

Regional webinar on “Challenges faced by seafarers and identification of best practices during the COVID-19 pandemic in Asia”



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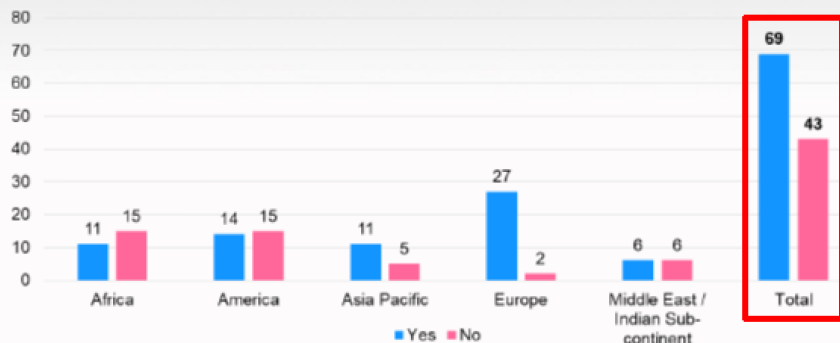
The International Maritime Organization (IMO)

- Specialized UN agency responsible for all aspects of shipping
- Provide the machinery for cooperation among Governments in the field of governmental regulation and practices

Seafarers' situation during the pandemic

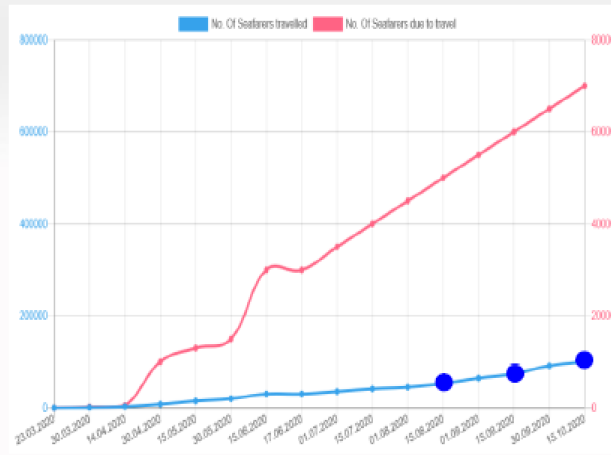
Crew change overview

- Of the 112 countries surveyed, **69 (62%) allow crew changes, while 43 (38%) not allow** (as of October 23, 2020)



Source: WaterFront

Crew change achievements



Source: InterManager

- The recent data of InterManager shows that **more than 100,000 seafarers have already been successfully repatriated for crew changes, yet about 700,000 seafarers are still due to travel**

No. Of Seafarers travelled

15 Aug	15 Sep	15 Oct
53,000	74,139	100,478

Role of IMO and actions taken during the pandemic

IMO and UN joint action

Promulgation of a comprehensive set of recommendations and guidance (IMO Circular Letters No.4204 and addenda)

Governments and authorities:

1. strongly urged to establish a coordinated, proactive and pragmatic approach for the integrity of the global supply chain
2. recommended to designate professional seafarers and marine personnel as "key workers"
3. encouraged to also take a pragmatic approach regarding seafarers' certificates

Seafarers Crisis Action Team

1. Established by the IMO S-G back in April 2020
2. Cooperate with global industry groups
3. Take action through diplomatic channels
4. Intervene in specific cases regarding crew change, repatriation, access to medical care and/or abandonment

IMO's cooperation with the shipping industry

1. Continuous cooperation and consultation with the shipping industry in general and with IGOs and NGOs in consultative status with IMO in particular
2. E.g. participation in the weekly meetings of the ICS led Corona Strategy Group



Recent and ongoing IMO's work

- Adoption of resolution MSC.473(ES.2) on *Recommended action to facilitate ship crew change, access to medical care and seafarer travel during the COVID-19 pandemic*
- MSC 102 will consider proposals to:
 - recognize the Recommended Framework of Protocols related to safe ship crew changes, by approving an MSC circular
 - develop a new GISIS module to register ports that facilitate crew changes and disseminate information provided by Member States

Thank you!



International Maritime Organization

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