

(d) The term "home trade vessel" means a vessel engaged in trade between a country and the ports of a neighbouring country within geographical limits determined by the national law.

ARTICLE 3

Articles of agreement shall be signed both by the shipowner or his representative and by the seaman. Reasonable facilities to examine the articles of agreement before they are signed shall be given to the seaman and also to his adviser.

The seaman shall sign the agreement under conditions which shall be prescribed by national law in order to ensure adequate supervision by the competent public authority.

The foregoing provisions shall be deemed to have been fulfilled if the competent authority certifies that the provisions of the agreement have been laid before it in writing and have been confirmed both by the shipowner or his representative and by the seaman.

National law shall make adequate provision to ensure that the seaman has understood the agreement.

The agreement shall not contain anything which is contrary to the provisions of national law or of this Convention.

National law shall prescribe such further formalities and safeguards in respect of the completion of the agreement as may be considered necessary for the protection of the interests of the shipowner and of the seaman.

ARTICLE 4

Adequate measures shall be taken in accordance with national law for ensuring that the agreement shall not contain any stipulation by which the parties purport to contract in advance to depart from the ordinary rules as to jurisdiction over the agreement.

This Article shall not be interpreted as excluding a reference to arbitration.

ARTICLE 5

Every seaman shall be given a document containing a record of his employment on board the vessel. The form of the document, the particulars to be recorded and the manner in which such particulars are to be entered in it shall be determined by national law.

The document shall not contain any statement as to the quality of the seaman's work or as to his wages.

ARTICLE 6

The agreement may be made either for a definite period or for a voyage or, if permitted by national law, for an indefinite period.

The agreement shall state clearly the respective rights and obligations of each of the parties.

It shall in all cases contain the following particulars:

- (1) The surname and other names of the seaman, the date of his birth or his age, and his birthplace;
- (2) The place at which and date on which the agreement was completed;
- (3) The name of the vessel or vessels on board which the seaman undertakes to serve;
- (4) The number of the crew of the vessel, if required by national law;
- (5) The voyage or voyages to be undertaken, if this can be determined at the time of making the agreement;