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TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT BOARD
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Item 11 (g) of the provisional agenda

DESIGNATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS FOR
THE PURPOSES OF RULE 77 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE BOARD

Application by the Ibero-American Institute of Maritime Law (IIDM)*

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

1. The UNCTAD secretariat has received an application dated 9 June 1993 from the President of the Ibero-American Institute of Maritime Law (IIDM), requesting the inclusion of that organization by the Trade and Development Board in the list provided for in rule 77 of the Board's rules of procedure.
2. Having reviewed the information provided, the secretariat is of the opinion that, subject to the concurrence of the Bureau of the Trade and Development Board, IIDM may be classified in the Special Category under the provision of paragraph 12 (b) of Board decision 43 (VII).
3. The Board may wish to take action on the above-mentioned application at its current session in the light of the recommendation of the Bureau.
4. Some information regarding IIDM is annexed.

This document is at this stage intended for the information of States members of UNCTAD and its distribution is, therefore, restricted for their exclusive use. It is proposed to de-restrict the document in due course.

* Instituto Iberoamericano de Derecho Marítimo.

Annex

BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE IBERO-AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF MARITIME LAW (IIDM)

History

1. The establishment of the Spanish-Portuguese-Latin American Institute of Maritime Law was first discussed by a group of Ibero-American jurists at the 33rd Conference of the International Maritime Committee (IMC) which took place in Lisbon in 1985. The Statutes of the Institute were approved and the Constituent Act signed on 21 October 1987. According to a decision taken by the General Assembly, on 15 June 1992, the name of the Institute was changed to the Ibero-American Institute of Maritime Law (IIDM).

Aims and objectives

2. The objectives of IIDM are to: promote the development and unification of maritime legislation in the Spanish, Portuguese and Latin American region; coordinate the Institute's activities with the work of other international organizations, in particular the International Maritime Committee; promote and encourage the study and teaching of maritime law and its history and that of other matters relating to the law of the sea; and encourage arbitration in maritime matters, with power to act as the organizing body for institutional arbitration proceedings. In order to attain these objectives, the Institute organizes, inter alia: publications, seminars, study meetings and congresses; award of fellowships in specialized institutions on the basis of competitive examinations; and studies of draft legislation of a regional or universal character.

Membership

3. The Institute is composed of various categories of members, including full, founding full, honorary, collaborating and contributing members in the following countries: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Portugal, Puerto Rico, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay and Venezuela.

Structure

4. The organs of IIDM are the General Assembly, the Office of the Chairman, the Executive Council and the Board of Auditors. The General Assembly is the supreme organ of the Institute. The Ordinary General Assembly is responsible for the approval of the appointment of the Chairman and Vice-Chairmen and approval of the balance sheet and accounts. The Extraordinary General Assembly is responsible for any modification of the Statutes and decisions regarding organizational questions. The Chairman, who is elected for a term of two years on the basis of rotation according to nationality, is responsible for the institutional representation of the Institute, convening and presiding over General Assembly meetings and resolving matters not provided for in the Statutes, subject to consideration by the Executive Council and the General Assembly. The Executive Council's functions are to

assure the legal representation of the Institute; establish basic orientations for the institutional activities of the Chairman and of the Executive Secretary-General regarding administrative matters. The Board of Auditors, composed of three full members who appoint their own chairman, is responsible for supervising the financial activities of the Institute, and of the Executive Secretary-General. It submits an annual report. The Executive Secretary-General is appointed by the Vice-Chairmen of the country in which the headquarters is situated, subject to the approval of the Executive Council. In order to attain the objectives of research and study provided for in the Statutes, the Institute has set up seven working committees.

Financial resources

5. The Institute's resources are derived from: full and contributing membership fees (the membership fee for individual members is \$50 and for collective members, \$200); national contributions of public or private national or international entities; other resources and assistance.

Relations with other international organizations

6. The Institute maintains working relations with other international organizations, dealing with maritime affairs, including UNCTAD, the International Maritime Organization (IMO), ICC, Baltic International Maritime Council (BIMCO), Latin American Shipowners Association (LASA) and International Maritime Council (IMC) with which it has signed a special cooperation agreement. The Institute has applied for status with the International Maritime Organization.

Publications

7. The Institute publishes a monthly bulletin for its members, entitled "NOTIFAX" and has published a number of lectures given by eminent jurists as well as reports of the various seminars it organizes periodically, and intends to publish the main results of its research.

Liaison

8. Liaison with UNCTAD will be maintained by the President of the Institute, Mr. Jose Ma Alcantara Gonzalez, or a representative designated by him.

Address

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10. The working languages of the Institute are Spanish and Portuguese.

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