



COUNCIL
90th session
Agenda item 24(c)

C 90/24(c)
6 March 2003
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WORLD MARITIME UNIVERSITY

(c) Amendments to the Charter

Note by the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

<i>Executive summary:</i>	This document recommends certain amendments to the WMU Charter as proposed by the Board of Governors of the University.
<i>Action to be taken:</i>	Paragraph 5
<i>Related documents:</i>	C 90/24(a), C 90/24(b), C 90/24(d)

1 At the eighty-fourth session of the IMO Council in June 2000, the Secretary-General, in presenting the 1999 Annual Report of the World Maritime University, advised the Council of the just completed external assessment of WMU by the Association of European Universities (CRE). Among the recommendations in the CRE Report was the proposal that the title of the Rector be changed to President, consistent with the executive responsibilities of this position and widespread practice in the international university milieu.

2 Subsequently the Secretary-General, in his capacity as Chancellor of the World Maritime University, established a Task Group on WMU Governance, headed by Professor William Ritchie, Vice-Chancellor of Lancaster University, United Kingdom, to review the organizational recommendations of the CRE Report. Professor Ritchie, in his report to the WMU Board of Governors in May 2002, likewise recommended that the title of the Rector be changed to President, consistent with international practice and the executive role of this position. The Board of Governors, at its twentieth session in May 2002, unanimously approved this change of title.

3 As the position and title of "Rector" are stipulated in the Charter of the World Maritime University, such a change requires an amendment to the WMU Charter by the Council with the approval of the Assembly.

4 It is therefore proposed that all references to "Rector" in the WMU Charter, contained in the Charter's Definitions and Articles 9, 17, 24, 25, 28, 34, 35, 39 and 41, be changed to "President". This will also necessitate a change in the title of "Vice-Rector", referred to in Articles 9, 24 and 28, to "Vice President (Academic)". The latter is also consistent with international university practice.

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Action requested of the Council

5 The Council is invited to endorse the proposed changes, and to forward the proposed amendment to the twenty-third session of the Assembly for approval.
