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SITUATION IN RESPECT OF RATIFICATION OF THE
CONVENTION ON THE INTER-GOVERNMENTAL MARITIME
CONSULTATIVE ORGANIZATION

Note by the Secretariat

At the third session of the Commission, a majority of its members was impressed with the difficulties which it had encountered in dealing with some urgent problems, such as tonnage measurement, since they fell within the field of the proposed Inter-governmental Maritime Consultative Organization, the Convention of which had not been ratified by the requisite number of countries. The Commission, in a resolution, drew the attention of the Economic and Social Council to this situation (as well as to the similar situation existing in respect of the proposed International Trade Organization).

At the time of the writing of this Note (13 January 1950), the Convention on the Inter-governmental Maritime Consultative Organization has been ratified by the Governments of the following countries: Canada (15 October 1948), the United Kingdom (14 February 1949), and the Netherlands (31 March 1949).

The Secretariat understands that the parliamentary procedure for the ratification of this Convention has been started in some other countries and in particular in France and the United States of America.

It will be recalled that, according to article 60 of the Convention, the latter "shall enter into force on the date when 21 States, of which seven shall each have a total tonnage of not less than 1,000,000 gross tons of shipping, have become parties to the Convention in accordance with Article 57".^{1/}

^{1/} Article 37 deals with the procedure according to which States may become parties to the Convention.