1. The Council, at its third extraordinary session (4 – 5 May), considered problems arising out of the recent "Torrey Canyon" disaster and prepared a list of items for detailed examination. The Council's decisions appear in document C/ES.III/5 which was also distributed with MSC XVI/3.

2. The items indicated in paragraphs 1-13, being of a technical nature, fall within the sphere of responsibility of the Maritime Safety Committee, which will meet on 26 June 1967 to give preliminary examination to C/ES.III/5 and to give any necessary guidance to its subsidiary bodies.

3. However, the Council requested that meanwhile a meeting of the Sub-Committee on Safety of Navigation be held 10 – 14 July 1967 to undertake, as a matter of urgency, consideration of the items indicated in paragraphs 1, 2, 4, 5, 7 and 9, subject to further instructions by the Maritime Safety Committee.

4. It will no doubt be appreciated that the questions under study are complicated and may have wider implications. The Sub-Committee on Safety of Navigation will therefore need all possible assistance from Member Governments in the form of proposals, comments and suggestions, in order to bring its work to a successful conclusion. The Secretary-General, with the

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approval of the Committee's Chairman, invites Member Governments to submit such comments and proposals on the items mentioned in the previous paragraph as early as possible.

5. The Secretary-General takes this opportunity to state that membership of the Sub-Committee of the Maritime Safety Committee is open to all Member States; if any Member State not at present participating in the Sub-Committee on Safety of Navigation wishes, in view of the probable extension of its terms of reference, to become a member, the Secretary-General would be glad to be informed accordingly.