



香港商船資訊

HONG KONG MERCHANT SHIPPING INFORMATION NOTE

Amendments of 2025 to the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended

To : Shipowners, Ship Managers, Ship Operators and Masters and Classification Societies

Summary

The purpose of this Note is to inform the parties concerned on the Amendments of 2025 to the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended, by the 113th Session of the International Labour Conference of the International Labour Organization (ILO) on 6 June 2025 (“the 2025 Amendments”).

1. The 113th Session of the International Labour Conference of the ILO approved the 2025 Amendments in relation, amongst others, to the protection of seafarers against violence and harassment on board, including sexual harassment, bullying and sexual assault, the costs to be borne by the shipowner for seafarer’s repatriation shall include the transportation of up to 30 kg of the seafarer’s personal luggage to the repatriation destination and the effective exercise of seafarers’ right to shore leave. The 2025 Amendments are expected to enter into force globally on 23 December 2027.
2. The 2025 Amendments are summarized as follows: -
 - i) Violence and harassment: Amendments to the Code relating to Regulations 1.4, 3.1, 4.3, 5.1- Measures must be taken to prevent and address violence and harassment on board, including sexual harassment, bullying and sexual assault. The amendments include adoption and implementation of policies and measures, establishment of reporting procedures against shipboard violence and harassment, and safeguards in the shipboard complaint procedures to protect those who make complaints.
 - ii) Standard A2.4.2-Shore leave – The amendments strengthen the right of seafarers to go ashore to benefit their health and well-being, and require that shipowners shall allow shore leave to seafarers when off duty, upon the ship’s arrival in port, except when leaving the ship is prohibited or restricted

by relevant authorities of the port State, or due to safety or operational reasons.

- iii) Standard A2.5.1-Repatriation– Shipowners must cover specific costs when sending a seafarer home, including travel, accommodation and food, up to 30 kg of personal luggage, and any necessary medical treatment before travel.
- iv) Standard A2.5.1-Repatriation –Each Member shall facilitate the repatriation of seafarers in a manner which excludes discrimination on any grounds and irrespective of the flag State of the ship on which they are employed, engaged or work.
- v) Guideline B2.5.2-Seafarers as key workers –Each Member should designate and recognize seafarers as key workers and take appropriate measures to facilitate their safe movement when travelling in connection with their employment or work, including access to shore leave, repatriation, crew changes and medical care ashore.
- vi) Guideline B4.1.1-Provision of medical care – Medical training for seafarers should be based on the latest editions of international guides, such as the International Medical Guide for Seafarers and Fishers and the International Medical Guide for Ships.
- vii) Standard A5.1.6-Marine casualties – In carrying out an inquiry into a marine casualty, Members shall take due account of the IMO/ILO Guidelines and shall cooperate, as far as practicable, with concerned States to assist in the application of the IMO/ILO Guidelines.

3. Details of the 2025 Amendments can be found on the website of Marine Department (<https://www.mardep.gov.hk/en/legislation/notices/msin/index.html>) as an attachment to this Information Note.

4. Shipowners, ship managers, ship operators, masters and classification societies are advised to note the information provided in the documents and act accordingly.

5. For further enquiry, please contact via email: hkmpd@mardep.gov.hk.

Marine Department
Multi-lateral Policy Division

28 September 2026

Action File Ref: L/M 27/2026 in MD-MPB-F04-045-02C-MSIN-P014