

No. 610

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**INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION**

**Convention concerning the marking of the weight on heavy packages transported by vessels, adopted by the General Conference of the International Labour Organisation at its twelfth session, Geneva, 21 June 1929, as modified by the Final Articles Revision Convention, 1946**

*English and French official texts communicated by the Director-General of the International Labour Office. The registration took place on 15 September 1949.*

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**ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DU TRAVAIL**

**Convention concernant l'indication du poids sur les gros colis transportés par bateau, adoptée par la Conférence générale de l'Organisation internationale du Travail à sa douzième session, Genève, 21 juin 1929, telle qu'elle a été modifiée par la Convention portant revision des articles finals, 1946**

*Textes officiels anglais et français communiqués par le Directeur général de l'Organisation internationale du Travail. L'enregistrement a eu lieu le 15 septembre 1949.*

No. 610. CONVENTION<sup>1</sup> CONCERNING THE MARKING OF THE WEIGHT ON HEAVY PACKAGES TRANSPORTED BY VESSELS, AS MODIFIED BY THE FINAL ARTICLES REVISION CONVENTION, 1946<sup>2</sup>

The General Conference of the International Labour Organisation,  
Having been convened at Geneva by the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, and having met in its Twelfth Session on 30 May 1929, and

Having decided upon the adoption of certain proposals with regard to the marking of the weight on heavy packages transported by vessels, which is included in the first item of the agenda of the Session, and

Having determined that these proposals shall take the form of an international Convention,

adopts this twenty-first day of June of the year one thousand nine hundred and twenty-nine the following Convention, which may be cited as the Marking of Weights (Packages Transported by Vessels) Convention, 1929, for ratification by the Members of the International Labour Organisation in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of the International Labour Organisation :

*Article 1*

1. Any package or object of one thousand kilograms (one metric ton) or more gross weight consigned within the territory of any Member which ratifies this Convention for transport by sea or inland waterway shall have had its gross weight plainly and durably marked upon it on the outside before it is loaded on a ship or vessel.

2. In exceptional cases where it is difficult to determine the exact weight, national laws or regulations may allow an approximate weight to be marked.

3. The obligation to see that this requirement is observed shall rest solely upon the Government of the country from which the package or object is consigned and not on the Government of a country through which it passes on the way to its destination.

<sup>1</sup> For the date of entry into force of the Convention and the list of ratifications see Certified Statement on page 22.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Volume 38, page 3.

4. It shall be left to national laws or regulations to determine whether the obligation for having the weight marked as aforesaid shall fall on the consignor or on some other person or body.

#### *Article 2*

The formal ratifications of this Convention under the conditions set forth in the Constitution of the International Labour Organisation shall be communicated to the Director-General of the International Labour Office for registration.

#### *Article 3*

1. This Convention shall be binding only upon those Members whose ratifications have been registered with the International Labour Office.

2. It shall come into force twelve months after the date on which the ratifications of two Members of the International Labour Organisation have been registered with the Director-General.

3. Thereafter, this Convention shall come into force for any Member twelve months after the date on which its ratification has been registered.

#### *Article 4*

As soon as the ratifications of two Members of the International Labour Organisation have been registered with the International Labour Office, the Director-General of the International Labour Office shall so notify all the Members of the International Labour Organisation. He shall likewise notify them of the registration of ratifications which may be communicated subsequently by other Members of the Organisation.

#### *Article 5*

1. A Member which has ratified this Convention may denounce it after the expiration of ten years from the date on which the Convention first comes into force, by an Act communicated to the Director-General of the International Labour Office for registration. Such denunciation shall not take effect until one year after the date on which it is registered with the International Labour Office.

2. Each Member which has ratified this Convention and which does not, within the year following the expiration of the period of ten years mentioned in the preceding paragraph, exercise the right of denunciation provided for in this Article, will be bound for another period of ten years and, thereafter, may denounce this Convention at the expiration of each period of ten years under the terms provided for in this Article.

*Article 6*

At the expiration of each period of ten years after the coming into force of this Convention, the Governing Body of the International Labour Office shall present to the General Conference a report on the working of this Convention and shall consider the desirability of placing on the agenda of the Conference the question of its revision in whole or in part.

*Article 7*

1. Should the Conference adopt a new Convention revising this Convention in whole or in part, the ratification by a Member of the new revising Convention shall *ipso jure* involve denunciation of this Convention without any requirement of delay, notwithstanding the provisions of Article 5 above, if and when the new revising Convention shall have come into force.

2. As from the date of the coming into force of the new revising Convention, the present Convention shall cease to be open to ratification by the Members.

3. Nevertheless, this Convention shall remain in force in its actual form and content for those Members which have ratified it but have not ratified the revising Convention.

*Article 8*

The French and English texts of this Convention shall both be authentic.

The foregoing is the authentic text of the Marking of Weight (Packages Transported by Vessels) Convention, 1929, as modified by the Final Articles Revision Convention, 1946.

The original text of the Convention was authenticated on 15 August 1929 by the signatures of Dr. Brauns, President of the Conference, and Albert Thomas, Director of the International Labour Office.

The Convention first came into force on 9 March 1932.

IN FAITH WHEREOF I have, in pursuance of the provisions of Article 6 of the Final Articles Revision Convention, 1946, authenticated with my signature this thirtieth day of April 1948 two original copies of the text of the Convention as modified.

Edward PHELAN  
Director-General  
of the International Labour Office

## CERTIFIED STATEMENT

This is to certify that the Marking of Weight (Packages Transported by Vessels) Convention, 1929, adopted by the International Labour Conference on 21 June 1929 at its Twelfth Session, and which entered into force on 9 March 1932, has to date been ratified by the following countries<sup>1</sup> and that these ratifications were duly registered on the dates indicated<sup>2</sup>:

<i>Country</i>	<i>Date of registration of ratification</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>Date of registration of ratification</i>
* Australia .....	9. 3.1931	Japan .....	16. 3.1931
* Austria .....	16. 8.1935	Lithuania .....	23. 9.1934
* Belgium .....	6. 6.1934	* Luxembourg .....	1. 4.1931
Bulgaria .....	4. 6.1935	* Mexico .....	12. 5.1934
* Canada .....	30. 6.1938	* Netherlands .....	4. 1.1933
Chile .....	31. 5.1933	Nicaragua .....	12. 4.1934
* China .....	24. 6.1931	* Norway .....	1. 7.1932
Czechoslovakia .....	26. 3.1934	* Poland .....	18. 6.1932
* Denmark <sup>3</sup> .....	18. 1.1933	Portugal .....	1. 3.1932
Estonia .....	18. 1.1932	Rumania .....	7.12.1932
* Finland .....	8. 8.1932	Spain .....	29. 8.1932
* France .....	29. 7.1935	* Sweden .....	11. 4.1932
Germany .....	5. 7.1933	* Switzerland .....	8.11.1934
Greece .....	30. 5.1936	* Union of South Africa <sup>4</sup>	21. 2.1933
Hungary .....	6.12.1937	Uruguay .....	6. 6.1933
* India .....	7. 9.1931	* Venezuela .....	17.12.1932
* Ireland .....	5. 7.1933	Yugoslavia .....	22. 4.1933
* Italy .....	18. 7.1933		

The Convention is also in force for Pakistan, which became a Member of the International Labour Organisation on 31 October 1947, on which date the Director General of the International Labour Office received a letter from the Government of Pakistan accepting the obligations of the Constitution of the Organisation; this declaration states that the Government of Pakistan recognises that the obligations resulting from the ratification by India of International Labour Conventions before 15 August 1947 continue to be binding upon Pakistan in accordance with the terms of these Conventions.

<sup>1</sup> It would not be appropriate for the International Labour Office to express an opinion with regard to the complex questions of a constitutional and juridical nature which may arise in regard to the effect of political or military events on the position of certain countries which have ratified the Convention.

<sup>2</sup> The names of Members Parties to the Final Articles Revision Convention, 1946, are marked by an asterisk.

<sup>3</sup> The ratification states that the coming into force of the Convention as regards Denmark is conditional upon its being also ratified by Belgium, France, Germany, Great Britain, Italy and the Netherlands.

<sup>4</sup> Ratification is not to be effective for the Union of South Africa until the unconditional ratifications of Great Britain, Germany, France and Italy have been registered.

The Convention is also in force for Burma. In 1937 the United Kingdom Government delegate declared at the Twenty-third Session of the Conference that Burma had ceased to form a part of India on 1 April 1937 but would continue to observe the International Labour Conventions ratified up to that date by India and would participate in future in the work of the International Labour Organisation through the medium of the Government of the United Kingdom which was empowered to accept on behalf of and with the consent of the Government of Burma the obligations arising from future international Conventions. Burma became a Member of the International Labour Organisation on 18 May 1948, on which date the Director-General of the International Labour Office received the instrument of acceptance by the Government of the Union of Burma of the obligations of the Constitution of the Organisation; this instrument states that the Government of Burma recognises that the obligations resulting from the ratification by India as regards Burma of International Labour Conventions before 1 April 1937 continue to be binding on the Union of Burma in accordance with the terms of these Conventions.

Geneva, 10 August 1949.

For the Director-General

C. W. JENKS  
*Legal Adviser*