

MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE ON FISHING
VESSEL SAFETY AND ILLEGAL,
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FISHING

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DRAFT RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE

Proposal for an amendment to draft Ministerial Conference Resolution 1

Submitted by Ireland

SUMMARY

Executive summary: This document comments on the draft Ministerial Conference Resolution 1 and proposes an amendment to recognize the commitment to fishing vessel safety by the States that have already expressed their consent to be bound by the 1993 Torremolinos Protocol. The proposal does not have any financial implications for the shipping or fishing industry or for the IMO budget.

Strategic direction, if applicable: Not applicable

Output: Not applicable

Action to be taken: Paragraph 4

Related document: Circular Letter No.3932/Add.1

Introduction

1 Further to Circular Letter No.3932/Add.1 of 22 July 2019, by which the Secretariat transmitted two draft resolutions for consideration by the Ministerial Conference on Wednesday, 23 October 2019, the delegation of Ireland would like to propose an amendment to the text of Ministerial Conference Resolution 1.

Background

2 As at 21 August 2019, the Torremolinos Protocol of 1993 relating to the Torremolinos International Convention for the Safety of Fishing Vessels, 1977 (SFV PROT 1993) has 17 Contracting States. However, although this number is in excess of the required number of 15 States for entry into force, the threshold has not been passed for the aggregate number of fishing vessels of 24 metres in length and over owned by these States. Therefore, the Torremolinos Protocol of 1993 has not yet entered into force.

3 In order to recognize that the 17 States which have already expressed their consent to be bound by the 1993 Torremolinos Protocol have taken a positive step in improving the safety of fishing vessels, and to further note that these States are now in the position of having to take additional steps to signify their consent to be bound by the Cape Town Agreement of 2012, it would be appropriate to include a paragraph in the Ministerial Conference Resolution 1 which recognizes the positive action already taken by these States, and expresses the gratitude of the Conference to these States for having already shown a commitment to fishing vessel safety.

Action requested of the Ministerial Conference

4 That the Ministerial Conference Resolution 1 be amended to include a paragraph, to be inserted after paragraph 2 (RECALLING ALSO that the International Conference, through Conference Resolution 2...), as follows:

"RECOGNIZING that 17 States have already expressed their consent to be bound by the 1993 Torremolinos Protocol, thereby taking a positive step in improving the safety of fishing vessels, and that, notwithstanding their need to take appropriate steps to signify their consent to be bound by the Agreement, these States have already demonstrated their commitment to fishing vessel safety, and for this are meritorious of the gratitude of the Conference."
