



COUNCIL
24th extraordinary session
Agenda item 12(a)

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EXTERNAL RELATIONS

(a) Relations with the United Nations and the specialized agencies

Eighth meeting of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea (ICP)

Note by the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

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| <i>Executive summary:</i> | This document provides information on IMO's participation at the eighth ICP meeting |
| <i>Action to be taken:</i> | Paragraph 6 |
| <i>Related document:</i> | UN General Assembly document A/RES/62/169 |

1 The eighth meeting of the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea (ICP) was held at the United Nations, New York, from 26 to 29 June 2007. The meeting was attended by more than 100 States, UN specialized agencies, funds and programmes (FAO, IOC/UNESCO, World Bank and IMO), UNEP, and other international and regional bodies (including GESAMP, HELCOM, CCPS, CBD, ICCAT, IMSO, ICCS, SACEP, EC, IHO, ISA and ITLOS).

2 The meeting focused its discussions on the subject of marine genetic resources. It also held a general exchange of views on issues discussed at previous meetings.

3 The IMO Secretariat advised the meeting about action taken by IMO on the following issues:

- adoption of the Nairobi International Convention on the Removal of Wrecks, 2007;
- prevention of air pollution from ships;
- safety of fishing vessels;
- IMO environmental conventions not yet in force (AFS and BWM);
- development of a treaty instrument on recycling of ships;

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- voluntary IMO Member State Audit Scheme;
- counter-terrorism;
- piracy (in particular, off the coast of Somalia);
- long-range identification and tracking (LRIT);
- protection of vital sea lanes; and
- migrants at sea.

4 It was requested that IMO's views contained in its statement, which is reflected in the report of the session (UNGA document A/RES/62/169, paragraph 14), be considered for inclusion in the General Assembly resolution on Oceans and the Law of the Sea, expected to be adopted later in the year.

5 The meeting noted that, in accordance with paragraph 123 of resolution A/RES/61/222 adopted by the General Assembly on 20 December 2006, the ninth ICP meeting, to be held in 2008, would focus its discussions on "maritime security and safety." The IMO Secretariat is already in consultation with the UN Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea (DOALOS) with respect to IMO's contribution to that meeting.

Action requested of the Council

6 The Council is invited to take note of the information contained in this document.
