

4. Establishment of a committee of experts on an  
Inter-state guarantee fund  
for the Mediterranean Sea Area \*/

The Conference,

Conscious of the gravity of the threat posed by the various forms of pollution to the environment of the Mediterranean Sea,

Recognizing that the Barcelona Conference and the legal instruments resulting from it are a first step towards safeguarding and protecting that Sea,

Believing the question of liability and compensation, which is the subject of article 12 of this Convention, to be fundamental and to call, therefore, for appropriate measures,

Convinced of the urgent need to protect the coastal States against all damage caused by pollution, whether of accidental or other origin,

Requests the Organization, as defined in article 2, paragraph (b), of the Convention for the Protection of the Mediterranean Sea against Pollution, upon the entry into force of the Convention and at the time of the first meeting of the Contracting Parties, to:

(a) propose that a study should be made of the possibility of establishing an Interstate Guarantee Fund for the Mediterranean Sea Area and that the study should be entrusted to a committee of experts from the Contracting Parties to the Convention;

(b) request the said committee of experts to report to the Contracting Parties concerning the implications of establishment of the Fund, in order that, at a later stage, appropriate legal instruments may be prepared.

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\*/ One delegation expressed the reservations of its Government to this resolution.