



International  
Labour  
Organization



Australian Government  
Australian Maritime Safety Authority



INTERNATIONAL  
MARITIME  
ORGANIZATION

**Accord between Australia  
and the  
International Labour Organization  
and the  
International Maritime Organization  
to give effect to the  
Maritime Labour Convention, 2006**

**May 2011**

The Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA), the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the International Maritime Organization (IMO) (the participants):

ACKNOWLEDGING the importance of achieving decent employment conditions for seafarers in the international shipping industry;

DESIRING to strengthen the cooperative and friendly relationship formed through collegiate efforts to promote ratification and effective implementation of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 (MLC, 2006) to ensure decent employment conditions on ships operating in the Asia Pacific region;

NOTING that the MLC, 2006 complements the international conventions that have been adopted to ensure the safety and security of ships and protection of the marine environment and that the ILO and IMO have a long standing practice of cooperation in connection in matters of shared interest and concern and that the ILO's *Action Plan to achieve rapid and widespread ratification and effective implementation of the Maritime Labour Convention 2006* envisages cooperative activities between the ILO and IMO;

HAVING successfully cooperated in the 'Asia-Pacific - A Regional Dialogue on the Maritime Labour Convention 2006' Conference in Cairns, Australia from 3-6 May 2011;

Have reached the following understandings that reflect our desire to have a shared vision of the implementation, application and enforcement of the MLC, 2006 through continued cooperative action:

## 1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this Accord is to establish mutual commitments to support the streamlined implementation of the MLC, 2006 in the Asia-Pacific region.
- 1.2 This Accord will strengthen the mutual benefits of a close relationship between the participants.
- 1.3 This Accord describes broad areas of cooperation between the participants and is not legally binding.

## 2. Definitions for the purpose of this Accord

- 2.1 '**decent employment conditions**' refers to those conditions established as a minimum standard under the MLC, 2006.
- 2.2 '**the participants**' refers to the Australian Maritime Safety Authority, the International Labour Organization and the International Maritime Organization.
- 2.3 '**the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA)**' is the statutory authority established under the *Australian Maritime Safety Authority Act 1990* with responsibilities under Commonwealth legislation for regulation of maritime safety, aviation and marine search and rescue, and ship-sourced pollution prevention.
- 2.4 '**the International Labour Organization (ILO)**' is the international organization responsible for adopting and monitoring the application of international labour standards. It is the only 'tripartite' United Nations agency that brings together representatives of governments, employers and workers to jointly shape policies and programmes promoting decent standards of employment for all.
- 2.5 '**the International Maritime Organization (IMO)**' is the United Nations specialized agency with responsibility for the safety and security of shipping and the prevention of marine pollution by ships.

### 3. Cooperative Action

- 3.1 All participants desire to formally acknowledge the mutually beneficial relationship between AMSA, ILO and IMO and will work together to identify future areas of cooperation to achieve the rapid and widespread ratification and effective implementation of the MLC, 2006.
- 3.2 The areas of cooperation include, but are not limited to, the following:
- 3.2.1 Discussions on port state control and flag state inspection (such as unified and harmonized implementation of the MLC, 2006 and mutual cooperation on matters pertaining to the MLC, 2006);
  - 3.2.2 Cooperation at international meetings to assist other countries assess the benefits of the MLC, 2006 with a view to achieving widespread ratification;
  - 3.2.3 Sharing of information and technical expertise within available resources, through, for example, the facilitation of workshops, seminars, informal networking and conferences on MLC, 2006 compliance;
  - 3.2.4 Working with industry to promulgate measures under the MLC, 2006;
  - 3.2.5 Establishment of key contact points within each of the participants for matters pertaining to this Accord and any other issues arising where information exchange would be mutually beneficial as between the participants; and
  - 3.2.6 Discussions and cooperation on other areas of mutual interest regarding the implementation of the MLC, 2006 which may be identified from time to time.

### 4. Contacts

- 4.1 The contact officers of the participants to this Accord are:
- 4.1.1 Manager, Strategic Relations of the Australian Maritime Safety Authority.
  - 4.1.2 Director, International Labour Standards Department of the International Labour Organization.
  - 4.1.3 Director, Technical Cooperation Division of the International Maritime Organization.

### 5. Administrative Matters

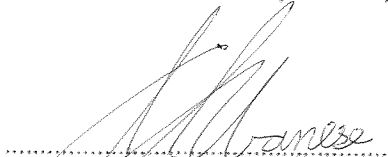
- 5.1 This Accord will come into effect at the date of signing and will remain in effect unless terminated by either participant, giving the other participants six months written notice of its intentions to terminate.
- 5.2 The participants may make amendments as mutually decided in writing.

IN WITNESS TO THE ABOVE UNDERSTANDINGS, this Accord is signed for and on behalf of:

Australian Maritime Safety Authority

International Labour Organization

International Maritime Organization



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The Hon. Anthony Albanese MP



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Dr Cleopatra Doumbia-Henry



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Mr Jianxin Zhu