

# The Maritime Law Association of Australia

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## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION ON AFFILIATION WITH COMITÉ MARITIME INTERNATIONAL

In examining the question of affiliation with C.M.I., the Executive Committee took account, in the first place, of the salient fact that a major part of the original purpose for which the Association was formed was affiliation with C.M.I. It also took account of the expressions of views by members, a significant number of whom have voiced their support of the proposal, whereas few have opposed it.

One matter of disappointment was that no official view has been received from the Australian Government. (Support in principle was expressed verbally in discussions with the Attorney General, the Solicitor General and the Secretary of the Attorney-General's Department).

After weighing up all the relevant factors, the Executive Committee resolved unanimously to recommend affiliation.

Involved in coming to this decision was a review of the financial position of the Association, the likely cost of affiliation and the sources of revenue available.

The Association has in reserve \$1,650.00 which is invested in term deposits with the A.N.Z. Bank.

At current rates of subscription, the annual revenue of the Association is approximately \$2,000 p.a. (based on 75 individual members and 25 corporate members).

Annual expenses for the past year have been approximately \$750 and for the coming year are estimated to rise to approximately \$1,000.00 (allowing for increased costs associated with printing, copying and postage).

On this basis a surplus of about \$1,000 per year could be expected.

The basic cost of affiliation with C.M.I. is 60,000 Belgian Francs per year, or approximately A\$1,300 at current rates of exchange, but there would be other expenses to be met out of revenue for which provision would need to be made. The Executive Committee considered that, while it should continue to approach the Australian Government for official support (including financial assistance to help defray the cost of sending representatives abroad to C.M.I. Meetings), the Association should endeavour to meet all of its expenses from its own resources, i.e. from the revenue derived from annual subscriptions paid by members.

With this in mind, the Executive Committee proposes that annual subscriptions be increased as follows:-

Full members

|                      | (Current)<br>\$ | Proposed<br>\$ |
|----------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Individual           | (10)            | 25             |
| Firms & Corporations | (50)            | 75             |

Associate members

|                                      |              |    |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|----|
| Individuals, firms &<br>corporations | (donation 5) | 10 |
|--------------------------------------|--------------|----|

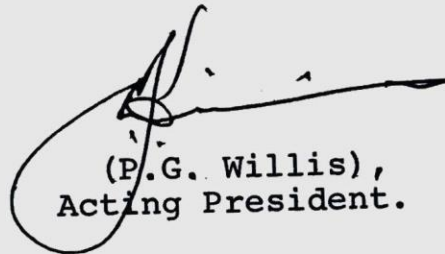
The resultant additional revenue will be approximately \$1,750 per annum - again based on 75 individuals and 25 corporate members.

(The small subscription to be charged to associate members will merely cover the cost of copying, postages, etc. and can be ignored for the purpose of these calculations).

All of the above figures ignore growth of membership beyond the numbers quoted. The Executive Committee take the view that it would be unrealistic to rely upon the unknown factor of growth to justify a commitment of this kind.

It is therefore proposed that membership subscriptions be increased in accordance with the above for the year commencing on the 1st November 1976, other than for those few new members recently admitted whose payments of subscriptions at the old rates have been accepted for the year ending 31st October 1977.

It is further proposed that affiliation with C.M.I., be applied for as from 1st March, 1977, the start of its membership year.



(P.G. Willis),  
Acting President.