

No. 6208

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION

Convention (No. 115) concerning the protection of workers against ionising radiations. Adopted by the General Conference of the International Labour Organisation at its forty-fourth session, Geneva, 22 June 1960

Official texts: English and French.

Registered by the International Organisation on 25 June 1962.

ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DU TRAVAIL

Convention (n° 115) concernant la protection des travailleurs contre les radiations ionisantes. Adoptée par la Conférence générale de l'Organisation internationale du Travail à sa quarante-quatrième session, Genève, 22 juin 1960

Textes officiels anglais et français.

Enregistrée par l'Organisation internationale du Travail le 25 juin 1962.

No. 6208. CONVENTION (No. 115)¹ CONCERNING THE PROTECTION OF WORKERS AGAINST IONISING RADIATIONS. ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION AT ITS FORTY-FOURTH SESSION, GENEVA, 22 JUNE 1960

The General Conference of the International Labour Organisation,
Having been convened at Geneva by the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, and having met in its Forty-fourth Session on 1 June 1960, and

Having decided upon the adoption of certain proposals with regard to the protection of workers against ionising radiations, which is the fourth item on the agenda of the session, and

Having determined that these proposals shall take the form of an international Convention,
adopts this twenty-second day of June of the year one thousand nine hundred and sixty the following Convention, which may be cited as the Radiation Protection Convention, 1960 :

PART I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

Each Member of the International Labour Organisation which ratifies this Convention undertakes to give effect thereto by means of laws or regulations, codes of practice or other appropriate means. In applying the provisions of the Convention the competent authority shall consult with representatives of employers and workers.

Article 2

1. This Convention applies to all activities involving exposure of workers to ionising radiations in the course of their work.

2. This Convention does not apply to radioactive substances, whether sealed or unsealed, nor to apparatus generating ionising radiations which sub-

¹ In accordance with article 17, the Convention came into force on 17 June 1962, twelve months after the date on which ratifications of two Members of the International Labour Organisation (Sweden and Norway) had been registered with the Director-General of the International Labour Office. Thereafter, the Convention shall come into force for any Member twelve months after the date on which its ratification has been registered.

The ratifications of the following States were registered with the Director-General of the International Labour Office on the dates indicated :

Sweden	12 April	1961
Norway	17 June	1961
Ghana	7 November	1961
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland .	9 March	1962

stances or apparatus, owing to the limited doses of ionising radiations which can be received from them, are exempted from its provisions by one of the methods of giving effect to the Convention mentioned in Article 1.

Article 3

1. In the light of knowledge available at the time, all appropriate steps shall be taken to ensure effective protection of workers, as regards their health and safety, against ionising radiations.

2. Rules and measures necessary for this purpose shall be adopted, and data essential for effective protection shall be made available.

3. With a view to ensuring such effective protection

- (a) measures for the protection of workers against ionising radiations adopted after ratification of the Convention by the Member concerned shall comply with the provisions thereof;
- (b) the Member concerned shall modify, as soon as practicable, measures adopted by it prior to the ratification of the Convention, so as to comply with the provisions thereof, and shall promote such modification of other measures existing at the time of ratification;
- (c) the Member concerned shall communicate to the Director-General of the International Labour Office, when ratifying the Convention, a statement indicating the manner in which and the categories of workers to which the provisions of the Convention are applied, and shall indicate in its reports on the application of the Convention any further progress made in the matter;
- (d) at the expiration of three years from the date on which this Convention first enters into force the Governing Body of the International Labour Office shall submit to the Conference a special report concerning the application of subparagraph (b) of this paragraph and containing such proposals as it may think appropriate for further action in regard to the matter.

PART II. PROTECTIVE MEASURES

Article 4

The activities referred to in Article 2 shall be so arranged and conducted as to afford the protection envisaged in this Part of the Convention.

Article 5

Every effort shall be made to restrict the exposure of workers to ionising radiations to the lowest practicable level, and any unnecessary exposure shall be avoided by all parties concerned.