

Carriage of Goods

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Committee: [CARRIAGE OF GOODS](#)

FORMAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON CARRIAGE OF GOODS

The members of the Committee have continued to monitor the various drafts of the proposed "Carriage Of Goods By Sea Act" as it has made its way from the CMI to UNCITRAL. The Committee met on Wednesday morning, May 1st, at the offices of Holland & Knight. Approximately forty members were present.

Once again, the main order of business was an update on the last draft which is before UNCITRAL. The MLA members who are also official U.S. delegates, Chet Hooper, George Chandler and Vince De Orchis, reported to the Committee as to the discussions which took place during the hearings in New York at the end of April. It is obvious that these discussions are still in the preliminary stages and the group will meet again in the fall to continue their work.

Although the original MLA COGSA proposal was used as a starting point in the discussions before the CMI, it is the CMI draft which is now the basis for the discussions before UNCITRAL.

The Committee also heard a report from member Peter Zambito with respect to Title 46 rewrite which is currently being undertaken by the Department of Transportation. Specifically there were several changes in the language to the various sections of COGSA which could be considered substantive, rather than a simple reorganization as has been suggested by those in Washington who are performing this task. A letter was sent to the President of the Association raising those issues.

There is a suggestion that a new Subcommittee be created charged with monitoring the work of UNCITRAL with respect to the proposed Carriage of Goods draft before UNCITRAL. The Chair will make a request to the President for the appointment of a Subcommittee

chair.

Respectfully submitted,

William R. Connor, III, Chair