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**REPORT ON THE 2009 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON  
THE SAFE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND RECYCLING OF SHIPS**

**Note by the Secretary-General**

**SUMMARY**

<b><i>Executive summary:</i></b>	This document reports on the outcome of the 2009 International Conference on the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships
<b><i>Strategic direction:</i></b>	7.1
<b><i>High-level action:</i></b>	7.1.2
<b><i>Planned output:</i></b>	7.1.2.1
<b><i>Action to be taken:</i></b>	Paragraph 10
<b><i>Related documents:</i></b>	SR/CONF/45 and SR/CONF/46

1 Pursuant to the recommendation of the Marine Environment Protection Committee, at its fifty-fifth session; the concurrent decision of the Council, at its ninety-seventh session; and the endorsement of that decision by the Assembly, at its twenty-fifth regular session (resolution A.991(25)), the Organization convened an International Conference on the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, which took place at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, Hong Kong, China, from 11 to 15 May 2009.

2 Representatives of sixty-three States participated in the Conference. Two Associate Members of the Organization, the United Nations Environment Programme, the International Labour Organization, the European Commission and eight non-governmental organizations in consultative status also participated in the Conference.

3 The Conference elected Mr. Xu Zuyuan (People's Republic of China) as President of the Conference; and Mr. Binyah Kesselly (Liberia), Ms Liliana Fernández Puentes (Panama) and Captain Suat Hayri Aka (Turkey) as Vice-Presidents.

4 As a result of its deliberations, the Conference adopted the "Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009", the text of which is contained in document SR/CONF/45.

5 Fifty-nine States signed the Final Act of the Conference.

For reasons of economy, this document is printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly asked to bring their copies to meetings and not to request additional copies.



6 The Convention will be open for signature at the Headquarters of the Organization from 1 September 2009 and will remain open for signature until 31 August 2010. Thereafter, it will remain open for accession.

7 In accordance with Article 17, the Convention shall enter into force 24 months after the date on which the following conditions are met:

- .1 not less than 15 States have either signed it without reservation as to ratification, acceptance or approval, or have deposited the requisite instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession in accordance with Article 16;
- .2 the combined merchant fleets of the States mentioned in paragraph 1.1 constitutes not less than 40 per cent of the gross tonnage of the world's merchant shipping; and
- .3 the combined maximum annual ship recycling volume of the States mentioned in paragraph 1.1 during the preceding 10 years constitutes not less than 3 per cent of the gross tonnage of the combined merchant shipping of the same States.

8 The Conference also adopted the following resolutions, the texts of which are contained in the attachment to the Final Act of the Conference and also in document SR/CONF/46:

Resolution 1: Expression of appreciation to the host Government;

Resolution 2: Contribution of the Parties to the Basel Convention and the International Labour Organization in the development of the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009;

Resolution 3: Promotion of technical co-operation and assistance;

Resolution 4: Future work by the Organization pertaining to the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009;

Resolution 5: Early implementation of the technical standards of the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009; and

Resolution 6: Exploration and monitoring of the best practices for fulfilling the requirements of the Hong Kong International Convention for the Safe and Environmentally Sound Recycling of Ships, 2009.

9 Under the provisions of paragraph 22 of the Final Act, the Secretary-General shall send certified copies of the Final Act, with its attachment and certified copies of the authentic texts of the Convention, to the Governments of the States invited to be represented at the Conference.

#### **Action requested of the Council**

10 The Council is invited to take note of the information contained in this document and to authorize the Secretary-General to perform the functions requested of him by the Conference.