

# Protecting Seafarers Against Criminalization – What more can be done?

**ONE DAY CONFERENCE - 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025**  
**IMO Headquarters, London, UK**

All sessions are conducted in the form of interviews by the moderator, completed by questions from the floor.

## Draft PROGRAMME

Time	Item	Speaker
Conference Moderator - Session 1: Jonathan Saul (Reuters)		
10:00 – 10:15hrs	Welcome & Introduction to the Conference 2'	Master of ceremony – Ms. Tamara Vassilissin
	Moderator: Scene setting with IMO S-G & ILO Director of the International Labour Standards Department (one question for each speaker)	IMO S-G Mr. Arsenio Dominguez & ILO Director of the International Labour Standards Department – Ms. Corinne Vargha
10:15 – 11:00hrs	<b>Session 1: Interview session: Criminalization of Seafarers – smuggling of illegal narcotics</b>	
10:15hrs	A seafarer's personal experience of criminalization at sea: the smuggling of illegal narcotics	Mr. Mithun Deshpande
	A shipowner's personal experience of criminalization at sea: the smuggling of illegal narcotics	Mr. Suresh Prabhakar
10:45hrs	Questions & Answers	
Conference Moderator – Namrata Nadkarni (Intent Communications)		
11:00 – 11:30hrs	<b>Coffee break</b>	
11:30 – 12:30hrs	<b>Session 2: Criminalization of Seafarers – a logistics and supply chain perspective</b>	

Time	Item	Speaker
11:30hrs	The ports' perspective	Ms. Lisa Lewis
	The supply chain's perspective	Mr. Nicholas Tabori
	The shipowners' perspective	Mr. Ravi Muthusamy
12:15hrs	Round table discussion/ Questions & Answers – what more can be done from a logistics and supply chain perspective	
<b>12:30 – 14:00hrs</b>	<b>Lunch</b>	
14:00 – 16:00hrs	<b>Session 3: Criminalisation of Seafarers – the IMO/ILO Fair Treatment Guidelines &amp; roles of the insurer and judiciary</b>	
14:00 – 15:00hrs	The IMO/ILO Guidelines on Fair Treatment of Seafarers – key principles to be applied	Mr. Jan De Boer - IMO
	A State's experience of application of the Fair Treatment Guidelines	Ms. Anyes Nauwelaerts - Belgium
	The role of insurers in criminalisation of seafarer cases	Ms. Ruby Hassan
	Understanding the UNODC/Judiciary Drugs related training programmes	Ms. Maya Abi Adam
15:00 – 15.30hrs	Round Table discussion / Questions & Answers – what more can be done within the maritime and legal sector	
<b>15:30 – 16:00hrs</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
16:00 -17:15hrs	<b>Session 4: What next?</b>	
	Criminalisation of seafarers – what more can be done to assist seafarers	IMO S-G, ILO Director of the International Labour Standards Department, Former ICS S-G & ITF S-G
	Round table Discussion and Questions & Answers	
17:15hrs	<b>Reception in IMO Delegates Lounge</b>	

Time	Item	Speaker