

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE

REPORT FORM

FOR THE

PLACING OF SEAMEN CONVENTION
1920 (No. 9)

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 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 on the following points:

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

(b) replies 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 organisations of employers and workers and on any observations received from these organisations;

(c) replies to comments by supervisory bodies: the report must contain replies to any comments regarding the application of the Convention in your country which may have been addressed to your Government by the Committee of Experts or by the Conference Committee on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations.

Article 22 of the Constitution of the ILO

Report for the period to
made by the Government of

on the

PLACING OF SEAMEN CONVENTION, 1920 (No. 9)

(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 of, or as a result of, ratification.

II. Please indicate in detail for each of the following Articles of the Convention the provisions of the above-mentioned 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 Conventions and Recommendations 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

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.

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.

Where persons, companies, or agencies have been authorised to continue temporarily the work of finding employment for seamen as a commercial enterprise for pecuniary gain please state, if such statistics are available, the number of licences issued, and give as full information as possible regarding the operation of such agencies, and regarding the extent and methods of government inspection and supervision.

Please also state what steps have been taken by the Government to abolish the practice of finding employment for seamen as a commercial enterprise for pecuniary gain.

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.

Please describe the system of free employment offices and state what measures have been taken, if this question arises, to secure the co-ordination of the work of the various employment offices on a national basis, contemplated by the last paragraph of this Article.

Please state the number of public employment offices established and the places at which they have been set up, the number of applications for employment received, the number of vacancies notified, and the number of persons placed in employment, by such offices.

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.

Please indicate the measures taken regarding the methods of consulting these committees, and state whether provision has been made for further defining their powers particularly with reference to

- (a) *the selection of their chairmen from outside their own membership;*
- (b) *the degree of state supervision;*
- (c) *assistance from persons interested in the welfare of seamen.*

Please state the number of committees that have been constituted and the places at which they have been set up, with particulars as to their membership.

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.

Article 7

The necessary guarantees for protecting all parties concerned shall be included in the contract of engagement or articles of agreement, and proper facilities shall be assured to seamen for examining such contract or articles before and after signing.

Please describe the facilities assured to seamen for examining such contract or articles before and after signing.

Article 8

Each Member which ratifies this Convention will take steps to see that the facilities for employment of seamen provided for in this Convention shall, if necessary by means of public offices, be available for the seamen of all countries which ratify this Convention, and where the industrial conditions are generally the same.

If statistics are available please state the number and nationality of foreign seamen who have taken advantage of the facilities provided for finding employment for seamen.

Article 9

Each country shall decide for itself whether provisions similar to those in this Convention shall be put in force for deck-officers and engineer-officers.

Please state whether provisions similar to those in the present Convention have been put in force for deck-officers and engineer-officers.

Article 10

1. Each Member which ratifies this Convention shall communicate to the International Labour Office all available information, statistical or otherwise, concerning unemployment among seamen and concerning the work of its seamen's employment agencies.

2. The International Labour Office shall take steps to secure the co-ordination of the various national agencies for finding employment for seamen, in agreement with the Governments or organisations concerned in each country.

Please state the action taken to give effect to this Article, and give the views of your Government on the means of securing the co-ordination by the International Labour Office of the various national agencies for finding employment for seamen, in agreement with the governments or organisations concerned in each country, in application of paragraph 2.

III. Please state to what authority or authorities the application of the above-mentioned legislation and administrative regulations, etc., is entrusted, and by what methods application is supervised and enforced. In particular, please supply information on the organisation and working of inspection.

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, with special reference to the working, the management and the results of the employment offices for seamen. Where possible, please supply information derived from the reports of the inspection services.

VI. Please indicate the representative organisations 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 Organisation.¹ If copies of the report have not been communicated to representative organisations of employers and/or workers, or if they have been communicated to bodies other than such organisations, please supply information on any particular circumstances existing in your country which explain the procedure followed.

Please indicate whether you have received from the organisations 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 copy 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."