

(5) (a) Exceptions to the provisions of this Article may be allowed by the competent authorities when they are satisfied that the appliances specified in the Article are not required for the safety of the workers.

(b) The provisions of this Article shall not apply to cargo stages or cargo gangways when exclusively used for the processes.

(6) Workers shall not use, or be required to use, any other means of access than the means specified or allowed by this Article.

Article 4

When the workers have to proceed to or from a ship by water for the processes, appropriate measures shall be prescribed to ensure their safe transport, including the conditions to be complied with by the vessels used for this purpose.

Article 5

(1) When the workers have to carry on the processes in a hold the depth of which from the level of the deck to the bottom of the hold exceeds 5 feet (1 m. 50), there shall be safe means of access from the deck to the hold for their use.

(2) The said means of access shall ordinarily be by ladder, which shall not be deemed to be safe unless it complies with the following conditions:

- (a) leaves sufficient free space behind the rungs, which in the case of ladders on bulkheads and in trunk hatchways shall not be less than $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches ($11\frac{1}{2}$ cm.), or has throughout rungs of proper width for firm foothold and handhold;
- (b) is not recessed under the deck more than is reasonably necessary to keep it clear of the hatch way;
- (c) is continued by and is in line with arrangements for secure handhold and foothold on the coamings (e.g. cleats or cups);
- (d) the said arrangements on the coamings stand out not less than $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches ($11\frac{1}{2}$ cm.) for a width of 10 inches (25 cm.); and
- (e) if separate ladders are provided between the lower decks, the said ladders are as far as practicable in line with the ladder from the top deck.

Where, however, owing to the construction of the ship, the provision of a ladder would not be reasonably practicable, it shall be open to the competent authorities to allow other means of access, provided that they comply with the conditions laid down in this Article for ladders so far as they are applicable.

(3) Sufficient free passage to the means of access shall be left at the coamings.

(4) Shaft tunnels shall be equipped with adequate handhold and foothold on both sides.

(5) When a ladder is to be used in the hold of a vessel which is not decked it shall be the duty of the contractor undertaking the processes to provide such ladder. It shall be equipped at the top with hooks for fastening it on to the coamings or with other means for firmly securing it.

(6) The workers shall not use, or be required to use, other means of access than the means specified or allowed by this Article.

(7) Ships existing at the date of ratification of this Convention shall be exempt from compliance with the measurements in paragraph 2 (a) and (d) and