



TECHNICAL CIRCULAR No. 862 of 6th February 2025

To	All Surveyors/Auditors. All flags
Title	MLC 2022 AMENDMENTS
Reference	MLC 2006

MARITIME LABOUR CONVENTION (MLC) 2022 AMENDMENTS

The 2022 amendments to the Maritime Labour Convention (MLC) 2006, which will come into force on December 23, 2024, introduce several key changes to improve seafarers' working and living conditions. These amendments address issues highlighted during the COVID-19 pandemic and focus on enhancing seafarers' rights and protections.

RECRUITMENT AND PLACEMENT (STANDARD A/1.4) Seafarers must be informed about their rights under the financial protection system established by recruitment and placement agencies.

REPATRIATION (STANDARD A/2.5.1) Member States are required to facilitate the prompt repatriation of abandoned seafarers. This includes ensuring the protection of seafarers' rights under the MLC who may replace the abandoned seafarers onboard.

ACCOMMODATION AND SOCIAL CONNECTIVITY (STANDARD A/3.1) Shipowners must provide appropriate social connectivity on board, including reasonable internet access as per the national requirements of the flag State. Port States should offer similar facilities for seafarers in their ports.

FOOD AND CATERING (STANDARD A/3.2) Seafarers are to receive good quality food, drinking water and balanced meals free of charge. The food must be inspected for quality, nutritional value and variety, considering the religious and cultural practices of seafarers.

MEDICAL CARE (STANDARD A/4.1) Seafarers requiring immediate medical attention must be promptly disembarked and given access to shore-based medical facilities. The repatriation of deceased seafarers' remains is also mandated.

HEALTH AND SAFETY AND ACCIDENT PREVENTION (STANDARD A/4.3) Seafarers must be provided with appropriately sized personal protective equipment, especially considering the increasing number of female seafarers. The member states are required to report annual statistics

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regarding the deaths of all seafarers on board to the International Labour Organization.

FINANCIAL SECURITY (REGULATION 2.5 AND 4.2) Financial security documents must include the name of the MLC shipowner or the registered owner if different from the MLC shipowner. This provides clarity for compliance and documentation purposes and avoids PSC issues. Shipowners and member States are expected to implement these amendments no later than December 23, 2024.

Shipowners are encouraged to review their processes and ensure that all relevant procedures and documentation are updated to comply before the entry into force date of these amendments.

Additionally, instructions or circulars issued by relevant flag states should be reviewed for national provisions implementing these amendments, including any updates that may be required by the flag State to the Declaration of Maritime Compliance, Part I and Part II.

REFERENCES:

- Maritime Labour Convention (MLC) 2006.

ATTACHMENTS: No

Kindest Regards,

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