

The Maritime Labour Convention 2006 (MLC 2006), which has now been ratified and enters into force on the 20th August 2013 is also known as the "seafarer's bill of civil rights". This of course means that there will be changes for the crew as much as there are for owners.

All crew, working on commercially registered yachts will get a Seafarers Employment Agreement, (SEA) and the convention provides the details of the mandatory elements that will be contained with each SEA. The member states (Flag) will also decide if it wishes to add to the already comprehensive list of mandatory elements. The SEA must be read in advance of a crew member joining a yacht.

All crew will get evidence of the payment of wages or a "payslip" which will show the payment of wages and any deductions that have been made.

All yachts must have a Complaints procedure and log for use by all members of the crew.

All crew will be entitled to a minimum holiday allocation of 2.5 days per month, plus the public (bank) holidays of the Flag State. Crews are also entitled to shore leave and of course the captain will have to maintain an accurate record of the hours of work or rest.

If you would like to know about how Lesia can help you, please visit our website at www.lesiagroup.com/crewservices.html or contact us at info@lesiagroup.com.

Best regards

John Cook Lesia Employment Services ICC Limited