



CONFERENCE OF PARTIES TO THE  
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON  
STANDARDS OF TRAINING,  
CERTIFICATION AND WATCHKEEPING  
FOR SEAFARERS, 1978  
Agenda item 8

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**CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS AND  
RELATED MATTERS**

**Draft Conference resolution on the Year of the Seafarer**

**Submitted by China, Egypt, Greece, India, Jamaica, Japan, Panama, the Philippines,  
the Russian Federation, South Africa, Spain, Turkey, the United Kingdom and  
the Secretary-General**

**SUMMARY**

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|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b><i>Executive summary:</i></b>   | This document proposes a Conference resolution on the Year of the Seafarer |
| <b><i>Strategic direction:</i></b> | 5                                                                          |
| <b><i>High-level action:</i></b>   | 5.2                                                                        |
| <b><i>Planned output:</i></b>      | 5.2.2.1                                                                    |
| <b><i>Action to be taken:</i></b>  | Paragraph 3                                                                |
| <b><i>Related documents:</i></b>   | None                                                                       |

**Introduction**

1 At its June 2009 session, the IMO Council decided that the theme for this year's World Maritime Day should be "**2010: Year of the Seafarer**" – to give the Organization and the maritime community at large the opportunity to pay tribute to seafarers from all over the world for their unique contribution to society and in recognition of the risks they shoulder in the execution of their daily tasks and duties in an often hostile environment. The selection of the theme is also aimed at complementing the Organization's work on the comprehensive review of the STCW Convention and Code and give further impetus to the "**Go to Sea!**" campaign launched in November 2008 to attract new entrants to the shipping industry.

2 The attached Conference resolution aims at supporting the objectives set to be achieved during the Year of the Seafarer.

**Action requested of the Conference**

3 The Conference is invited to consider the proposal above and the attached draft resolution with a view to its adoption.

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**ANNEX****DRAFT CONFERENCE RESOLUTION ON THE YEAR OF THE SEAFARER**

THE 2010 MANILA CONFERENCE,

HAVING ADOPTED amendments to the International Convention on Standards of Training, Certification and Watchkeeping for Seafarers, 1978 and to the Seafarers' Training, Certification and Watchkeeping Code, as amended,

BEING AWARE of the decision of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to name 2010 as the "Year of the Seafarer",

BEING EQUALLY AWARE of the contribution seafarers from all over the world make to international seaborne trade, the world economy and civil society as a whole,

RECOGNIZING FULLY the enormous risks seafarers shoulder in the execution of their daily tasks and duties in an often hostile environment,

MINDFUL of the deprivations to which seafarers are subject through spending long periods of their professional life at sea away from their families and friends,

BEING CONCERNED at reported instances in which seafarers were unfairly treated when their ships were involved in accidents; were abandoned in foreign ports; were refused shore leave for security purposes; and were subjected to serious risks while their ships were sailing through piracy-infested areas and to potentially harmful treatment while in the hands of pirates,

DESIRING to join in the celebrations of IMO and the maritime community to pay due tribute to seafarers for the contribution referred to above:

1. EXPRESSES DEEP APPRECIATION to IMO for its timely and appropriate decision to dedicate the current year to the Seafarer;
2. EXPRESSES ALSO DEEP APPRECIATION AND GRATITUDE to seafarers from all over the world for their unique contribution to international seaborne trade, the world economy and civil society as a whole;
3. EQUALLY EXPRESSES DEEP APPRECIATION to maritime pilots, VTS operators, seafarer welfare organizations and all others who contribute to assisting ships and seafarers to enter, stay at, or leave ports and offshore terminals and to navigate through hazardous waters safely and with due care for the marine environment;
4. URGES Governments, shipping organizations and companies and all other parties concerned to take appropriate action to recognize the contribution of seafarers as highlighted above, including by working together, under the auspices of IMO and the International Labour Organization (ILO), to promote seafaring as a career choice for young persons and encourage those already in the profession to continue serving the industry;

5. URGES ALSO Governments, shipping organizations and companies and all other parties concerned, working together under the auspices of IMO and ILO, to take appropriate action to promote and implement, as widely and effectively as possible:

- (a) the IMO/ILO Guidelines on the fair treatment of seafarers in the event of a maritime accident;
- (b) the IMO/ILO Guidelines on provision of financial security in case of abandonment of seafarers; and
- (c) the IMO/ILO Guidelines on shipowners' responsibilities in respect of contractual claims for personal injury to, or death of, seafarers.

6. URGES FURTHER Governments and the shipping industry to take appropriate action to implement:

- (a) the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code;
- (b) the Guidelines adopted and promulgated by IMO to prevent and suppress acts of piracy and robbery against ships; and
- (c) the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Maritime Navigation, 1988 (1988 SUA Convention) and the Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf, 1988 (1988 SUA Protocol), as amended by the 2005 Protocol to the 1988 SUA Convention and the 2005 Protocol to the 1988 SUA Protocol,

in a manner that, while ensuring that maximum protection is afforded to seafarers, does not subject them to any unfair treatment and unnecessary inconvenience;

7. URGES ALSO Governments to ratify, accept, approve or accede to, and thereafter effectively implement, the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006;

8. INVITES IMO, ILO and industry organizations to intensify their efforts to deliver the Year of the Seafarer Action Plan to the full and in the best interests of the seafarers.

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