



THIRD ITEM ON THE AGENDA

**Effect to be given to the recommendations
of sectoral and technical meetings****(d) Joint Maritime Commission**
(Geneva, 23 February 2006)**(i) 30th Session of the Commission**

1. The Joint Maritime Commission held its 30th Session in Geneva on 23 February 2006, in accordance with a decision of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office taken at its 294th Session (November 2005).
2. The agenda of the session, as established by the Governing Body, also at its 294th Session (November 2005), consisted of a single item: "Follow-up of the consolidated maritime labour Convention".
3. The Commission's deliberations confirmed the consensus reached by the Shipowners' and Seafarers' groups during the 94th (Maritime) Session of the International Labour Conference. The Commission agreed that the strong role of the Commission in maritime activities should be maintained. They stressed that the activities of the Office for the shipping industry should remain sufficient, with due regard to the needs to promote the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006. The Commission's Members confirmed the relevance for the resolutions adopted by the Conference to the future work of the ILO and expressed the wish that some priority should be given to certain activities. Moreover, the Commission considered that a meeting of the parties interested by the Convention might be required in due course to evaluate the progress of the promotion of the Convention. The report of the Commission's deliberations is annexed to this paper.
4. *The Committee on Sectoral and Technical Meetings and Related Issues may wish to recommend that the Governing Body requests the Director-General to take into consideration the views of the Commission when making proposals for the future work programme of the Office.*

Geneva, 8 March 2006.

Point for decision: Paragraph 4.

Appendix

Joint Maritime Commission, 30th Session

(Geneva, 23 February 2006)

Report

1. The Joint Maritime Commission held its 30th Session in Geneva on 23 February 2006, in accordance with a decision of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office taken at its 294th Session (November, 2005). The 94th (Maritime) Session of the International Labour Conference, February 2006, had renewed the membership of the JMC.
2. In accordance with the Standing Orders of the Commission, Mr. Carlos Tomada, Chairperson of the Governing Body and ex-officio Chairperson of the Commission, presided over the session. The representative of the Employers' group of the Governing Body was Mr. T. Suzuki and the representative of the Workers' group of the Governing Body was Mr. M. Blondel.
3. Mr. Dierk Lindeman (Shipowners' member, Germany) and Mr. Brian Orrell (Seafarers' member, United Kingdom) were designated by their respective groups as Vice-Chairpersons and spokespersons.
4. The Secretary-General was Ms. Cleopatra Doumbia-Henry, Director, International Labour Standards Department, International Labour Office.
5. The Commission held a single sitting.

Agenda

6. The agenda of the session was as established by the Governing Body at its 294th Session (November, 2005) and consisted of a single item: "Follow-up of the consolidated maritime labour Convention".

Opening of the session

7. The session was opened by the Chairperson who recalled the extraordinary circumstances in which this session of the Commission was being held, i.e., in the wake of the adoption by the 94th (Maritime) Session of the International Labour Conference of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006. He congratulated the new membership of the Commission on their election. He also recalled that the Conference had adopted a resolution concerning the maintenance of the Joint Maritime Commission whose status had been entrenched in the Convention, namely through Article XIII. The Chairperson expressed his support for the work of the Commission and for the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, which he was personally promoting in Latin America.

Follow-up of the consolidated maritime labour Convention

8. The Shipowner spokesperson recalled the historical background of the Commission and its critical role in all the maritime activities of the ILO, particularly the recent developments which had led to the adoption of the consolidated Convention. He strongly asserted that the Commission should be maintained and that it should now look forward to the rapid ratification and implementation of the Convention. He suggested that the social partners could have an important role in the promotion of the Convention. He cited the example of

the European Union where the social partners could work towards an agreement, as suggested by Commissioner Barrot, to get the Convention into European law.

9. The Seafarer spokesperson also stressed the value of the Commission which had a strong role to play in the follow-up to the Convention. He expressed his concern for the ongoing maritime programme in the ILO, which should progress the Convention's promotion and implementation. The Director-General should ensure that the Office remains active in the maritime industry. He hoped that the Commission would meet again in the not too distant future as it had a role in guiding the work of the Office in this way and asked that sufficient resources be earmarked for this purpose. He also asked when the Tripartite Maritime Committee would meet. One of the objectives should be to facilitate the participation of the social partners in the application of the Convention at the national level.
10. The Secretary-General recognized the role which the Commission had played in starting the process which had led to the adoption of the new Convention. The Commission certainly had an important role to oversee the promotion and implementation of the Convention. The Tripartite Maritime Committee was not expected to meet before the entry into force of the Convention. However, the Governing Body could convene a meeting, in the spirit of Article XIII of the Convention, prior to entry into force if there was sufficient reason. The timing of such a meeting could be discussed. The Conference had produced a road map for the Office through the resolutions it had adopted. Extra-budgetary resources had to be found since regular budget funding was scarce. The Director-General was committed to looking for those resources.
11. The Seafarer spokesperson reminded the Commission that the Convention had the status of a Recommendation until it entered into force. He suggested that the Governing Body should convene the Tripartite Maritime Committee to coordinate the promotion campaign. He gave the Seafarers' group position on the priority of resolutions: a resolution concerning the promotion of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006; a resolution concerning the Joint IMO/ILO Ad Hoc Expert Working Group on Liability and Compensation regarding Claims for Death, Personal Injury and Abandonment of Seafarers; a resolution concerning the promotion of the Seafarers' Identity Documents Convention (Revised), 2003 (No. 185); and a resolution concerning social security.
12. The Shipowner spokesperson priority resolutions were: a resolution concerning the promotion of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 and a resolution concerning addressing the human element through international cooperation between United Nations specialized agencies.
13. A Shipowner member of the Commission, on behalf of his group, commented on the formula for the calculation of the ILO minimum basic wage for the able seafarer. He felt that this formula was not resilient enough and that it should be reviewed. He urged the Commission to consider such a review.
14. The Seafarer spokesperson responded that such a review should be reported back to the Commission and should not hinder the negotiations of the Subcommittee on Wages of Seafarers which was due to meet on 24 and 25 February 2006. He added, also in response to the Shipowners, that his group was also in favour of a Joint Working Group with IMO on the human element.
15. The Secretary-General, replying to the discussion, stated that the Office had noted the priorities of the groups with regards to the follow-up of the Convention. The resolutions would be submitted to the Governing Body in a paper on the outcome of the Conference. After their endorsement by the Governing Body, the resolutions would be communicated by the Director-General to the appropriate institutions and, where necessary, to the IMO.

The social partners would be consulted and involved closely in the implementation of the Convention.

Adoption of the report

- 16.** The Commission agreed that the Chairperson and the two Vice-Chairpersons should approve the report on behalf of the Commission.

List of participants

Chairperson	Mr. Carlos Tomada
Representatives of the Governing Body	Mr. T. Suzuki (Employers' group) Mr. M. Blondel (Workers' group)
Shipowners – Regular members	Mr. Guido HOLLAAR (Netherlands) Mr. George KOLTSIDOPOULOS (Greece) Mr. Lachlan PAYNE (Australia) Mr. Carlos SALINAS (Philippines) Mr. Jorgen VATNE (Norway) Mr. Dierk LINDEMANN (Germany) Mr. Roberto AGLIETA (Italy) Mr. Tsutomu IZUKA (Japan) Mr. Tim SPRINGETT (United Kingdom) Mr. Joe COX (United States) Mr. Vladimir VOLCHENKOV (Russian Federation) Mr. Michael WENGEL-NIELSEN (Denmark) Mr. Guy SULPICE (France)
Deputy member	Mr. Pieter SPRANGERS (Sweden)
Advisers	Mr. Frank PREECE (United Kingdom) Ms. Edith MIDELFART (Norway) Mr. Joseph LUDWICZAK (Liberia) Mr. Li SHANMIN (Hong Kong) Mr. Sae-Hyun KIM (Republic of Korea)
Group secretary	Ms. Natalie WISEMAN, Secretary, ISF, London
Seafarers – Regular members	Mr. Henrik BERLAU (Denmark) Mr. Remo DI FIORE (Italy) Mr. Sakae IDEMOTO (Japan) Capt. Gregorio S. OCA (Philippines) Mr. Brian ORRELL (United Kingdom) Mr. WU Zhieng (China) Ms. Veronica MESATYWA (South Africa) Ms. Jacqueline SMITH (Norway) Mr. Branko BERLAN (Croatia)

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	Mr. Pavel VIAZNIKOV (Russian Federation)
	Mr. Hyuiji IJIMA (Japan)
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	Mr. Katsuji TAKI (Japan)
	Mr. Agapios TSELENTIS (Greece)
	Mr. Maximo ABAD (Philippines)
	Mr. Ed SARTON (Netherlands)
Group secretary	Mr. Jon WHITLOW, Secretary of the Seafarers' group to the Joint Maritime Commission, ITF, London