

## REPORT

for the period 1 June 2014 to 31 May 2019, drawn up by the **Government of Finland**, in accordance with article 22 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization, on the measures taken to give effect to provisions in the

### **Seafarers' Identity Documents Convention, 1958, No. 108,**

the ratification of which was registered on 26 October 1970.

#### **I-III**

The new Government Decree 1167/2016 on passports and identity cards entered into force at the beginning of 2017. The Decree repealed Government Decree 373/2013 on passports and Government Decree 707/2006 on identity documents issued by the police.

The new Decree contains a provision on the appendices necessary for applying a seamen's passport, similar to the provision in the now repealed Government Decree on passports 373/2013. According to the provision, when applying for a seamen's passport, a certificate must be attached to the application, which states that the applicant works as a seafarer on a vessel that is regularly used for maritime transport, or that the applicant has been awarded a certificate of competency or a certificate of proficiency pursuant to what is required in the Act on Ships' Crews and the Safety Management of Ships (1687/2009) and its related provisions and that the applicant is a job applicant in the shipping industry.

[Link to Decree text](#) (in Finnish only).

It should also be noted that the Schengen Borders Code was revised in 2016 with Regulation (EU) No 2016/399 of the European Parliament and of the Council.

Official practice for the issuing of seamen's passports:

In Finland, the police issue national identity documentation to seafarers meaning the seamen's passport. In practice it is the Transport and Communications Agency that gives an interpretation on matters such as who meets with the requirements for a seamen's passport i.e. practises the seaman's profession in the manner defined in the Convention.

Key amendments that have been adopted after the previous reporting period also include:

- On 1 January 2017, the new document models were introduced for all travel documents issued by Finnish authorities. This also applies to the seaman's passport. The amendment is related to the end of the previous contract period for documentation production and the beginning of the new contract period.
- Starting 1 December 2014, it has been possible to submit an application for a seamen's passport online. However, the processing of an application always requires a visit to the police station.

**IV – V**

Nothing new to report.

**VI**

**A copy of this report has been sent to the following labour market organizations:**

1. The Finnish Shipowners' Association
2. Finnish Passenger Ferry Association (Suomen Matkustajalaivayhdistys ry)
3. The Finnish Ship Officers' Association (Suomen laivanpäällystöliitto)
4. The Finnish Engineers' Association (Suomen konepäällystöliitto)
5. The Finnish Seamen's Union
6. The Confederation of Finnish Industries (EK)
7. The Central Organization of Finnish Trade Unions (SAK)
8. The Finnish Confederation of Salaried Employees (STTK)
9. The Confederation of Unions for Academic Professionals in Finland (Akava)
10. The Commission for Local Authority Employers (KT)
11. The State Employer's Office (VTML)
12. The Federation of Finnish Enterprises

**Statements issued by labour market organisations:**

The Finnish Seamen's Union draws attention to the statement previously drawn up for the ministry, according to which Finland must ratify the ILO Seafarers' Identity Documents Convention No. 185 with its amended appendices.