



IMCO

~~FOR PARTICIPANTS ONLY~~

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
TONNAGE MEASUREMENT, 1969
OF SHIPS

-- ~~PROVISIONAL~~ SUMMARY RECORD OF THE TWELFTH PLENARY MEETING

held at Church House, Westminster, London, S.W.1,
on Monday, 23 June 1969, at 10.45 a.m.

President: Admiral E.J. ROLAND (USA)

Secretary-General: Mr. Colin GOAD

Executive Secretary: Mr. V. NADEINSKI

A list of participants is given in TM/CONF/INF.1/Rev.2
and Corr.1

~~N.B. Corrections to be incorporated in the final summary record of the meeting should be submitted in writing (two copies in French or English), preferably on the provisional summary record, to the Documents Officer, Committee Room 2 and after the Conference to the IMCO Secretariat, 22 Berners Street, London, W.1, not later than 8 July 1969.~~

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SIGNATURE OF FINAL ACT OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
TONNAGE MEASUREMENT OF SHIPS, 1969

The PRESIDENT opened the Final Act for signature by members of all delegations which had participated in the Conference.

The Final Act was accordingly signed by the delegations of the following countries:

Argentina	Kuwait
Australia	Liberia
Belgium	Malagasy Republic
Brazil	Mexico
Bulgaria	Netherlands
Cameroon	New Zealand
Canada	Nigeria
China, Republic of	Norway
Czechoslovakia	Pakistan
Denmark	Peru
Federal Republic of	Philippines
Germany	Poland
Finland	Portugal
France	South Africa
Ghana	Spain
Greece	Sweden
Iceland	Switzerland
India	Union of Soviet
Indonesia	Socialist Republics
Ireland	United Arab Republic
Israel	United Kingdom
Italy	United States of America
Japan	Venezuela
Korea, Republic of	Viet-Nam, Republic of
	Yugoslavia

SIGNATURE OF INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON TONNAGE MEASUREMENT
OF SHIPS, 1969

The PRESIDENT opened the Convention for signature by all delegations having full powers, pointing out that, if any signature was to be subject to subsequent acceptance, the delegation concerned must ^{so} state ~~this~~ before signing and annotate its signature to that effect.

The Convention was accordingly signed by the delegations of the following countries:

Argentina	Korea, Republic of
Belgium	Kuwait
Brazil	Liberia
Bulgaria	Norway
Canada	Pakistan
China, Republic of	Philippines
Denmark	Poland
Federal Republic of	Portugal
Germany	Switzerland
Finland	Union of Soviet
Ghana	Socialist Republics
Greece	United Arab Republic
Iceland	United Kingdom
Indonesia	United States of America
Ireland	Venezuela
Israel	Yugoslavia
Italy	

Mr. ROCQUEMONT (France) said he was unable to sign the Convention and made the following statement:

- "(1) Owing to the change in government taking place this very day in France, the French delegation is unable to sign the Convention here and now. It wishes to make it quite clear, however, that the reasons for which it is postponing signature are purely formal ones.
- (2) The French delegation notes that the Convention fails to satisfy it on various points; in particular, the determination of net tonnage is not such as will facilitate the establishment of an objective system of charges for port services and may have an anti-economic influence on the structure of such charges as well as on ship design itself. It could therefore prove necessary to revert to this point at a later stage.
- (3) Nevertheless, in a spirit of goodwill and conciliation, the delegation will propose to the French Government that it grant the necessary powers for the signature of the Convention in the near future".

The PRESIDENT announced that forty-seven States had signed the Final Act and thirty-one the Convention; the signature of the United Arab Republic had been accompanied by a reservation. The signing of the Final Act and of the Convention completed the work of the Conference.

CLOSURE OF CONFERENCE

The PRESIDENT expressed his thanks to those who had elected him, in particular the United Kingdom delegation, and his appreciation of the spirit of co-operation and willingness to compromise shown by all participants in reaching a solution

to the tangled problem of tonnage measurement. That IMCO had now reached maturity was due not only to the work of its ^Members but also to the remarkable efficiency of the Secretariat, which had never been more in evidence than at the present Conference, and he paid tribute to the work of the Chairmen and Secretaries of the General and Technical Committees, and of all IMCO's officers and staff.

Mr. PROSSER (UK) said he hoped the Conference had achieved something of lasting benefit. It had been a most enjoyable experience for his delegation to act as host to the Conference. He expressed his appreciation of the work of the IMCO Secretariat and of the admirable way the President had conducted the deliberations.

Mr. KOLESNICHENKO (USSR) associated himself with the tributes paid to the President, to the Chairmen of the Conference's Committees, and to the IMCO staff.

Mr. SUZUKI (Japan) said the Convention was a step forward towards an eventual unified international tonnage measurement system, and his delegation would make every effort to ratify it in the near future. He hoped that the spirit of co-operation shown at the Conference would assure the ^{future success of the} ~~Convention's future~~ success. The solution reached had unavoidably been a compromise but his delegation would continue to strive towards a better one. He thanked the President for his excellent leadership, and the Chairmen and Secretaries of the Committees for their useful work.

Mr. GUPTA (India) said that he wished to associate his delegation with the remarks of the previous speakers. The Conference had been very fortunate in its choice of President. Special tributes were also due to the Chairman of the Technical Committee for his consideration and patience, to the host country and its delegation for their hospitality and to the Secretariat of IMCO for its efficiency.

Mr. WIE (Norway) expressed the hope that Governments would ratify the Convention in a spirit of compromise, so that shipowners and port authorities could benefit from it. The success of the Conference was due in great measure to the qualities of its President. Particular thanks were to be paid to the Secretary-General of IMCO and his staff for their work and to the host country for its hospitality.

Mr. MURPHY (USA) said that the world now had an opportunity to consider a tonnage measurement procedure which was logical and far simpler than the existing systems. Those whose task it would be to assess it should realize that the Conference had considered not only the technical aspects of tonnage measurement but also the future economics of the shipping industry. His delegation hoped that the Convention would come into force quickly. It associated itself with the tributes and thanks expressed by previous speakers.

Mr. ROCQUEMONT (France) said that his delegation warmly associated itself with the tributes paid to the President of the Conference, the Chairman of its Committees and the Secretariat of IMCO.

The PRESIDENT declared the Conference closed.

The meeting rose at 12.20 p.m.