

No. 592

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION

Convention for establishing facilities for finding employment for seamen, adopted by the General Conference of the International Labour Organisation at its second session, Genoa, 10 July 1920, as modified by the Final Articles Revision Convention, 1946

English and French official texts communicated by the Director-General of the International Labour Office. The registration took place on 15 September 1949.

ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DU TRAVAIL

Convention concernant le placement des marins adoptée par la Conférence générale de l'Organisation internationale du Travail à sa deuxième session, Gênes, 10 juillet 1920, telle qu'elle a été modifiée par la Convention portant revision des articles finals, 1946

Textes officiels anglais et français communiqués par le Directeur général de l'Organisation internationale du Travail. L'enregistrement a eu lieu le 15 septembre 1949.

No. 592. CONVENTION¹ FOR ESTABLISHING FACILITIES
FOR FINDING EMPLOYMENT FOR SEAMEN, AS
MODIFIED BY THE FINAL ARTICLES REVISION CON-
VENTION, 1946²

The General Conference of the International Labour Organisation,
Having been convened at Genoa by the Governing Body of the Inter-
national Labour Office on the 15th day of June 1920, and

Having decided upon the adoption of certain proposals with regard to
the "supervision of articles of agreement; provision of facilities for
finding employment for seamen; application to seamen of the
Convention and Recommendations adopted at Washington in
November last in regard to unemployment and unemployment
insurance", which is the second item in the agenda for the Genoa
meeting of the Conference, and

Having determined that these proposals shall take the form of an
international Convention,

adopts the following Convention, which may be cited as the Placing of
Seamen Convention, 1920, for ratification by the Members of the Inter-
national Labour Organisation in accordance with the provisions of the
Constitution of the International Labour Organisation :

Article 1

For the purpose of this Convention, the term "seamen" includes all
persons, except officers, employed as members of the crew on vessels engaged
in maritime navigation.

Article 2

1. The business of finding employment for seamen shall not be carried
on by any person, company, or other agency, as a commercial enterprise
for pecuniary gain; nor shall any fees be charged directly or indirectly by
any person, company or other agency, for finding employment for seamen
on any ship.

2. The law of each country shall provide punishment for any violation
of the provisions of this Article.

¹ For the date of entry into force of the Convention and the list of ratifications
see Certified Statement on page 140.

² See page 3.

Article 3

1. Notwithstanding the provisions of Article 2, any person, company or agency, which has been carrying on the work of finding employment for seamen as a commercial enterprise for pecuniary gain, may be permitted to continue temporarily under Government licence, provided that such work is carried on under Government inspection and supervision, so as to safeguard the rights of all concerned.

2. Each Member which ratifies this Convention agrees to take all practicable measures to abolish the practice of finding employment for seamen as a commercial enterprise for pecuniary gain as soon as possible.

Article 4

1. Each Member which ratifies this Convention agrees that there shall be organised and maintained an efficient and adequate system of public employment offices for finding employment for seamen without charge. Such system may be organised and maintained, either—

- (a) by representative associations of shipowners and seamen jointly under the control of a central authority, or,
- (b) in the absence of such joint action, by the State itself.

2. The work of all such employment offices shall be administered by persons having practical maritime experience.

3. Where such employment offices of different types exist, steps shall be taken to co-ordinate them on a national basis.

Article 5

Committees consisting of an equal number of representatives of shipowners and seamen shall be constituted to advise on matters concerning the carrying on of these offices. The Government in each country may make provision for further defining the powers of these committees, particularly with reference to the committees' selection of their chairmen from outside their own membership, to the degree of State supervision, and to the assistance which such committees shall have from persons interested in the welfare of seamen.

Article 6

In connection with the employment of seamen, freedom of choice of ship shall be assured to seamen and freedom of choice of crew shall be assured to shipowners.