course with a module on maritime security, the delegation of Ukraine fully supported the IMA's proposal concerning the maritime security module, and proposed the introduction of refresher courses on maritime security in IMO. He also backed the idea of introducing remote learning for such a module.

13.3.5 The Committee took note of the information provided.

.4 Fellowships and other training activities

13.4.1 The Director, TCD, presented the document TC 53/13/3 which listed training activities administered by IMO, from the award of *ad-hoc* fellowships to the development and delivery of IMO Model Courses. Such training activities benefited both the developing countries and the global maritime industry by enhancing the maritime capacity of countries through the building up of their human resource capabilities, and by increasing the industry's bank of technical expertise at national, regional and international levels.

13.4.2 The Committee was informed of the considerable progress being made by the IMO STCW Model Course Programme in the past year, with the translation into French and Spanish and publication of the model courses. Progress has also been made on the development and implementation of the Oil Pollution Preparedness and Response training programme and more courses were scheduled for 2003 on contingency planning and OPRC model training.

13.4.3 The Committee noted the information provided.

14 PARTNERSHIPS FOR PROGRESS: STATUS OF TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES PROVIDED BY MEMBER STATES AND SCOPE FOR CO-ORDINATION AND LINKAGE WITH ITCP

14.1 The Committee had before it two documents on this agenda item. The first document, TC 53/14, which was introduced by the Secretariat, provided an up-date on the progress made in the establishment of the inter-active website on the Partnerships for Progress Inventory. The Committee had also called for a similar mechanism to be established for the Compendium of Maritime Training Institutes.

14.2 The Committee was informed that a pilot scheme had been launched in March 2003, to test the inter-active facility for accessing the websites under the IMO web-page. The inventory of bilateral technical co-operation assistance was to be entitled Maritime Technical Aid (MARTECAID), while the Compendium of Maritime Training Institutes would be known under the acronym CMTI. Both the websites were designed as live documents, to be up-dated regularly by each donor or maritime authority. The objective of the websites was to provide a tool for improved co-ordination at the field level and more efficient use of development aid resources.

14.3 It was emphasized that the role of the Secretariat was strictly that of facilitator, and each donor or resource provider would be responsible for the accuracy of the information provided. The latter would also undertake responsibility for amending existing records or introducing new entries and verifying the information listed under MARTECAID and CMTI.

14.4 The websites were being tested through a pilot run prior to their official launch in July 2003. As a security measure to ensure that the information posted on the website was received by the Secretariat from an approved government source, access to the inter-active function of the database would be via a password given to the respective maritime administration focal point designated by the Member States. The general visitor to the MARTECAID and CMTI websites would have read-only access to the information.

14.5 Member States would be informed of the official website launch through a Circular Letter. In closing, delegates were invited to inform their relevant departments and ministries that this facility would be available on the IMO website and that all interested parties were urged to contribute their information to the website pages on MARTECAID and CMTI.

14.6 Following the Secretariat's introduction, the delegation of Singapore presented their information paper, under document TC 53/INF.2, which outlined previous technical assistance provided in the maritime/port sector by Singapore, and to the MoU on Third Country Training Programme with IMO, as well as other ongoing technical assistance programmes being currently implemented or planned. The delegation also apologized for an error in nomenclature under annex 7, which should read "Hong Kong, China" wherever "Hong Kong" appears and that the heading of one column should read "Country/Region" instead of "Country".

14.7 The Committee took note of the information on the MARTECAID and CMTI websites, and the pilot scheme being conducted prior to the websites going live in July 2003. The Committee also urged national authorities to provide information regarding bilateral maritime assistance and maritime training institutes, respectively, through the Internet inter-active facility, for inclusion in MARTECAID and CMTI.

15 WORK OF OTHER BODIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

15.1 The Committee had before it document TC 53/15, which reported on the outcome of the eighty-ninth session of the Council, twenty-fourth Consultative Meeting of Contracting Parties to the Convention on the Prevention of Marine Pollution by dumping of Wastes and other Matter, 1972, seventy-sixth session of the Maritime Safety Committee, and the thirtieth session of the Facilitation Committee.

15.2 In addition to the information provided in this document, the Director, TCD, informed the Committee about the outcome of the eighty-sixth session of the Legal Committee, and the seventy-seventh session of the Maritime Safety Committee since they met after the document had been circulated.

15.3 The Committee was informed that MSC 77 considered the final report of the second Workshop for port State control MoU Secretaries and Directors of Information Centres (IMO Headquarters, July 2002).

15.4 MSC noted the request for the Organization to continue providing technical co-operation support to assist the regional PSC organizations, in particular with respect to:

- .1 capacity-building through training programmes for:
 - PSCOs;
 - database managers; and
 - other related technical issues;
- .2 the establishment of information centres within the remit of those TC activities funded by IMO;
- .3 the development of a distance learning package for training of PSCOs;
- .4 the participation of the Secretariat at regional port State control Committee meetings; and
- .5 technical advisory missions.

15.5 The Committee took note of the information provided.

16 RULES OF PROCEDURE AND METHODS OF WORK OF THE COMMITTEE

16.1 The Committee had before it document TC 53/16, which was introduced by the Director, TCD, recalling that, at its fifty-second session, the Committee had considered the desirability of amending its Rules of Procedure and had concluded that, where feasible, these should be aligned with those of other Committees.

16.2 Subsequently, based on a request by the Committee, the Secretariat had carried out a detailed analysis comparing the Rules of Procedure of the five IMO Committees, from which two conclusions had been drawn:

- there appear to be some 20 items of divergence among the Rules of Procedure of the five Committees – as shown in annex 1 to document TC 53/16 – but most of them did not merit consequent changes to the TCC's Rules of Procedure; and

- it was the Secretariat's view that only four of those items needed further consideration by the Committee in order to arrive at the desired alignment mentioned previously.

16.3 The latter four items were shown in annex 2 to the document and, where applicable, the Secretariat had accordingly provided proposed amendments to the Committee's Rules of Procedure.

16.4 The Committee congratulated the Secretariat for carrying out the comparative analysis requested previously, which may also be of benefit to other Committees.

16.5 The Committee adopted the amendments to its Rules of Procedure set out in annex 2 to document TC 53/16 as proposed by the Secretariat, with the exception of the Secretariat's suggestion regarding Rule 17(c), and decided that it should read as follows: "If the Chairman and Vice Chairman are both unable to preside at a session, the Committee shall elect a new Chairman and a new Vice-Chairman".

16.6 The Committee noted that the amendments so adopted shall come into force immediately and consequently will be fully effective from its next session.

16.7 The Committee requested the Secretariat to issue and distribute a TC circular containing the Committee's revised Rules of Procedure and to ensure that the Committee's revised Rules of Procedures are duly included in the next edition of the "Basic Documents" publication.

17 ELECTION OF THE CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN FOR 2004

17.1 For practical reasons relating exclusively to this agenda item, the Committee agreed to suspend the application of the amendments to its Rules of Procedure adopted at the current session which, *inter alia*, stipulated a term of office limitation of four years. The Committee unanimously agreed to re-elect Captain Moin Ahmed (Bangladesh) as Chairman for the year 2004.

17.2 The Committee noted with regret that the present Vice-Chairman, Mr. Jean-Marc Schindler (France) was stepping down as Vice-Chairman and expressed its sincere appreciation for the considerable contribution which Mr. Schindler had made over the years to the work of the Committee and for facilitating support for the implementation of the integrated Technical Co-operation Programme.

17.3 The Committee unanimously elected Mr. Philip S.J. Lukuley (Sierra Leone) as Vice-Chairman for the year 2004.

18 OTHER MATTERS

Tribute to the Secretary-General

18.1 One delegation, speaking on behalf of the Committee, paid tribute to the Secretary-General, praising his vision, leadership and strategy, which have led the Organization and this Committee to a new era of focus and effectiveness in technical co-operation. He stated that the Secretary-General is the major reason why the Committee was embarking on a new and needed emphasis in the area of technical co-operation. Because of his efforts, the work of IMO is more effective and better recognized worldwide and the Committee wished to thank him most sincerely.

18.2 In response the Secretary General expressed his appreciation for the kind words of thanks for his role in the development of the work of the Committee and IMO's technical co-operation programme. He stated that it was a matter of great satisfaction to witness the transformation of the Committee to a proactive forum providing oversight and direction to the development and implementation of IMO's technical co-operation programme.

18.3 He especially enjoyed working with the Members of the Committee and the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen who have guided the Committee so well. He paid tribute to the Secretariat, in particular, the Technical Co-operation Division under the leadership of Mr. David T. Edwards its Director and expressed his confidence in the future of the Committee and the technical co-operation programme.

19 ACTION REQUESTED OF THE COUNCIL

19.1 The Council is invited to:

- .1 note the Committee's appreciation of the Interim report on the ITCP for 2002-2003, and in particular, of the exceptional increase in the volume of assistance delivered in 2002 (paragraph 2.1.13 – 2.1.15);
- .2 note the Committee's decision to request the Secretariat to submit proposals to the Committee, as its fifty-fourth session, for streamlining and consolidating reports made to Member States on the implementation of technical co-operation activities (paragraph 2.2.11);
- .3 note the very successful Workshop on Partnership Building held at IMO Headquarters on 9 and 10 June 2003 (paragraph 3.1 – 3.4);
- .4 note the Committee's endorsement of a draft Assembly resolution on the development and improvement of partnership arrangements, for submission to the twenty-third session of the Assembly for approval, as set out at annex, (paragraph 3.4);
- .5 note the Committee's approval of the ITCP 2004-2005, as a realistic and achievable programme (paragraph 4.13);
- .6 note the Committee's approval of the TC Fund Programme for the 2004-2005 biennium and the Committee's recommendation that the Secretary-General be authorized to use, during 2004-2005, the unprogrammed funds of the TC Fund for demands or partnership opportunities as and when they arise (paragraph 5.10);
- .7 endorse the TC Fund Programme for the 2004-2005 biennium (see C 90/19(b)) (paragraph 5.10);
- .8 agree to the Committee's request to transfer all the surplus from the Printing Fund to the TC Fund. For financial forecasting and planning of the activities, £1.4 million of this surplus will be immediately used for the activities planned for 2004-2005 (see C 90/19 (b)) (paragraph 5.9);
- .9 note the Committee's approval of the methodology (operational framework and terms of reference) proposed by the Secretariat for the impact assessment exercise 2000-2003 (paragraph 6.5);

- .10 note the Committee's appreciation of the good progress achieved on the Organization's global programme on maritime security and the action taken with respect to the feasibility of establishing an International Maritime Security Trust Fund as called for by Conference resolution 5 of the SOLAS Conference on Maritime Security (paragraph 9.21 and 9.27);
- .11 note the Committee's endorsement of the outcome of the Joint Working Group's decision on the capacity building, technical co-operation and funding for the Model Audit Scheme and the Committee's endorsement of the draft Assembly resolution on the voluntary IMO Model Audit Scheme with the amendment of operative paragraph 6 of that resolution (paragraph 10.7 and 10.8);
- .12 note that the Committee recommended that a pilot study be initiated on electronic access to IMO publications for a test period of 10 months starting from 1 July 2003 and the Committee's request of the Secretariat to submit a report on the study to the fifty-fourth session of TCC in June 2004 (paragraph 11.8) (see C 90/23);
- .13 note the Committee's approval of amendments to its Rules of Procedure in order that they be aligned with those of other Committees (paragraphs 16.5);
- .14 note the summary of the Committee's report on its fifty-third session, and make such comments and give such guidance to the Committee, as it deems appropriate; and
- .15 authorize the Secretary-General to transmit the report of the Committee's fifty-third session, with its comments and recommendations, to the twenty-third session of the Assembly, in accordance with Article 21(b) of the IMO Convention.

ANNEX

DRAFT ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION A.....(23)
ON
DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT OF PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS
FOR TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION

THE ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING Articles 2(e) and 15(k) of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization concerning the functions of the Organization in relation to the facilitation and promotion of technical co-operation,

RECALLING ALSO resolution A.873(20), in operative paragraph 1 of which the Assembly reaffirmed that technical co-operation is an essential part of the Organization's work to achieve the ratification and implementation of IMO's global standards,

RECALLING ALSO resolution A.900(21) on Objectives of the Organization in the 2000s, through which the Assembly, *inter alia*:

- directed the Committees, under the co-ordination of the Council, to focus their attention on, among other subjects, strengthening the Organization's technical co-operation programme and delivery to achieve sustainable development and effective implementation of the Integrated Technical Co-operation Programme (ITCP),

RECALLING ALSO resolution A.901(21), in operative paragraph 5 of which, the Assembly urges:

(a) the Organization's development partners to acknowledge and respond to the direct relationship between IMO's regulatory and technical co-operation work and the promotion of sustainable development and, accordingly, to give increased priority to the maritime sector within national and multilateral development aid programmes; and

(b) Member States to take that linkage into account in the preparation and delivery of their national development plans.

RECALLING FURTHER resolution A.901(21), in operative paragraph 7 of which, the Assembly invites Member States and partner organizations to use IMO as the mechanism for co-ordination in relation to technical co-operation in the maritime sector, so as to prevent the duplication of efforts and resources, and thereby ensure the maximum impact of the assistance being provided and the effective promotion of IMO objectives,

RECALLING IN PARTICULAR that, through paragraph 8 of the same resolution, the Assembly reaffirms its mandate to the Technical Co-operation Committee to devise effective and innovative means of attracting and securing further financial and in-kind support for the ITCP, and, in this context, invites Member States and the Secretariat to contribute to such work,

BEING AWARE OF the challenge for IMO in the future to develop the capacity to effectively meet the increased demands for technical assistance in the most cost-effective and efficient manner,

RECOGNIZING the limited resources available to IMO to implement its technical cooperation programmes, as well as the limited IMO regional presence to implement the ITCP activities at the regional level,

RECOGNIZING FURTHER the overriding need to ensure that all stakeholders in the maritime sector are fully supportive of implementation of the global maritime standards,

BEING AWARE OF the success of partnership arrangements that IMO has established with national authorities, regional organizations and institutions, non-governmental organizations and industry for the delivery of the ITCP activities,

NOTING the success of the IMO Workshop on Partnership Building, held in the IMO Headquarters, London, from 9 to 10 June 2003, which highlighted the diversity and value of IMO's partnership arrangements in enhancing the capacity of the Organization to assist developing countries,

NOTING ALSO the success of the pilot scheme on regional co-ordinators in Africa and the establishment of the regional co-ordinators in South Asia and East Asia,

1. ENCOURAGES IMO Member States that have not established effective technical co-operation partnership arrangements to consider doing so and those Member States that have already entered into such arrangements to consider strengthening them;
 2. INVITES Member States, international and regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and the industry to provide financial and in-kind support for implementation of ITCP activities through development of effective partnership arrangements with IMO;
 3. REQUESTS the Secretary-General to continue to develop and to improve partnership arrangements to ensure the long-term and sustainable delivery of the ITCP activities and to report to the Assembly at its twenty-fourth regular session on further progress achieved; and
 4. REQUESTS ALSO the Secretary-General to strengthen the role of the regional co-ordinators in development and implementation of the Technical Co-operation Programme; to widely publicize the clear and precise scope of their activity; and, before considering further expansion of the geographic coverage, evaluate the impact of the programme and take into account resources available.
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