

2012 CAPE TOWN AGREEMENT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THE 1993 TORREMOLINOS PROTOCOL RELATING TO THE 1977 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE SAFETY OF FISHING VESSELS

Adopted in Cape Town, South Africa on 11 October 2012

THE PARTIES TO THIS AGREEMENT,

RECOGNIZING the significant contribution to maritime safety in general and that of fishing vessels which can be made by implementation of the provisions of the Torremolinos Protocol of 1993 relating to the Torremolinos International Convention for the Safety of Fishing Vessels, 1977,

ACKNOWLEDGING, HOWEVER, that certain provisions of the Torremolinos Protocol of 1993 relating to the Torremolinos International Convention for the Safety of Fishing Vessels, 1977, have given rise to difficulties in their implementation by a number of States having substantial fishing fleets under their flags and that this has prevented the entry into force of that Protocol and, consequently, the implementation of the regulations contained therein,

DESIRING to establish by common agreement for the highest practicable standards for the safety of fishing vessels that can be implemented by all the States concerned,

CONSIDERING that this objective may best be achieved by the conclusion of an Agreement relating to the implementation of the provisions of the Torremolinos Protocol of 1993 relating to the Torremolinos International Convention for the Safety of Fishing Vessels, 1977,

HAVE AGREED as follows:

ARTICLE 1 GENERAL OBLIGATIONS

- (1) The Parties to this Agreement shall give effect to the provisions of:
 - (a) the articles of this Agreement; and
 - (b) the Torremolinos Protocol of 1993 relating to the Torremolinos International Convention for the Safety of Fishing Vessels, 1977 (hereinafter referred to as the "1993 Torremolinos Protocol"), with the exception of article 1, paragraphs (1)(a), (2) and (3), article 9 and article 10 of that Protocol, as modified by this Agreement.
- (2) The articles of this Agreement, articles 2 to 8 and 11 to 14 of the 1993 Torremolinos Protocol, the regulations in the annex to the 1993 Torremolinos Protocol, and the regulations in the annex to the Torremolinos International Convention for the Safety of Fishing Vessels, 1977 (hereinafter referred to as the "1977 Torremolinos Convention"), shall, subject to the modifications set out in this Agreement, be read and interpreted as a single instrument.

- (3) The annex to this Agreement shall constitute an integral part of the Agreement and a reference to this Agreement shall constitute at the same time a reference to the annex thereto.

ARTICLE 2

INTERPRETATION AND APPLICATION OF THE 1993 TORREMOLINOS PROTOCOL AND THE 1977 TORREMOLINOS CONVENTION

Articles 2 to 8 inclusive and articles 11 to 14 inclusive of the 1993 Torremolinos Protocol shall apply to this Agreement. In applying these articles, the regulations in the annex to the 1993 Torremolinos Protocol, and the regulations in the annex to the 1977 Torremolinos Convention, a reference to "the present Protocol", or to "the Convention", respectively, shall be deemed to mean a reference to this Agreement.

ARTICLE 3

SIGNATURE, RATIFICATION, ACCEPTANCE, APPROVAL AND ACCESSION

- (1) This Agreement shall remain open for signature at the Headquarters of the Organization from 11 February 2013 to 10 February 2014 and shall thereafter remain open for accession.
- (2) All States may become Parties to this Agreement by expressing their consent to be bound by the Agreement by:
- (a) signature without reservation as to ratification, acceptance or approval; or
 - (b) signature subject to ratification, acceptance or approval followed by ratification, acceptance or approval; or
 - (c) signature subject to the procedure set out in paragraph (4) of this article; or
 - (d) accession.
- (3) Ratification, acceptance, approval or accession shall be effected by the deposit of an instrument to that effect with the Secretary-General.
- (4) A State which has deposited before the date of the adoption of this Agreement an instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession to the 1993 Torremolinos Protocol and which has signed this Agreement in accordance with paragraph (2)(c) of this article shall be deemed to have expressed its consent to be bound by this Agreement 12 months after the date of the adoption of this Agreement unless that State notifies the depositary in writing before that date that it is not availing itself of the simplified procedure set out in this paragraph.

ARTICLE 4 ENTRY INTO FORCE

- (1) This Agreement shall enter into force 12 months after the date on which not less than 22 States the aggregate number of whose fishing vessels of 24 m in length and over operating on the high seas is not less than 3,600 have expressed their consent to be bound by it.
- (2) For a State which deposits an instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession in respect of this Agreement after the requirements for entry into force thereof have been met but prior to the date of entry into force, the ratification, acceptance, approval or accession shall take effect on the date of entry into force of this Agreement or three months after the date of deposit of the instrument, whichever is the later date.
- (3) For a State which deposits an instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession in respect of this Agreement after the date on which it enters into force, this Agreement shall take effect three months after the date of deposit of the instrument.
- (4) After the date on which an amendment to this Agreement is deemed to have been accepted under article 11 of the 1993 Torremolinos Protocol, as applied to this Agreement pursuant to article 2, any instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession deposited shall apply to this Agreement as amended.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorized by their respective Governments for that purpose, have signed this Agreement.

DONE AT CAPE TOWN this eleventh day of October two thousand and twelve.