

LEGAL COMMITTEE  
106th session  
Agenda item 5

LEG 106/5  
22 January 2019  
Original: ENGLISH

## **FAIR TREATMENT OF SEAFARERS IN THE EVENT OF A MARITIME ACCIDENT**

### **First regional meeting for Asia on the fair treatment of seafarers in the event of a maritime accident**

**Submitted by the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF)**

#### **SUMMARY**

*Executive summary:* This document informs the Legal Committee of the outcome of the first regional meeting for Asia on the fair treatment of seafarers in the event of a maritime accident that took place on 13 November 2018 in Manila, Philippines

*Strategic direction,  
if applicable:* Other work

*Output:* OW 17

*Action to be taken:* Paragraph 9

*Related documents:* LEG 95/5; LEG 97/6, LEG 97/6/1, LEG 97/INF.3; LEG 99/14; LEG 100/5/1, LEG 100/14; LEG 101/4/1, LEG 101/12; LEG 102/4, LEG 102/12; LEG 103/5, LEG 103/14; LEG 104/5, LEG 104/15; LEG 105/5, LEG 105/14; resolutions A.1056(27)/Rev.1; LEG.3(91); Circular Letters Nos.2711, 2825 and 3724

#### **Introduction**

1 Following the one-day workshop organized by the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) and Seafarers' Rights International (SRI) in London on Friday, 23 June 2017, to promote the implementation of the 2006 *Guidelines on fair treatment of seafarers in the event of a maritime accident* (resolution A.987(24)) (the Guidelines), the first regional meeting on the fair treatment of seafarers in the event of a maritime accident (First Regional Meeting) was held in Manila on Tuesday, 13 November 2018.

#### **First Regional Meeting**

2 The First Regional Meeting was co-hosted by the Philippine Department of Labour and Employment and SRI. Over 250 people attended the First Regional Meeting, including senior government representatives from 11 countries in the region; maritime administrations;

ambassadors and embassy staff; shipowners and their representatives; seafarers and their representatives; senior representatives of the judiciary; university professors and educators; auditors; masters; and cadets.

3 Video messages were delivered to the First Regional Meeting from the Secretary-General of IMO, Mr. Kitack Lim, and the Director of Labour Standards of the International Labour Organization, Ms. Corinne Vargha.

4 In addition, over 30 statements were delivered to the meeting by Government representatives, members of the legislature and shipowner and seafarers' representatives.

5 A keynote statement was delivered to the meeting on behalf of the President of the Philippines, His Excellency Rodrigo Roa Duterte.

### **Outcome of the First Regional Meeting**

6 Following the many statements, the moderator delivered a thematic summation of statements and recommendations which was endorsed by the First Regional Meeting. The summation concluded with the reading of the Manila Statement which was adopted by the First Regional Meeting.

7 The Manila Statement includes a commitment to endeavour to raise further awareness relating to the Guidelines and, especially, to extend and develop further cooperation relating to the Guidelines.

### **Panel discussion**

8 There followed a discussion on the implementation of the Guidelines by a distinguished panel of experts chaired by a Judge of the Supreme Court of the Philippines. The panel included presentations by two maritime administrations; three law professors; an auditor; a representative of the International Group of P&I Associations; and a Vice-Admiral.

### **Action requested of the Committee**

9 The Legal Committee is invited to take note of the information provided in this document and to comment as it may deem appropriate.

---