

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION (ILO) COMMITMENTS – OUR OCEAN 2017

1) The ILO announced that the Work in Fishing Convention, No. 188 will enter into force on November 16, 2017 with ten parties as of October 2017: Angola, Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Congo, Estonia, France, Lithuania, Morocco, Norway and South Africa. The ILO will continue and expand upon its campaign to promote the ratification and effective implementation of this Convention by assisting States through the work of its supervisory system and through training tools, gap analysis and capacity building and other technical assistance and by assisting States to undertake related flag and port State inspections.

2) The ILO announced that in 2018, it will provide advice and tools on the recruitment and placement of migrant fishers and on bilateral and other agreements between States on migrant fishers to ensure that they are consistent with relevant ILO standards and fundamental principles and rights at work. This is a follow up on the conclusions and resolution adopted by the Tripartite Meeting on Issues relating to Migrant Fishers, held in Geneva in September 2017.

3) The ILO announced €1.5 million (US \$1.8 million) in 2018 to implementing projects to combat unacceptable forms of work and human trafficking in the fishing and seafood industry, including the Global Action Programme against forced labour and trafficking of fishers at sea (GAPfish), and to mobilise resources for new ones.

4) The ILO announced that it will expand its activities for the promotion of the ratification and implementation of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended (MLC, 2006), including the widespread acceptance of the amendments of 2014 and 2016 as well as the ongoing work on the protection of seafarers' wages in case of piracy and armed robbery against ships at sea. In the next five years, the ILO supervisory bodies will examine the conformity with the Convention of laws and regulations of member States representing around 90 per cent of the world fleet and employing almost 1 million seafarers.