

NOTE

1 September 2016

Our reference:

Case nr. 2016019383

Direktionssekretariatet

Mette Vesterskov

LO-Denmark's comments to the Danish Government's reporting to ILO on Conventions nos 87 and 98

A number of the remarks made in LO's letter of 23 August 2016 are in line with the previous comments forwarded by the organisation, including comments given in 2013. In light of this, reference is made to previous reportings and remarks forwarded to the ILO by the Danish Government.

As stated in the Danish report, the conditions leading to the establishment of the Danish International Ship Register (DIS) still apply. Traditional shipping nations – such as Denmark – compete with a number of ship registers all over the world, and Danish ships are still faced with fierce international competition. Today, shipping has become even more international by nature, and Danish ships are engaged in voyages all over the world. The ability to easily transfer ships from one ship register to another as well as ship owners' ability to establish abroad remain basic conditions of the shipping industry.

Ships registered in DIS are subject to regulations ensuring seafarers high standards of social conditions, including conditions of employment. Denmark is among the countries that have ratified the ILO Maritime Labour Convention, 2006.

In February 2016, the Danish Minister for Business and Growth informed ILO on the state of play of consultations with workers' and employers' organizations in order to explore the possibilities to accommodate the ILO Expert Committee's Invitation to the Danish Government to engage in a national tripartite dialogue with the relevant workers' and employers' organizations on Section 10 of the Danish International Ships Register (DIS) Act.

The State of play has also been reflected in the Governments' report to ILO on Convention no 98.

It's important to notice the Act on The Danish Maritime Register of Shipping does not prevent a seafarer from joining a Danish Union. The translated report from a Danish Union, which has been enclosed, also gives documentation of work carried out by Danish Unions on some of the issues concerning non-domiciled seafarers. Thus, no amendments to the report have been conducted following the letter from LO.

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