



## SEVENTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

**Second Meeting of the High-level  
Tripartite Working Group on Maritime  
Labour Standards****(Geneva, 14-18 October 2002)**

1. This paper provides information on the second Meeting of the High-level Tripartite Working Group on Maritime Labour Standards, held in Geneva from 14-18 October 2002. It was chaired by Mr. Jean-Marc Schindler (France).
2. At its first Meeting in December 2001 – which was reported to the Committee on Legal Issues and International Labour Standards in March 2002<sup>1</sup> – the Working Group had endorsed a proposal for the preparation of a modern consolidated Convention on maritime labour standards that had been unanimously made by the Joint Maritime Commission in January 2001. The Working Group had also given directions concerning the work to be performed by the Office, with the assistance of the Subgroup established by the Governing Body.
3. At its second meeting, the Working Group confirmed that the preparatory work had fulfilled expectations. On the basis of that work, it finalized plans relating to the proposed structure and general content of the new Convention; and it confirmed the feasibility of an essential component of the Convention, namely a procedure for its simplified amendment that would enable the detailed provisions' implementation to be kept up to date with developments in the maritime sector. It also gave directions on the content of another essential component, relating to a comprehensive system of enforcement and control; it sought to identify the respective roles in this regard of flag States, port States and labour-supplying States; it approved in principle the inclusion of provisions relating to flag state certification of its ships' compliance with the Convention; and made the necessary adjustments to proposals for the strengthening of port state control under Article 4 of the Merchant Shipping (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1976 (No. 147).
4. Finally, the Working Group made arrangements for the preparation by the Office, with the assistance of the Subgroup, which is scheduled to meet from 3 to 7 February 2003, of a complete, preliminary draft of the new Convention, to be discussed by the Working Group at its next meeting, scheduled for 30 June to 4 July 2003.

<sup>1</sup> GB.283/LILS/7.

***5. The Committee on Legal Issues and International Labour Standards may wish to inform the Governing Body of the progress summarized above.***

Geneva, 25 October 2002.

*Point for decision:* Paragraph 5.