



2010 YEAR OF THE SEAFARER Forum

26 June 2010, Manila / The Philippines

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FORUM RESOLUTION

The participants of THE 2010 YEAR OF THE SEAFARER FORUM, having met in Manila, The Philippines on 26 June 2010,

RECALLING the opening addresses by both, H.E. Admiral Efthimios E. Mitropoulos, Secretary General International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the Hon. Marianito D. Roque, Secretary Philippine Department of Labour and Employment (DOLE) to this Forum,

NOTING the IMO initiative to make the year 2010 “The Year of the Seafarer” and to declare the 25th of June of each coming year “The Day of the Seafarer” in appreciation of the important contribution seafarers make to the worlds’ economy,

NOTING FURTHER the “Go to Sea” campaign which was jointly launched by the IMO, the “Round Table” of shipping NGOs and the ITF to attract entrants to the shipping industry,

NOTING the 2010 Manila Amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978,

NOTING the International Maritime Labour Convention 2006 adopted by the International Labour Organization in February 2006,

NOTING resolution A.850(20) on Human Element Vision, Principles and Goals for the International Maritime Organization, adopted by the Organization in 1997,

NOTING FURTHER resolution A.443(XI) by which Governments are invited to take the necessary steps to safeguard the shipmaster in the proper discharge of his responsibilities in regard to maritime safety and the protection of the marine environment,

NOTING ALSO the Joint ILO/IMO Guidelines on the Fair Treatment of Seafarers in the Event of a Maritime Accident,

NOTING ALSO the Resolution on Sub-Standard Shipping adopted by the Joint Maritime Commission of the International Labour Organization in January 2001,

BEING AWARE of the shortage of human resources onboard ships in particular qualified and competent officers,

BEING FURTHER AWARE of the potential positive impact of the ISM Code in combating fatigue and improving the level of safety onboard ships,

RECOGNIZING the important role seafarers play in maintaining the smooth operation of the global logistics chain;

RECOGNIZING ALSO the efforts by the International Maritime Organization in the adoption of international standards for maritime safety, security and marine environment protection,

BEING AWARE of the importance of all parties in the maritime community working together in the creation and maintenance of a maritime safety culture and new attitudes to those matters,

NOTING the outcome of related conferences and seminars,

DESIRING to actively promote a change of philosophy where the human element is taken into consideration with the aim to establish quality shipping with quality personnel,

DESIRING FURTHER to actively promote shipping as a challenging career opportunity for young people around the world.

The 2010 YEAR OF THE SEAFARER FORUM therefore:

URGES all parties to the 2010 Manila Amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978 to ensure a timely implementation of these amendments;

URGES the Flag States to appreciate the efforts of the International Labour Organization by adopting the MLC 2006 to ensure decent working and living conditions for seafarers and to take all efforts to ratify the MLC 2006 in order to ensure a timely enforcement of this Convention;

URGES all parties in the maritime community to take all necessary steps to create, maintain and further develop a maritime safety culture and a quality shipping;

URGES ALSO the relevant International Bodies and Administrations to commit every effort to stop the increasing acts of piracy and armed robbery against ships;

CALLS upon all seafarers, their families and friends as well as everyone else, to sign the "End Piracy Now" petition at www.endpiracypetition.org to urge Governments to act now to fight piracy;

TAKES the position that under no circumstances the crew on board merchant ships should be armed or any armed guards be taken on board;

CALLS upon all Governments and Shipping Companies to take responsibility by giving full support to the families of any victims amongst ships crew resulting from any act of maritime piracy;

TAKES the opinion that all victims of any acts of piracy affecting crew and their families should be taken care of financially and by the provision of trauma counselling;

URGES ALSO the International Maritime Organization and the International Labour Organization to continue and intensify their work relating to eradication of substandard shipping, and, in that work, take this Resolution into consideration;

URGES all IMO Member States to focus on safety and prevention of further fatigue to seafarers, particularly with regard to watch keeping personnel;

URGES all Port and Coastal States to stop criminalization of seafarers and to take all efforts to ensure that neither shipmasters nor any other crew will be unduly detained and, if initially detained, should be released promptly, unless charges of wilful misconduct or criminal negligence can be substantiated;

CALLS upon all serving shipmasters and senior officers on board to motivate their cadets and to get involved to train these cadets in accordance with the provisions detailed in the 2010 Manila Amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978 and the cadets training record books;

CALLS upon ship-owners and other relevant maritime stakeholders to take appropriate measures to ensure that a greater number of training berths becomes available on board ships;

CALLS upon all stakeholders for collective efforts to raise the status of the shipping industry and its employees, especially the seafarers;

CALLS upon all stakeholders in the maritime industry to take all efforts to enhance the quality of life on board vessels in order to ensure that seafarers are retained in the industry;

CALLS FURTHER upon all stakeholders in the maritime industry to make available to all seafarers on board available improved facilities for social and educational communications;

CALLS upon all Port States to take all efforts to ensure that all seafarers will be granted the right for shore-leave;

CALLS ALSO for the introduction of a “no-blame working culture” into the shipping industry;

ENCOURAGES all major stakeholders in the maritime industry to set up an international expert group to permanently review maritime education and training and its provisions in the light of anticipated future industry employer and employee needs;

REQUESTS all participants and organisations present at this 2010 YEAR OF THE SEAFARER FORUM to bring this Resolution to the attention of the International Maritime Organization and the International Labour Organization and other relevant international, regional and national bodies.

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