with the following terms of reference: "To develop guidelines on the application of the precautionary approach as set out in Principle 15 of the Rio Declaration, as well as paragraphs 17.21 and 17.22 of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Agenda 21, in the context of specific IMO activities, and to report to the MEPC at its thirty-seventh session".

Work was carried out intersessionally to identify a working method to internalize the application of the precautionary approach. This work was carried into the 36th Session of the MEPC in November, 1994 where a drafting group developed draft "Guidelines on the Application of the Precautionary Approach in the Context of Specific IMO Activities". In this draft, the precautionary approach is further elaborated for the purpose of IMO. Additionally, the drafting group developed a draft "Framework for Implementation of the Precautionary Approach within the Programs and Activities of IMO" which provides a working method to be used by IMO Committees, Sub-Committees, Working Groups and other IMO bodies to internalize the precautionary approach into the process of policymaking and

The draft Guidelines and Framework are the subject of further consideration by the intersessional correspondence group, working toward tabling these documents at the 37th Session of the MEPC.

Input or comments from the public meeting will be considered by members of the U.S. correspondence group in finalizing the U.S. position on these documents. For further information or copies of the drafts, contact the project officer, Commander Mike Farley, U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters (G–MEP–3), 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC 20593–0001, Telephone: (202) 267–2850.

Dated: April 18, 1995.

Charles A. Mast,

Chairman, Shipping Coordinating Committee. [FR Doc. 95–10338 Filed 4–26–95; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 4710–07–M

[Public Notice 2194]

Shipping Coordinating Committee; Conference of Parties to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping (STCW); Meeting

The Shipping Coordinating Committee (SHC) will conduct an open meeting at 10 am on Tuesday, June 13,

1995, in Room 2415 of the United States Coast Guard Headquarters Building, 2100 2nd Street SW., Washington, DC 20593–0001. The primary purpose of the meeting is to prepare for the Conference of Parties to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978 (STCW Conference). Preparations for the International Conference on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Fishing Vessel Personnel (STCW-F Conference) will also be discussed. These Conferences are being convened by the International Maritime Organization (IMO), in London, from June 26 to July 7, 1995.

The STCW Conference is being held to consider adoption of amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978 (STCW Convention). The United States became a party to this convention in 1991; and 107 countries are now parties.

The proposed amendments to the STCW Convention were prepared by the IMO Sub-Committee on Standards of Training and Watchkeeping and were approved for circulation by the sixty-fourth session of the IMO Maritime Safety Committee.

Items of particular interest include—

- —The role of IMO in overseeing compliance with convention requirements;
- Basic safety and familiarization training for all shipboard personnel;
- Standards of competence based on demonstration of skills;
- Use of simulation in training and assessment;
- —Quality assurance in training, assessment and certification;
- Alternative, function-based certification systems;
- —Principles to be observing in keeping a watch:
- -Prevention of fatigue; and
- —Port State control.

The STCW-F Conference is being held to consider adoption of a new convention which would apply to fishing vessel personnel. Fishing vessels are excluded from the scope of application of the STCW Convention.

Items of particular interest include-

- —Certification requirements for skippers, deck watch officers and engineers on seagoing fishing vessels of 24 meters or more in length; and
- Prospects of U.S. ratification of this new instrument.

Members of the public may attend the meeting up to the seating capacity of the room. Interested persons may seek information by writing: Mr. Christopher Young, U.S. Coast Guard (G–MVP–4), Room 1210, 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC 20593–0001 or by calling: (202) 267–0229.

Dated: April 19, 1995.

Charles A. Mast,

Chairman, Shipping Coordinating Committee. [FR Doc. 95–10339 Filed 4–26–95; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 4710–07–M

[Public Notice 2192]

Shipping Coordinating Committee; International Maritime Organization (IMO) Legal Committee; Meeting

The U.S. Shipping Coordinating Committee (SHC) will conduct an open meeting at 10 a.m., on Thursday, May 18, 1995, in Room 2415 of U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters, 2100 Second Street SW., Washington, DC. The purpose of this meeting is to report on the 72nd Session of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) Legal Committee held April 3–7, 1995, and to begin preparations for the 73rd Session to be held October 9–13, 1995.

To facilitate the attendance of those participants who may be interested in only certain aspects of the public meeting, the first subject addressed will be the draft International Convention on Liability and Compensation for Damage in Connection with the Carriage of Hazardous and Noxious Substances by Sea (HNS Convention). The second major subject, which will be considered at approximately 11:30 a.m., will be possible revisions to the 1976 Convention on Limitation of Liability for Maritime Claims ('76 LLMC).

The current draft of the HNS Convention imposes strict liability upon the shipowner with an additional international fund (second-tier fund) modeled after the International Oil Pollution Compensation Fund. The draft **HNS Convention provides** compensation for environmental damage as well as personal injury, death, and property damage from a broad range of substances. At the 72nd Session, the Legal Committee finalized decisions on several major issues regarding the draft HNS Convention. Other issues will remain open for the diplomatic conference, which is tentatively scheduled for Spring 1996. The 72nd Session was the last session of the Legal Committee to discuss the HNS Convention before the diplomatic conference. The views of the public are requested.

The Legal Committee resumed deliberations on the '76 LLMC at the 72nd Session. Discussion centered on a draft protocol which provides for raising