

Fourth Meeting (Part II) of the Special Tripartite Committee of the MLC, 2006 – 5 to 13 May 2022

► Resolution on financial security 13 May 2022

The Special Tripartite Committee established by the Governing Body of the International Labour Office under Article XIII of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended (MLC, 2006), on the occasion of the second part of its fourth meeting, which took place in a hybrid format from 5- 13 May 2022,

Recalling that Standard A2.5.2 of the MLC, 2006 establishes the need for provision of a system of financial security that is sufficient to cover four months of outstanding wages and other entitlements set out in the seafarers' employment agreements;

Noting the increasing numbers of abandonment cases reported to the ILO/IMO database on reported incidents of abandonment, the number of cases which are not able to be resolved within four months and the difficulty experienced by seafarers in obtaining wages and other entitlements owed in excess of four months;

Believing that seafarers should receive their wages and entitlements in the event that they are abandoned:

Believing that the existence of an effective and sustainable financial security system for incidents of abandonment is vital for the protection of seafarers;

Noting the discussions at the meeting in relation to the abandonment of seafarers and the limitations of the extent of coverage afforded by the current financial security system and the ability of the market to sustain current and additional coverage;

Noting Standard A2.5.1 paragraphs 7, 8 and 9 of the MLC, 2006 which sets out the roles of Member States in the repatriation of abandoned seafarers and bringing incidents of abandonment to resolution;

Noting that for the financial security system provision to be effective and sustainable, Member States may need to play a greater role;

Calls for the establishment of a working group of the STC, based on past practice, to discuss the financial security system required under Standard A2.5.2 and make recommendations to the STC on potential improvements that would make the system more effective and sustainable and ensure a greater degree of protection and assistance for abandoned seafarers.