

No. 2901

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION

Convention (N° 73) concerning the medical examination of seafarers, adopted by the General Conference of the International Labour Organisation at its twenty-eighth session, Seattle, 29 June 1946, as modified by the Final Articles Revision Convention, 1946

Official texts: English and French.

Registered by the International Labour Organisation on 7 September 1955.

ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DU TRAVAIL

Convention (n° 73) concernant l'examen médical des gens de mer, adoptée par la Conférence générale de l'Organisation internationale du Travail à sa vingt-huitième session, Seattle, 29 juin 1946, telle qu'elle a été modifiée par la Convention portant revision des articles finals, 1946

Textes officiels anglais et français.

Enregistrée par l'Organisation internationale du travail le 7 septembre 1955.

No. 2901. CONVENTION (No. 73)¹ CONCERNING THE MEDICAL EXAMINATION OF SEAFARERS, ADOPTED BY THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION AT ITS TWENTY-EIGHTH SESSION, SEATTLE, 29 JUNE 1946, AS MODIFIED BY THE FINAL ARTICLES REVISION CONVENTION, 1946

The General Conference of the International Labour Organisation,

Having been convened at Seattle by the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, and having met in its Twenty-eighth Session on 6 June 1946, and

Having decided upon the adoption of certain proposals with regard to the medical examination of seafarers, which is included in the fifth item on the agenda of the Session, and

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

adopts this twenty-ninth day of June of the year one thousand nine hundred and forty-six the following Convention, which may be cited as the Medical Examination (Seafarers) Convention, 1946 ;

Article 1

1. This Convention applies to every sea-going vessel, whether publicly or privately owned, which is engaged in the transport of cargo or passengers for the purpose of trade and is registered in a territory for which this Convention is in force.

2. National laws or regulations shall determine when vessels are to be regarded as sea-going.

¹ Came into force on 17 August 1955, in accordance with article 11. Ratifications by the following States were registered with the Director-General of the International Labour Office on the dates indicated :

France	9 December 1948	Bulgaria	29 December 1949
A declaration undertaking to apply, without modification, the provisions of the above-mentioned Convention to the Overseas Departments of Guadeloupe, Martinique, French Guiana and Reunion was registered with the Director-General of the International Labour Office on 27 April 1955.		Canada	19 March 1951
		Belgium	5 December 1951
		Portugal	13 June 1952
		Italy	22 October 1952
		Uruguay	18 March 1954
		Poland	13 April 1954
		Argentina	17 February 1955
		Norway	17 February 1955
		Japan	22 August 1955

3. This Convention does not apply to—

- (a) vessels of less than 200 tons gross register tonnage ;
- (b) wooden vessels of primitive build such as dhows and junks ;
- (c) fishing vessels ;
- (d) estuarial craft.

Article 2

Without prejudice to the steps which should be taken to ensure that the persons mentioned below are in good health and not likely to endanger the health of other persons on board, this Convention applies to every person who is engaged in any capacity on board a vessel except—

- (a) a pilot (not a member of the crew) ;
- (b) persons employed on board by an employer other than the shipowner, except radio officers or operators in the service of a wireless telegraphy company ;
- (c) travelling dockers (longshoremen) not members of the crew ;
- (d) persons employed in ports who are not ordinarily employed at sea.

Article 3

1. No person to whom this Convention applies shall be engaged for employment in a vessel to which this Convention applies unless he produces a certificate attesting to his fitness for the work for which he is to be employed at sea signed by a medical practitioner or, in the case of a certificate solely concerning his sight, by a person authorised by the competent authority to issue such a certificate.

2. Provided that, for a period of two years from the date of the entry into force of this Convention for the territory concerned, a person may be so engaged if he produces evidence that he has been employed in a sea-going vessel to which this Convention applies for a substantial period during the previous two years.

Article 4

1. The competent authority shall, after consultation with the shipowners' and seafarers' organisations concerned, prescribe the nature of the medical examination to be made and the particulars to be included in the medical certificate.

2. When prescribing the nature of the examination, due regard shall be had to the age of the person to be examined and the nature of the duties to be performed.