



COMITÉ MARITIME INTERNATIONAL AMBERES BELGICA
ASOCIACION ARGENTINA DE DERECHO MARITIMO

Buenos Aires, September 23, 2013

To the
President of the
Comité Maritime International
Mr Stuart Hetherington

Questionnaire on Offshore activities – pollution liability and related issues.-

Dear President,

The replay of the Argentine Maritime Law Association to the above referenced questionnaire is as follows:

1.- The Argentine Republic is not a State party to the international instruments mentioned in question 1 and the country is not located in the region covered by the 1975 Offshore Pollution Liability Agreement (OPOL).

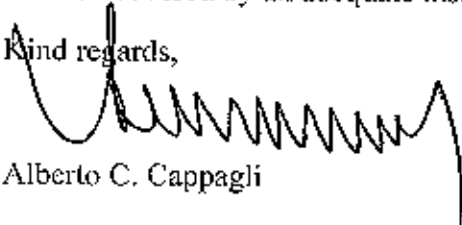
2.- The Argentine Republic is not a State party in any regional or bilateral international agreement addressing the issues of liability and compensation for offshore activities.

Argentina and Uruguay are States parties to the *Tratado del Rio de la Plata* of 1973. Articles 41 to 43 and 47 to 52 include some references to the seabed and pollution but none of those articles address liability and related issues.

3.- The Argentine Republic is a federal country. The exploration and exploitation of the seabed within the 12 miles of the territorial sea is governed by rules enacted by the Provinces and the exploration and exploitation of the seabed within the exclusive economic zone are governed by federal regulations.

Pollution liability issues are governed by the *Ley General del Ambiente* (Environment General Act) which is an act that has been promulgated by the National Congress applicable in the whole territory, including the territorial sea and the exclusive economic zone. This is a strict liability regime without limitation, and civil liability must be covered by an adequate insurance.

Kind regards,


Alberto C. Cappagli