

No. 2814

BELGIUM, DENMARK, FINLAND, FRANCE, etc.

Convention (with Final Protocol and International Regulations and Figures) for a uniform system of tonnage measurement of ships. Signed at Oslo, on 10 June 1947

Official texts: English and French.

Registered by Norway on 29 March 1955.

BELGIQUE, DANEMARK, FINLANDE, FRANCE, etc.

Convention (avec protocole final, règlement international et figures) pour l'adoption d'un système uniforme de jaugeage des navires. Signée à Oslo, le 10 juin 1947

Textes officiels anglais et français.

Enregistrée par la Norvège le 29 mars 1955.

No. 2814. CONVENTION¹ FOR A UNIFORM SYSTEM OF
TONNAGE MEASUREMENT OF SHIPS. SIGNED AT
OSLO, ON 10 JUNE 1947

The Governments of Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Iceland, the Netherlands, Norway and Sweden,

Considering that differences in the regulations for tonnage measurement of ships and in the application of such regulations may lead to serious inconveniences consisting in unequal treatment of the ships, and cause hindering formalities and unnecessary costs ;

Desiring therefore to give practical effect to the preparatory work over a number of years, with a view to removing such differences, by establishing uniform regulations for tonnage measurement of ships based on the system applied by most maritime countries ;

Have resolved to conclude a Convention for that purpose, and have appointed as their plenipotentiaries the following :

The Government of Belgium :

Mr. G. de Winne, Ingénieur en Chef, Director to the Marine Department.

The Government of Denmark :

Mr. P. Fischer, Principal Naval Architect, Technical Division, Shipping Department, Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Shipping.

Mr. J. Christiansen, Chief of Division, Shipping Department, Ministry of Commerce, Industry and Shipping.

The Government of Finland :

Mr. W. K. Åström, Chief Surveyor for Tonnage.

The Government of France :

H.E. Mr. J. F. Blondel, Ambassador to Norway.

The Government of Iceland :

Mr. O. T. Sveinsson, Inspector General of Ships.

¹ Came into force on 30 December 1954, in accordance with article 16 in respect of the following States, on behalf of which the instruments of ratification were deposited with the Government of Norway on the dates indicated :

Norway	9 January 1948
Iceland	15 October 1948
Netherlands	12 October 1949
Denmark	22 September 1954
Sweden	30 September 1954

The Government of the Netherlands :

Mr. A. van Driel, Chief Ship and Tonnage Surveyor, (retired).

Mr. H. E. Scheffer, Director to the Ministry of Transport (Directorate General of Shipping).

Mr. E. Smit Fzn., Chief Ship and Tonnage Surveyor.

The Government of Norway :

Mr. L. Aall, Chief of Division for Tonnage Measurement in the Royal Ministry of Finance and Customs.

Mr. V. Dunér, Chief of Division, the Royal Ministry of Finance and Customs.

Mr. A. Sveen, Shipowner.

The Government of Sweden :

Mr. G. M. E. Böös, Commercial Councillor, Chief of Shipping Department of the Royal Board of Trade.

Mr. A. J. Anderson, Chief Surveyor for Tonnage to the Royal Board of Trade.

Mr. G. F. Ambjörn, Professor at Chalmers University of Technology.

Who, having communicated their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following provisions :

Article 1

When measuring ships in order to ascertain their tonnage, and when marking ships in connection with such measurement, the Contracting Governments undertake to observe the regulations entitled "International Regulations for Tonnage Measurement of Ships", issued through the League of Nations and dated June 30th, 1939, attached hereto as an annex,¹ and which will therefore now become the regulations for the measuring and marking of ships, by all the Contracting Governments under this Convention.

The Convention and the annex are subject to modifications according to article 12.

Article 2

The measurement and marking of ships shall be carried out through the competent authority, by officers possessing the necessary qualifications. The Government concerned may, however, entrust such measurement and marking to an organisation, duly recognized for this purpose by the Government. In every case the Government concerned fully guarantees the completeness and the efficiency of the measurement and marking.

¹ See p. 20 of this volume.

Article 3

A certificate, called "International Tonnage Certificate in Accordance with the Convention concluded in Oslo on the tenth of June 1947" (hereafter referred to as International Tonnage Certificate¹), shall be issued to every ship which has been measured and marked in accordance with this Convention. Such a certificate may not be issued to any other ship.

An International Tonnage Certificate shall be issued by the competent authority, or by an organisation duly recognized in accordance with article 2. In every case the Government concerned assumes full responsibility for the certificate.

Article 4

The Government of a country to which this Convention applies, may, at the request of, and on behalf of, the Government of any other country to which this Convention applies, cause any ship which belongs to the last-mentioned country to be measured and marked at the expense of the owner of the ship in accordance with the provisions of this Convention, and to issue an International Tonnage Certificate to such a ship under its own responsibility. In the same way measuring and marking may be carried out for a ship which is being built to the order of an owner in another country to which this Convention applies.

Any certificate so issued shall contain a statement to the effect that it has been issued at the request of the Government of the country to which the ship belongs, or is intended to belong, and such a certificate shall receive the same recognition as a tonnage certificate issued under article 3 of this Convention.

The Government which has issued such a tonnage certificate shall forward to the Government of the country to which the ship belongs, without delay, a certified copy of the Tonnage Certificate and of the Formulae of Measurement on which the certificate is based.

When a ship is transferred from a country to which this Convention applies, to any other country to which this Convention applies, the Government of the first-mentioned country, shall, at the request of the Government of the last-mentioned country, forward to this Government, without delay, a certified copy of the Tonnage Certificate in force for the ship and of the Formulae of Measurement on which the certificate is based.

Article 5

The International Tonnage Certificate shall be drawn up in the official language of the country by which it is issued. If that language is not English, the text should be rendered in English, in part or in full, as may be considered appropriate.

¹ See p. 126 and p. 132 of this volume.

The form of the Tonnage Certificate shall be that of the appropriate model, given in Appendices 1 and 2 of the annex.

Article 6

An International Tonnage Certificate shall remain in force as long as the ship to which it has been issued has not been so altered as not to correspond with the particulars relating to the tonnage or description contained in the Tonnage Certificate.

If such an alteration has been made, the ship having been remeasured to a sufficient extent, the Tonnage Certificate shall accordingly be amended or renewed as the competent authority may decide.

If a ship provided with an International Tonnage Certificate has been transferred from one country to which this Convention applies, to another country to which this Convention applies, the ship, having been remeasured to a sufficient extent, shall, as soon as practicable, be provided with a new International Tonnage Certificate, issued by or on behalf of the country to which the ship has been transferred.

Article 7

International Tonnage Certificates issued under the authority of a Contracting Government shall be recognized by the other Contracting Governments as having the same force as the International Tonnage Certificates issued by them to ships belonging to their respective countries.

Article 8

1. A ship, provided with an International Tonnage Certificate, when in a port of a country to which it does not belong, but to which this Convention applies, is subject to control with respect to Tonnage Measurement. Such control shall be limited to the purpose of securing :

- (a) That the Net Tonnage marked on the ship corresponds to the Net Tonnage entered on the Tonnage Certificate ; and
- (b) That the ship has not been altered as mentioned in article 6 of this Convention.

2. Only officers possessing the necessary qualifications shall be authorized to exercise control as aforesaid.

3. In no case must the exercise of such control cause any expense or delay to the ship.

4. Should the control reveal that the actual conditions on the ship differ from those entered on the Tonnage Certificate, the Government of the country