



FOURTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

**Maritime matters**

**Adoption of guidelines on the inspection  
of ships under the Maritime Labour  
Convention, 2006**

**Meeting of Experts to Adopt Guidelines  
for Flag State Inspections under the  
Maritime Labour Convention, 2006**  
(Geneva, 15–19 September 2008)

**Meeting of Experts to Adopt Guidelines for Port  
State Control Officers Carrying out Inspections  
under the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006**  
(Geneva, 22–26 September 2008)

1. The 94th (Maritime) Session of the International Labour Conference, which adopted the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, also adopted a number of resolutions. Resolution IV, concerning the development of guidelines for port State control, requested that the Director-General of the ILO convene a tripartite expert meeting to develop suitable guidance for port State control officers. Resolution XIII, concerning the development of guidelines for flag State inspection, requested that the Director-General convene a tripartite expert meeting to develop suitable guidance for flag State inspection.
2. In accordance with a decision taken by the Governing Body at its 300th Session (November 2007),<sup>1</sup> the Tripartite Meeting of Experts to Adopt Guidelines for Flag State Inspections under the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 was held from 15 to 19 September 2008. It was followed by a Tripartite Meeting of Experts to Adopt Guidelines for Port State Control Officers Carrying out Inspections under the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, from 22 to 26 September 2008. Both meetings were held at the International Labour Office in Geneva.

<sup>1</sup> GB.300/16.

3. In accordance with the decision of the Governing Body as to composition, each of the two tripartite meetings was attended by ten Government experts, ten Employer experts nominated after consultation with the Employers' group and ten Worker experts nominated after consultation with the Workers' group. Experts from the Governments of the Bahamas, Egypt, Greece, Japan, Republic of Korea, Marshall Islands, Panama, Philippines, Russian Federation and the United Kingdom attended the Tripartite Meeting of Experts to Adopt Guidelines for Flag State Inspection under the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, and experts from the Governments of Argentina, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Liberia, Nigeria, Norway and South Africa, attended the Tripartite Meeting of Experts to Adopt Guidelines for Port State Control Officers carrying out inspection under the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006. In addition, the Governing Body having decided that the meeting could be attended by all interested member States as participating observers, more than 40 other governments, as well as many more participants from the Shipowners' and Seafarers' groups and international governmental and non-governmental organizations were present at each of the meetings.
4. The meeting adopted two guidelines: the "Guidelines for flag State inspections under the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006" and the "Guidelines for port State control officers carrying out inspections under the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006". The guidelines are available on the ILO web site.<sup>2</sup> They will assist member States in the implementation of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006. They will contribute especially towards the harmonized enforcement of the Convention through the inspection and certification of ships by the flag States and the verification of continued compliance by port States.
5. ***The Committee on Sectoral and Technical Meetings and Related Issues may wish to recommend that the Governing Body:***
- (i) take note of the guidelines mentioned in paragraph 4 above; and***
  - (ii) request the Director-General to publish the guidelines as soon as possible and promote them together with the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006.***

Geneva, 8 October 2008.

*Point for decision:* Paragraph 5.

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.ilo.org/public/English/dialogue/sector/techmeet/mefs08/guidelines-f.pdf>. For reasons of economy only a limited number of copies of the guidelines has been printed for distribution during the sitting.