



► Fourth Meeting of the Special Tripartite Committee of the MLC, 2006 – Part I (19-23 April 2021)

► Draft resolution submitted by the Government of Cyprus 20 April 2021

Noting with great concern the threat posed to human health by COVID-19,

Recognizing the importance of maritime transport and the role of seafarers as key workers,

Stressing the challenging living and working conditions at sea faced by seafarers due to COVID-19,

Recalling the Joint Statement of International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO), International Labour Organization (ILO), International Maritime Organization (IMO), World Health Organization (WHO) and International Organization for Migration (OIM), of 25 March 2021¹, calling on all Governments to prioritize COVID-19 vaccination for seafarers and aircrew in their national COVID-19 vaccination programme together with other essential workers,

Recalling the United Nations General Assembly Resolution on International cooperation to address challenges faced by seafarers as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic to support global supply chains, adopted on 1st December 2020² and the Resolution of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office concerning maritime labour issues and the COVID-19 pandemic (adopted on 8 December 2020)³,

Acknowledging difficulties with the logistics of the vaccination programme in the countries of origin or residence of seafarers and,

Recognizing the challenges of transport restrictions, availability of approved or authorized vaccines, the two-stage vaccination process, and the subsequent time required for a seafarer to be considered as inoculated,

Conscious that the pandemic requires solidarity, multilateral cooperation and a collective response;

Calls upon shipowners' and seafarers' organizations to contribute to a mapping exercise by providing governments and the international organizations involved with the number of seafarers ashore wishing to sign on, in order to procure the vaccines needed for their inoculation in their country of residence;

¹ https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_dialogue/---sector/documents/statement/wcms_777033.pdf

² <https://www.undocs.org/en/A/75/L.37>

³ [wcms_760649.pdf \(ilo.org\)](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_dialogue/---sector/documents/statement/wcms_760649.pdf)

Invites governments and shipowners' and seafarers' organizations to formulate a resolution communicating to all relevant UN bodies the need for a collective approach to secure the number of vaccines identified in the mapping exercise;

Encourages governments and shipowners' and seafarers' organizations common effort to secure the number of vaccines identified in the mapping exercise.