



COUNCIL
96th session
Agenda item 18(a)

C 96/18(a)
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SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA ITEMS

(a) Matters relating to the implementation of Article 17 of the IMO Convention

Note by the Secretary-General

SUMMARY

Executive summary: This document reports on the concerns expressed at the twenty-fourth regular session of the Assembly about the outcome of the elections to the Council for the 2006-2007 biennium; in particular, with respect to the geographic criterion stipulated in Article 17(c) of the IMO Convention

Action to be taken: Paragraph 5

Related document: A 24/SR.10

1 At the twenty-fourth regular session of the Assembly, and in relation to agenda item 22, (“Election of Members of the Council, as provided in Articles 16 and 17 of the IMO Convention”), the delegation of Kenya expressed concern at the exclusion of the whole West and Central African region from membership of the Council for the 2006-2007 biennium.

2 The delegation noted that, pursuant to Article 17(c), in electing Members of the Council to category “C”, the Assembly is bound to take account of the criterion that the States elected should “ensure the representation of all major geographic areas of the world”. It was, moreover, of the view that the entry into force, on 7 November 2002, of the 1993 amendments to the IMO Convention had facilitated the enlargement of the Council from 32 to 40 Members, in order to enable more developing countries to participate in its work, thereby improving the co-ordination of IMO’s activities worldwide.

3 The Kenyan delegation accordingly suggested that the Organization should urgently examine the proper interpretation of Article 17 with a view to ensuring that all major regions were fairly represented in the Council. In this connection, he requested the Secretary-General to formulate specific guidelines and clarifications regarding the qualification for each category of Council membership, to ensure that Article 17 was properly applied in elections.

4 The views of the delegation of Kenya were supported by the delegation of the Philippines.

Action requested of the Council

5 The Council is invited to take note of the information contained in this document and to comment and decide as appropriate.
