

Resolution A.721(17)
Adopted on 6 November 1991
(Agenda item 12)

**DEVELOPMENT OF THE NEW TANKER DESIGNS FOR
THE PREVENTION OF OIL POLLUTION**

THE ASSEMBLY,

RECALLING Article 15(j) of the Convention on the International Maritime Organization concerning the functions of the Assembly in relation to regulations and guidelines concerning maritime safety and the prevention and control of marine pollution from ships,

NOTING the current work of the Marine Environment Protection Committee on the development of amendments to annex I of MARPOL 73/78 which would make the double hull construction mandatory for new oil tankers and the improvement of the construction and equipment of existing tankers in order to prevent oil pollution from such ships,

REALIZING that new current tanker designs can be effective in the reduction of oil outflow, but that no current designs will completely prevent oil outflows in all situation of collisions and groundings,

REALIZING FURTHER the need for the research and development of the new tanker designs for the prevention of oil pollution,

RECALLING resolution A.675(16) by which the Assembly requested the Maritime Safety Committee and the Marine Environment Protection Committee, *inter alia*, to review the results of studies in different countries on tanker design and other related topics,

1. REQUESTS the Marine Environment Protection Committee in co-operation with the Maritime Safety Committee:
 - (a) to collect and assess available information on oil pollution incidents; and
 - (b) to continue to study further measures necessary to prevent oil pollution from oil tankers;
2. RECOMMENDS Governments to take the necessary steps, including research and development programmes, to improve tanker designs aimed at the complete prevention of oil outflows.