A STEEP rise in liability limits that would alarm P&I clubs has been under consideration at the diplomatic conference on the revision of the Athens convention covering the carriage of passengers by sea.

Sources suggest that a compulsory insurance and direct action figure of SDRs250,000 per passenger will be enforced, with an overall liability limit of either SDRs300,000 or SDRs400,000 per person.

P&I insurers have taken varying positions, but none are likely to want their sector involved in any liability above the SDRs100,000 level.

During the conference, the UK and some other countries have reportedly argued for a moderate approach, to reach a formula with which the International Group of P&I Clubs could work.