

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE GENEVA

REPORT FORM
FOR THE
**REPATRIATION OF SEAMEN
CONVENTION, 1926 (No. 23)**

The present report form is for the use of countries which have ratified the Convention. It has been approved by the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, in accordance with article 22 of the ILO Constitution, which reads as follows: "Each of the Members agrees to make an annual report to the International Labour Office on the measures which it has taken to give effect to the provisions of the Conventions to which it is a party. These reports shall be made in such form and shall contain such particulars as the Governing Body may request."

PRACTICAL GUIDANCE FOR DRAWING UP REPORTS

First reports

If this is your Government's first report following the entry into force of the Convention in your country, full information should be given on each of the provisions of the Convention and on each of the questions set out in the report form.

Subsequent reports

In subsequent reports, information need normally be given only:

- (a) on any new legislative or other measures affecting the application of the Convention;

- (b) in reply to the questions in the report form on the practical application of the Convention (for example, statistics, results of inspections, judicial or administrative decisions) and on the communication of copies of the report to the representative organizations of employers and workers and on any observations received from these organizations;

- (c) **in reply to comments by the supervisory bodies:** the report must contain replies to any comments regarding the application of the Convention in your country which have been made by the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations or by the Conference Committee on the Application of Standards.
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Article 22 of the Constitution of the ILO

Report for the period _____ to _____

made by the Government of _____

on the

REPATRIATION OF SEAMEN CONVENTION, 1926 (No. 23)

(ratification registered on _____)

- I. Please give a list of the legislation and administrative regulations, etc., which apply the provisions of the Convention. Where this has not already been done, please forward copies of the said legislation, etc., to the International Labour Office with this report.**

Please give any available information concerning the extent to which these laws and regulations have been enacted or modified to permit, or as a result of, ratification.

- II. Please indicate in detail for each of the following Articles of the Convention the provisions of the abovementioned legislation and administrative regulations, etc., or other measures under which each Article is applied.**

If in your country ratification of the Convention gives the force of national law to its terms, please indicate by virtue of what constitutional provisions the ratification has had this effect. Please also specify what action has been taken to make effective those provisions of the Convention which require a national authority to take certain specific steps for its implementation, such as measures to define the exact scope of the Convention and the extent to which advantage may be taken of permissive exceptions provided for in it, measures to draw the attention of the parties concerned to its provisions, and arrangements for adequate inspection and penalties.

If the Committee of Experts or the Conference Committee on the Application of Standards has requested additional information or has made an observation on the measures adopted to apply the Convention, please supply the information asked for or indicate the action taken by your Government to settle the points in question.

Article 1

1. This Convention shall apply to all seagoing vessels registered in the country of any Member ratifying this Convention, and to the owners, masters and seamen of such vessels.

2. It shall not apply to:

- (a) ships of war,
- (b) government vessels not engaged in trade,
- (c) vessels engaged in the coasting trade,
- (d) pleasure yachts,
- (e) Indian country craft,
- (f) fishing vessels,
- (g) vessels of less than 100 tons gross registered tonnage or 300 cubic metres, nor to vessels engaged in the home trade below the tonnage limit prescribed by national law for the special regulation of this trade at the date of the passing of this Convention.

Please state the tonnage limit, if any, in respect of vessels engaged in the home trade prescribed by national law for the special regulation of this trade at the date of the passing of the Convention.

Article 2

For the purpose of this Convention the following expressions have the meanings hereby assigned to them, viz.:

- (a) the term “vessel” includes any ship or boat of any nature whatsoever, whether publicly or privately owned, ordinarily engaged in maritime navigation;
- (b) the term “seaman” includes every person employed or engaged in any capacity on board any vessel and entered on the ship’s articles. It excludes masters, pilots, cadets and pupils on training ships and duly indentured apprentices, naval ratings, and other persons in the permanent service of a Government;
- (c) the term “master” includes every person having command and charge of a vessel except pilots;
- (d) the term “home trade vessel” means a vessel engaged in trade between a country and the ports of a neighbouring country within geographical limits determined by the national law.

Please indicate the geographical limits determined by the national law for the purposes of clause (d) of this Article.

Article 3

1. Any seaman who is landed during the term of his engagement or on its expiration shall be entitled to be taken back to his own country, or to the port at which he was engaged, or to the port at which the voyage commenced, as shall be determined by national law, which shall contain the provisions necessary for dealing with the matter, including provisions to determine who shall bear the charge of repatriation.

2. A seaman shall be deemed to have been duly repatriated if he has been provided with suitable employment on board a vessel proceeding to one of the destinations prescribed in accordance with the foregoing paragraph.

3. A seaman shall be deemed to have been repatriated if he is landed in the country to which he belongs, or at the port at which he was engaged, or at a neighbouring port, or at the port at which the voyage commenced.

4. The conditions under which a foreign seaman engaged in a country other than his own has the right to be repatriated shall be as provided by national law or, in the absence of such legal provisions, in the articles of agreement. The provisions of the preceding paragraphs shall, however, apply to a seaman engaged in a port of his own country.

With reference to the last paragraph of this Article, please give full particulars as to the provisions of national law or the practice regarding the rights to repatriation of a foreign seaman in the following cases:

- (1) *when he is engaged in a country other than his own;*
- (2) *when he is engaged in a port of his own country and is landed, whether during the term or on the expiration of the agreement, (a) in the country to which the vessel belongs, or (b) in some other country.*

Article 4

The expenses of repatriation shall not be a charge on the seaman if he has been left behind by reason of:

- (a) injury sustained in the service of the vessel, or
- (b) shipwreck, or
- (c) illness not due to his own wilful act or default, or
- (d) discharge for any cause for which he cannot be held responsible.

Article 5

1. The expenses of repatriation shall include the transportation charges, the accommodation and the food of the seaman during the journey. They shall also include the maintenance of the seaman up to the time fixed for his departure.

2. When a seaman is repatriated as member of a crew, he shall be entitled to remuneration for work done during the voyage.

III. Article 6 of the Convention is as follows:

The public authority of the country in which the vessel is registered shall be responsible for supervising the repatriation of any member of the crew in cases where this Convention applies, whatever may be his nationality, and where necessary for giving him his expenses in advance.

Please state, with reference to this Article, what authority, (a) in the home country, and (b) abroad, is responsible for seeing to the repatriation of seamen, both national and foreign, in the cases covered by the Convention, and whether these authorities have instructions to advance, where necessary, the expenses of repatriation to both national and foreign seamen.

IV. Please state whether courts of law or other tribunals have given decisions involving questions of principle relating to the application of the Convention. If so, please supply the text of these decisions.

V. Please give a general appreciation of the manner in which the Convention is applied in your country including, for instance, extracts from official reports and information on any practical difficulties in the application of the Convention.

VI. Please indicate the representative organizations of employers and workers to which copies of the present report have been communicated in accordance with article 23, paragraph 2, of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization.¹ If copies of the report have not been communicated to representative organizations of employers and/or workers, or if they have been communicated to bodies other than such organizations, please supply information on any particular circumstances existing in your country which explain the procedure followed.

Please indicate whether you have received from the organizations of employers or workers concerned any observations, either of a general kind or in connection with the present or the previous report, regarding the practical application of the provisions of the Convention or the application of the legislation or other measures implementing the Convention. If so, please communicate a summary of the observations received, together with any comments that you consider useful.

¹ Article 23, paragraph 2, of the Constitution reads as follows: “Each Member shall communicate to the representative organisations recognised for the purpose of article 3 copies of the information and reports communicated to the Director-General in pursuance of articles 19 and 22.”