

Multi-year Expert Meeting
on Transport, Trade Logistics and
Trade Facilitation
9th Session

**Sustainable and resilient transport and
trade facilitation in times of pandemic
and beyond: key challenges and
opportunities**

12–14 July 2022

**Collaborative action to address the
impacts of the pandemic on seafarers,
and related regulatory developments**

Presentation by

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Multi-year Expert Meeting on Transport, Trade Logistics and Trade Facilitation

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Strengthening legal, policy and collaborative approaches to keep trade flowing during the pandemic and beyond

Collaborative action to address the impacts of the pandemic on seafarers, and related regulatory developments

Brandt Wagner, ILO

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Issues

Up to 400,000 seafarers unable to undertake crew changes

Equal number ashore, unable to join ships

- Mental and physical health problems
- Fatigue

Seafarers unable to go ashore for medical care

OSH (masks, disinfectants)

Lack of access to vaccinations

Threat to global supply chains

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▶ Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended

Key international instrument protecting working and living conditions of seafarers, including:

- OSH
- Maximum period of service on board
- Repatriation
- Access to medical care ashore
- Shore leave

So...

- States asked ILO for guidance on application during pandemic
- Shipowner and Seafarer organizations requested ILO to intervene with States not fully complying it.

▶ ILO response

Information Note on application of Convention during pandemic

General Observation, comments of the ILO's CEACR (supervisory system)

Interventions with States

Governing Body resolution

Statements, including by Officers of the Special Tripartite Committee of the MLC, 2006

► Establishment of coordination group on COVID-19/seafarer issues

ILO and IMO secretariats, ICS and ITF, other IGOs and industry groups

Excellent social dialogue among ICS and ITF key

Drawing on work of ILO, IMO (SCAT, circulars, resolutions) and ILO

Regular exchange of information

Coordinated interventions with States

Joint statements, resolutions of UN agencies

Contribution to UNGA resolution on International cooperation to address challenges faced by seafarers as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic to support global supply chains

Stress on role of seafarers as key workers, practical solutions

► Work of other UN agencies, organizations - examples

GLOBAL COMPACT

UNCTAD

WHO

Travel and trade workstream into Crisis Management Team

New (2022) amendments to the MLC, 2006

OSH (PPE)

Access to medical care ashore

Disembarkation of deceased seafarers

Internet access (so far as is reasonably practicable)

Food and catering

Reporting fatality statistics

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Ongoing

Joint Action Group to review the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the world's transport workers and the global supply chain (JAG-TSC)

Ad hoc virtual UN inter-agency Task Force on the impact of COVID-19 on seafarers

- Established by UN SG's Executive Committee
- ILO, IMO, UNCTAD, WHO, Global Compact, DOALOS, others
- Reports to UN SG EC later this year

WHO pandemic instruments, International Health Regulations?



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