



Amendments to Maritime Labour Convention coming into force

Changes to regulations covering recruitment services, repatriation, recreational facilities and food onboard will enter into force on 23 December 2024.

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Recruitment and Placement - Regulation 1.4

Repatriation – Regulation 2.5

Seafarer welfare

Food and Catering Regulation 3.2

The current requirement to provide food consistent with the number of seafarers, duration of the voyage and religious requirements of those on board has been augmented by new language that food shall be suitable in respect of quantity, nutritional value, quality and variety.

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be provided free of charge during the period of engagement.

New text addresses lessons learned during the pandemic

Standard A4.1 covers medical care. Based on the lessons learned during the COVID 19 pandemic, It now includes a new paragraph: *“Each Member State to ensure prompt disembarkation of seafarers in need of immediate medical care from ships in its territory and access to medical facilities are ashore for the provision of appropriate treatment.”* There is also an added paragraph to require Member States to facilitate the shipowners’ repatriation of seafarer remains following a death on board in accordance with the wishes of the seafarer or next of kin as appropriate.

Also related to the pandemic, is an addition to Standard A4.3 requiring supply of *“all necessary appropriately-sized personal protection equipment.”*

Administrative amendment

With respect to evidence of financial security under Regulation 2.5, Appendix 2.5 was amended to include the name of the shipowner *“ or the registered owner if different from the shipowner.”*

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