

MERCHANT SHIPPING AMENDMENT BILL TABLED IN PARLIAMENT

Written by Tracy
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The South African Department of Transport tabled the Merchant Shipping Amendment Bill in Parliament on 27 March 2015.

The bill proposes to amend the Merchant Shipping Act of 1951, to give effect • to the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 and • the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007.

Both conventions were adopted under auspices of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and have to be incorporated into national law after both houses of parliament ratified the conventions in 2014.

In more detail the bill aims: • to ensure an agreement between ship's master and seafarer on behalf of employer; • to prevent children under sixteen from being employed on merchant ships; • to introduce entitlement of seafarer's leave; • seafarers to get monthly accounts of wages; • to introduce allotment notes for seafarers to pay other parties from wages; • to facilitate complaint procedures on ships.

The National Assembly's Portfolio Committee on Transport will deliberate on the bill. Download the bill: <http://cniconsulting.co.za/amendments-merchant-shipping/>