

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION

Convention concerning the use of white lead in painting, adopted by the General Conference of the International Labour Organisation at its third session, Geneva, 19 November 1921, 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 l'emploi de la céruse dans la peinture, adoptée par la Conférence générale de l'Organisation internationale du Travail à sa troisième session, Genève, 19 novembre 1921, telle qu'elle a été modifiée par la Convention portant révision 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. 596. CONVENTION¹ CONCERNING THE USE OF WHITE LEAD IN PAINTING, AS MODIFIED BY THE FINAL ARTICLES REVISION CONVENTION, 1946²

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 Third Session on 25 October 1921, and

Having decided upon the adoption of certain proposals with regard to the prohibition of the use of white lead in painting, which is the sixth item of the agenda of the Session, and

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

adopts the following Convention, which may be cited as the White Lead (Painting) Convention, 1921, for ratification by the Members of the International Labour Organisation in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of the International Labour Organisation :

Article 1

1. Each Member of the International Labour Organisation ratifying the present Convention undertakes to prohibit, with the exceptions provided for in Article 2, the use of white lead and sulphate of lead and of all products containing these pigments, in the internal painting of buildings, except where the use of white lead or sulphate of lead or products containing these pigments is considered necessary for railway stations or industrial establishments by the competent authority after consultation with the employers' and workers' organisations concerned.

2. It shall nevertheless be permissible to use white pigments containing a maximum of 2 per cent. of lead expressed in terms of metallic lead.

Article 2

1. The provisions of Article 1 shall not apply to artistic painting or fine lining.

2. The Governments shall define the limits of such forms of painting, and shall regulate the use of white lead, sulphate of lead, and all products containing these pigments, for these purposes in conformity with the provisions of Articles 5, 6 and 7 of the present Convention.

¹ For the date of entry into force of the Convention and the list of ratifications see Certified Statement on page 184.

² See page 3.

Article 3

1. The employment of males under eighteen years of age and of all females shall be prohibited in any painting work of an industrial character involving the use of white lead or sulphate of lead or other products containing these pigments.

2. The competent authorities shall have power, after consulting the employers' and workers' organisations concerned, to permit the employment of painters' apprentices in the work prohibited by the preceding paragraph, with a view to their education in their trade.

Article 4

The prohibitions prescribed in Articles 1 and 3 shall come into force six years from the date of the closure of the Third Session of the International Labour Conference.

Article 5

Each Member of the International Labour Organisation ratifying the present Convention undertakes to regulate the use of white lead, sulphate of lead and of all products containing these pigments, in operations for which their use is not prohibited, on the following principles :

- I. (a) White lead, sulphate of lead, or products containing these pigments shall not be used in painting operations except in the form of paste or of paint ready for use;
(b) measures shall be taken in order to prevent danger arising from the application of paint in the form of spray;
(c) measures shall be taken, wherever practicable, to prevent danger arising from dust caused by dry rubbing down and scraping.
- II. (a) Adequate facilities shall be provided to enable working painters to wash during and on cessation of work;
(b) overalls shall be worn by working painters during the whole of the working period;
(c) suitable arrangements shall be made to prevent clothing put off during working hours being soiled by painting material.
- III. (a) Cases of lead poisoning and of suspected lead poisoning shall be notified, and shall be subsequently verified by a medical man appointed by the competent authority;