

**Ad Hoc Tripartite Maritime Committee established
for the Seafarers' Identity Documents Convention
(Revised), 2003 (No. 185)**

Geneva
10–12 February 2016

**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 measures**

The Ad Hoc Tripartite Maritime Committee established by the ILO Governing Body pursuant to paragraph 1 of Article 8 of the Seafarers' Identity Documents Convention (Revised), 2003,

Having met in Geneva from 10 to 12 February 2016,

Having considered and adopted proposed amendments to Annex I, Annex II and Annex III of the Convention,

Noting that these proposed amendments are to be submitted to the International Labour Conference for adoption in accordance with paragraph 1 of Article 8 of the Convention,

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

Recommends that, when adopting the proposed amendments to the Annexes of the Convention, the International Labour Conference specify that:

- (a) 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;
- (b) the Members whose ratification of the Convention was registered prior to the date of entry into force referred to in paragraph (a) above 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.;

- (c) the entry into force of the amendments or the expiry of the previous transitional period does 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;
- (d) 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;
- (e) 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; and
- (f) in order to facilitate the implementation of the Convention, the International Labour Office should draw the attention of all relevant actors to the need to eliminate any existing barriers to the effective use of the seafarers' identity documents.