

Compendium of maritime labour instruments

Third revised edition, 2021

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Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended Seafarers' Identity Document (Revised) Convention, 2003, as amended (No. 185) Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188) Work in Fishing Recommendation, 2007 (No. 199)

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This book contains three Conventions relating to the maritime sector and several documents relevant to their implementation: the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended (MLC, 2006); the Seafarers' Identity Documents Convention, (Revised), 2003, as amended (No. 185); and the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188). The Conventions are among the International Labour Organization's most innovative and significant international labour Conventions, and the importance of the work-related rights, standards and procedures that they cover has been highlighted by the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic and the consequent effects in the maritime sector.

The MLC, 2006, which entered into force on 20 August 2013 and, as of December 2020, had been ratified by 97 countries representing more than 91 per cent of the world gross tonnage of ships, is often described as a charter for decent work or a "bill of rights" for the world's maritime workers and a framework for creating a level playing field for shipowners. Governments, seafarers and shipowners all regard the adoption of this Convention as a landmark development for the world's most globalized sector.

The MLC, 2006, consolidates and updates the majority (68 out of 72) of the ILO's maritime (37) Conventions and Recommendations adopted since 1920. This in itself is a major step forward in assisting countries to improve working and living conditions on ships operating under their flags – ships for which they have international responsibility. The Convention demonstrates that social dialogue and international cooperation can effectively address the challenges of living, working and conducting business at sea. It further shows how dialogue and tripartism can also address the challenges of globalization.

The Convention takes forward the ILO's 21st century approach of actively seeking innovative ways to ensure the relevance and effectiveness of international labour standards in modern economic and social conditions.

The MLC, 2006, has strengthened compliance and enforcement requirements. These include, for the first time for an ILO Convention, certification by flag States of seafarers' working and living conditions, with a requirement that the documents are carried onboard ships and are subject to inspection when ships enter ports of other countries. It is addressed to flag States, port States and countries with labour-supplying interests.

This book also contains two documents to help with national implementation. The first is the text of the 17 resolutions adopted by the International Labour Conference in 2006 when it adopted the MLC, 2006. Several of these provide useful implementation guidance including



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he most recent also available ns asked since Standards and International ite Committee ion' simplified 7, are intended matters related