

E-6: Maritime Labour Convention

Name of the Convention: Maritime Labour Convention, 2006

Acronym or short name: MLC 2006

International organisation in charge: International Labour Organization (ILO)

Summary description:

The Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 contains a comprehensive set of global standards of working and living on ships for seafarers, consolidating almost all the existing maritime labour Conventions and Recommendations that have been adopted since 1920 in a single new Convention with a new format and requirements that reflect modern conditions in the industry.

The MLC 2006 establishes minimum requirements for almost all aspects of working conditions for seafarers including conditions of employment, hours of work and rest, accommodation, recreational facilities, food and catering, health protection, medical care, welfare and social security protection. Each State is tasked not only **with ensuring** that ships flying its flag meet the work requirements set out in the Convention, but also **with certifying** that those ships comply with the requirements relating to labour conditions. **Upon its being into force, commercially operating ships of 500 G/T or over in international trade are required to carry two documents on board: the Maritime Labour Certificate (MLC) and the Declaration of Maritime Labour Compliance (DMLC).** These documents will also facilitate inspection of ships through Port State Control **(PCS)** by contracting Parties when ships call their territorial ports. **This inspection, applying not only to ships registered to ratified countries but also to ships registered to non-ratified countries is called “no more favourable treatment”(NFT principle) in order to ensure fair competition for quality ship-owners against sub-standard ships.** There is a

mechanism of recording seafarers' complaints as well as a mechanism of reporting seafarers' complaints. When it comes into effect, the MLC 2006 replaces 36 existing ILO maritime Conventions and one related Protocol adopted since 1920.

Date of signature: adopted on 23 February, 2006

Date of coming into force: 20 August 2013

On Aug.20,2013, the Convention entered into force for the "first 30"-the 30 countries which ratified the Convention on Aug.20,2012. For all other ratified States, it will enter into force 12 months after their registered ratification.

Dates of revision: -

Reasons of revisions: -

Applicability (condition for entry into force): The Convention shall come into force 12 months after the date of registered ratifications by no less than 30 ILO Member States with 33 % of world gross tonnage of ships.

Situation of Ratification: (as at 10 January, 2014)

56 States with about 80% of world gross tonnage

Stakes for ports:

Ports are involved in the mechanism of Port State Control(**PCS**) to inspect foreign ships calling in their ports whether these ships comply with the Convention.(Reg.5.2)

Seafarers complaints on breaches of the requirement of the Convention may be reported to an authorized officer in calling ports. The authorized officer, when reported, must undertake an initial investigation. (Reg.5.2.2)

Links with other conventions:

C147: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:12100:0::NO::P12100_INSTRUMENT_ID:312292

C152: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:12100:0::NO::P12100_INSTRUMENT_ID:312297

C163: http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:12100:0::NO::P12100_INSTRUMENT_ID:312308

STCW: <http://www.imo.org/ourwork/humanelement/trainingcertification/documents/33.pdf#search='stcw.text'>

Key-words: Minimum age, Medical Certificate, Training and qualifications, Recruitment and placement, Maritime labour certificate

Internet hyperlink with other website:

(full text)

http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---normes/documents/normativeinstrument/wcms_090250.pdf