

► **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**

► **Amendments – 21 April 2021**

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	Burkina Faso
	Seafarer Group
	Philippines
	United Kingdom
	Shipowner Group
	Norway

The Special Tripartite Committee established by the Governing Body of the ILO under Article XIII of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended (MLC, 2006), on the occasion of its fourth meeting, which took place virtually, from 19-23 April 2021.

Noting that, under Article XIII of the MLC, 2006, the Governing Body of the ILO shall keep the working of the MLC, 2006 under continuous review through this Committee;

Noting also Article I (2) of the MLC, 2006, which requires that Members shall cooperate with each other for the purpose of ensuring the effective implementation and enforcement of the Convention, Article II which obliges Members to respect certain fundamental rights, Article I (b) that requires that Members shall prohibit violations of the requirements of the Convention

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 [international](#) 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 2021<sup>1</sup>, 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,

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed\\_dialogue/---sector/documents/statement/wcms\\_777033.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_dialogue/---sector/documents/statement/wcms_777033.pdf)

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 2020<sup>2</sup> 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<sup>3</sup>,

Acknowledging difficulties with ~~the logistics of the national~~ vaccination programmes, particularly in the countries of origin or residence ~~or transit~~ of many seafarers and,

Version 1 (Seafarers)

Recognizing the challenges of transport restrictions, availability of approved or authorized vaccines, ~~the two-stage vaccination process [required by most currently available and approved vaccines], and the subsequent time required for a~~ and the uncertainty of when a seafarer ~~will to~~ be considered ~~fully~~ as inoculated,

Version 2 (Shipowners)

Recognizing the challenges ~~of transport restrictions, relating to the~~ availability of approved or authorized vaccines, the two-stage vaccination process ~~[required by most currently available and approved vaccines]~~ [required for all vaccines hitherto listed on the WHO Emergency Use List (EUL)], and the subsequent time required for a seafarer to be considered [fully] inoculated], which means that seafarers serving at sea may be in a different location when ~~due their second dose from the location they were in when they received their first dose,~~

~~Recognizing the ongoing need for governments and employers to continue to protect seafarers' health and safety through preventative and protective measures;~~

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

Version 1 (Seafarers)

~~Calls upon shipowners' and seafarers' organizations to contribute governments, in consultation and cooperation with shipowners' and seafarers' organisations, to carry out a mapping exercise by providing governments and the international organizations involved with the number of seafarers ashore wishing to sign on, in order to assist with the procurement of the vaccines needed for their inoculation of seafarers in their country of residence or other appropriate location;~~

Version 2 (Shipowners)

~~Calls upon shipowners' and seafarers' organizations to contribute to a national governments to undertake mapping exercises by providing governments and the international organizations involved with to determine the numbers of seafarers ashore wishing to sign on, in order to procure the vaccines needed for their inoculation resident in their countries of residence, to assist in the provision of priority access to vaccination for them.~~

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

<sup>3</sup> [wcms\\_760649.pdf \(ilo.org\)](https://www.ilo.org/wcms/760649.pdf)

**Commented [RMD1]:** Insertion suggested by both the SEAFARER and the SHIPOWNER GROUPS.

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

Further calls upon national governments to make supplies of WHO-EUL vaccines that they have procured available for seafarers on ships visiting ports in their territory, where these seafarers have been at sea and therefore are unable to obtain vaccinations or are due their second vaccinations in order to facilitate necessary crew changes and minimise disruption to global supply chains;

Further calls upon national governments to consider establishing vaccination hubs for seafarers in ports where there is sufficient capacity, where significant numbers of ships call and where sufficient supplies of WHO-EUL vaccines can be made available;

Encourages States to recognise vaccines given by other States to seafarers, even when the vaccine given may not be authorized by that State, particularly if a national, regional or other form of vaccine passport/certification is required to permit movement of individuals;

Encourages governments, in consultation with and shipowners' and seafarers' organizations, common effort to secure the number of vaccines [REDACTED] identified in after the mapping exercise needed to ensure that all seafarers may be inoculated in a timely basis;

Encourages governments, shipowners' and seafarers' organizations, in coordination with world and national authorities on health, to launch an international vaccination program for qualified seafarers that will allow facilitated access to vaccination ashore, regardless of the type of vessel and whether the seafarer is signing on or signing off;

Encourages members to recognise the need to prioritise seafarers receiving vaccinations, and

Encourages Members, even when and where Covid-19 vaccines are available, to adopt, in consultation with shipowners' and seafarers' organisations, occupational safety and health measures, which include:

- access to regular rapid testing in the workplace,
- strict and regular cleaning and sanitation procedures.

**Commented [RMD2]:** NORWAY (G):  
The Government of Norway suggests to delete this whole paragraph.