

**RESOLUTION A.541(13)**

*Adopted on 17 November 1983  
Agenda item 12*

**INTERIM SCHEME FOR TONNAGE MEASUREMENT FOR CERTAIN SHIPS FOR THE  
PURPOSES OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE PREVENTION  
OF POLLUTION FROM SHIPS, 1973, AS MODIFIED BY THE  
PROTOCOL OF 1978 RELATING THERETO**

THE ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING Article 16(j) of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization concerning the functions of the Assembly in relation to regulations concerning marine pollution,

NOTING that the International Convention on Tonnage Measurement of Ships, 1969, came into force on 18 July 1982,

REALIZING that tonnages determined under the 1969 Tonnage Convention can be sufficiently different from those determined under tonnage regulations previously in force to create difficulties in connection with the application of the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships, 1973, as modified by the Protocol of 1978 relating thereto (MARPOL 73/78),

RECALLING recommendation 2 of the International Conference on Tonnage Measurement, 1969, which, *inter alia*, recognized that the transition from existing tonnage measurement systems to the new system provided in the 1969 Tonnage Convention should cause the least possible impact on the economics of merchant ships,

BEARING IN MIND that MARPOL 73/78 does not specifically define the gross tonnage of ships which should be measured for the purpose of application of the provisions of that Convention,

RECALLING ALSO that it adopted by resolution A.494(XII) an interim scheme for tonnage measurement for certain ships, in order to overcome possible difficulties which might arise with regard to the application of the safety requirements in force for certain ships when measured in accordance with the 1969 Tonnage Convention in comparison with the national tonnage rules in effect prior to the coming into force of that Convention,

BEING AWARE that similar difficulties might also arise in respect of the application of the provisions of MARPOL 73/78,

HAVING CONSIDERED the recommendations made by the Marine Environment Protection Committee at its eighteenth session,

1. ADOPTS the following scheme for tonnage measurement for certain ships:
  - (a) At the request of a shipowner, the Administration may allow a ship of less than 400 tons gross tonnage (measured under the previous national tonnage rules) the keel of which is laid on or before 31 December 1985 and which is required to be measured under the provisions of the International Convention on Tonnage Measurement of

Ships, 1969, to use the gross tonnage measured under the national tonnage rules which were in effect prior to the coming into force of the 1969 Tonnage Convention, for the purpose of application of the provisions of MARPOL 73/78. Such tonnage, however, shall not be shown on the 1969 Tonnage Certificate;

- (b) For such a ship, the appropriate box in the International Oil Pollution Prevention Certificate of MARPOL 73/78 or other such official certificate issued by the Administration may show only the gross tonnage measured under the national tonnage rules which were in effect prior to the coming into force of the International Convention on Tonnage Measurement of Ships, 1969, with the following footnote:

“The above gross tonnage has been measured by the tonnage authorities of the Administration in accordance with the national tonnage rules which were in force prior to the coming into force of the International Convention on Tonnage Measurement of Ships, 1969.”;

2. AGREES that the interim scheme shall not apply to ships the keels of which are laid after 31 December 1985, except that in respect of regulations for ships of less than 400 tons gross tonnage (as measured under previous national rules), the keels of which are laid after 31 December 1985, the Administration may continue to apply the interim scheme until 18 July 1994;

3. INVITES Member Governments and Governments of States Parties to MARPOL 73/78 to take cognizance and to accept the use of this interim scheme for the purpose of application of the provisions of MARPOL 73/78.