

IV

Resolution on the implementation of the Seafarers' Identity Documents Convention (Revised), 2003, and entry into force of the proposed amendments to its Annexes, including transitional measures¹

The General Conference of the International Labour Organization, meeting at its 105th Session, 2016,

Having adopted the amendments to Annexes I, II and III of the Seafarers' Identity Documents Convention (Revised), 2003 (No. 185),

Noting that the amendments establish that, subject to the overriding requirements of Article 3 of the Convention, the seafarers' identity document shall conform to the mandatory requirements for electronic machine-readable travel document contained in International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Doc 9303 on machine readable travel documents, Seventh Edition, and as subsequently amended,

Noting also the need to give Members sufficient time to make any necessary revisions of their national seafarers' identity documents and procedures to implement the proposed amendments taking into account their national laws and regulations,

Stressing that the amendments are not intended to affect the validity of any seafarers' identity documents issued under the current provisions of the Convention,

Decides that the amendments will enter into force one year after their adoption by the International Labour Conference in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article 3 and paragraph 1 of Article 8 of the Convention,

Resolves that the Members whose ratification of the Convention was registered prior to the date of entry into force may, in accordance with paragraph 2 of Article 8 of the Convention, give written notice to the Director-General within six months of the date of the adoption of the amendments that the amendments shall not enter into force for that Member, or shall only enter into force at a later date upon subsequent written notification, which should not exceed five years from the entry into force of the amendments, allowing the Member to continue to issue seafarers' identity documents in accordance with the Convention prior to the amendment of its Annexes during that period,

Considers that the entry into force of the amendments or the expiry of the previous transitional period should not affect the validity of any seafarers' identity documents issued under the prior provisions. Accordingly, Members should consider that such seafarers' identity documents will continue in force until their expiry date or until the date for the seafarers' identity documents renewal in accordance with Article 3, paragraph 6, of the Convention, if that date is earlier,

Recommends that in giving effect to the provisions of the Convention, Members should make appropriate arrangements to promote effective cooperation between all relevant national authorities, including ePassport-issuing and seafarers' identity documents issuing authorities,

Believes that the inability to read the seafarers' identity document which has been issued under the Convention, should not be used as the sole reason to refuse a seafarer entry or access to shore leave or transit to or from the ship,

Requests the International Labour Office, in order to facilitate the implementation of the Convention, to draw the attention of all relevant actors to the need to eliminate any existing barriers to the effective use of the seafarers' identity documents.

¹ Adopted on 8 June 2016.