

No. 4214

**ARGENTINA, AUSTRALIA, BELGIUM,
BURMA, CANADA, etc.**

**Final Act of the United Nations Maritime Conference
(with annexes). Done at Geneva, on 6 March 1948**

**Convention on the Intergovernmental Maritime Consulta-
tive Organization. Done at Geneva, on 6 March 1948**

Official texts: English, French and Spanish.

Registered ex officio on 17 March 1958.

**ARGENTINE, AUSTRALIE, BELGIQUE,
BIRMANIE, CANADA, etc.**

**Acte final de la Conférence maritime des Nations Unies
(avec annexes). Fait à Genève, le 6 mars 1948**

**Convention relative à la création d'une Organisation mari-
time intergouvernementale. Faite à Genève, le 6 mars
1948**

Textes officiels anglais, français et espagnol.

Enregistrés d'office le 17 mars 1958.

No. 4214. FINAL ACT OF THE UNITED NATIONS MARITIME CONFERENCE. DONE AT GENEVA, ON 6 MARCH 1948

The United Nations Maritime Conference was convened by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations by the following resolution adopted on the 28th March 1947 :

“ The Economic and Social Council

“ Requests the Secretary General :

“ (a) to convene a conference of interested Governments to consider the establishment of an inter-governmental maritime organization. The Draft Convention prepared by the United Maritime Consultative Council on this matter, concerning the scope and the purpose of the proposed organization, will serve as a working paper forming the basis of discussion for the Conference. The Conference will also consider if the scope and purposes of the Organization should include the removal or prevention of unfair restrictive practices by shipping concerns;

“ (b) to circulate the above-mentioned Draft Convention to all the Governments invited to the Conference;

“ (c) to inform the Governments which are invited to the Conference that any comments which they may wish to make on specific Articles of the Draft Convention or amendments which they may wish to propose in advance of the Conference, should be submitted to the Secretary-General for circulation to all Governments participating in the Conference and for consideration by the Conference itself;

“ (d) to draw up a provisional agenda for the Conference including the items mentioned above;

“ (e) to invite all the Members of the United Nations and the following Governments to participate in the Conference :

Albania, Austria, Bulgaria, Eire, Finland, Hungary, Italy, Portugal, Roumania, Switzerland, Transjordanian, Yemen.

“ The Economic and Social Council

“ Expresses the hope that the Governments invited to the Conference may give their respective delegations full powers enabling them to sign such Convention on the establishment of an inter-governmental maritime organization as may be concluded at the Conference.

“ The Economic and Social Council

“ Requests the Secretary-General to invite the specialized agencies, inter-governmental organizations and international organizations in this field, as may be appropriate, to send observers to the Conference. The Conference shall meet, if practicable, in the autumn of 1947, at a place to be determined by the Secretary-General after consultation with the President of the Council. ”

The United Nations Maritime Conference met in the City of Geneva from the 19th of February 1948 to the 6th of March 1948.

The Governments of the following States were represented at the Conference by Delegations :

Argentina	Egypt	Pakistan
Australia	Finland	Panama
Belgium	France	Peru
Brazil	Greece	Poland
Canada	India	Portugal
Chile	Ireland	Sweden
China	Italy	Switzerland
Colombia	Lebanon	Turkey
Czechoslovakia	Netherlands	United Kingdom
Denmark	New Zealand	United States of America.
Dominican Republic	Norway	

The Governments of the following States had Observers at the Conference :

Cuba, Ecuador, Union of South Africa, Iran.

The following organizations were represented by Observers :

A. *Inter-Governmental Organizations*

International Labour Office
World Health Organization
International Civil Aviation Organization
International Telecommunications Union
International Meteorological Organization

B. *Non-Governmental Organizations*

International Cooperative Alliance
International Chamber of Commerce
International Law Association
International Transport Workers' Federation.

The Conference had before it and used as a basis for discussion the draft agreement for an intergovernmental maritime organization prepared by the

United Maritime Consultative Council. This document was submitted as a working paper for the Conference in accordance with the resolution adopted by the Economic and Social Council on the 28th of March 1947, at its fourth session, on the recommendation of its Transport and Communications Commission.

On the basis of its deliberations, as recorded in the records and reports of the respective Committees, and of the plenary sessions, the Conference prepared and opened for signature and acceptance a CONVENTION ON THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL MARITIME CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION.¹

In addition, the Conference adopted the following resolutions :

1. A Resolution for the Establishment of a Preparatory Committee of the Intergovernmental Maritime Consultative Organization (appended hereto as Annex A² to this Final Act).

2. A Resolution on the Safety of Life at Sea Conference (appended hereto as Annex B³ to this Final Act).

3. A Resolution relating to the Report of the Preparatory Committee of Experts on Coordination of Safety at Sea and in the Air (appended hereto as Annex C⁴ to this Final Act).

The Conference also approved the substance of a Draft Agreement on Relationship between the new Organization and the United Nations (appended hereto as Annex D)⁵ and decided that it be used as a basis for negotiations by the Preparatory Committee with the United Nations in conformity with Section 2 of the Resolution establishing the Committee.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the respective representatives have signed this Final Act :

DONE in the City of Geneva this sixth day of March 1948 in a single copy in the English, French and Spanish languages each text being equally authentic. The original texts will be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations who will send certified copies to each of the Governments invited to send representatives to the Conference.

¹ See p. 48 of this volume.

² See p. 18 of this volume.

³ See p. 20 of this volume.

⁴ See p. 22 of this volume.

⁵ See p. 24 of this volume.

Argentina :
Argentine :
Argentina :

B. P. LAMBI
A. MALVAGNI
C. A. PARDO
Juan Eugenio PEFFABET
B. MAYANTZ
Guillermo MONTENEGRO

Australia :
Australie :
Australia :

M. F. FARAKER
Keith EDWARDS

Belgium :
Belgique :
Belgica :

M. H. DE VOS
M. J. DENOËL

Brazil :
Brésil :
Brasil :

Canada :
Canada :
Canadá :

Bruce Alexander MACDONALD

Chile :
Chili :
Chile :

C. VALENZUELA

China :
Chine :
China :

WU NAN-JU