



VIGO DIALOGUE 2020

14 September 2020

**ILO – Measures to mitigate and overcome the situation of COVID-19
in the fishing sector**

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International Labour Organization

Tripartite

Decent work

Standards based

Standards for all workers

Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188)

Maritime Labour Convention, 2006

Projects – Ship to Shore, Sea Fisheries



COVID-19 – ILO response

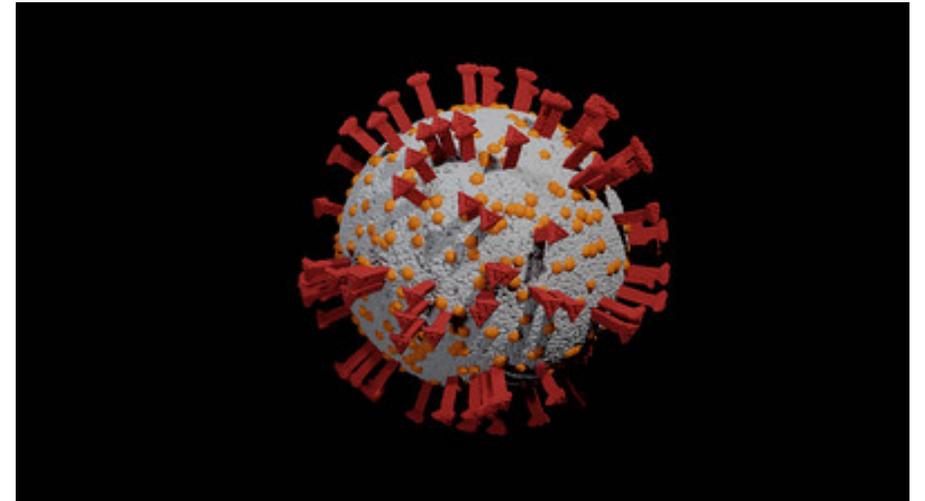
The four pillars of the ILO response to COVID-19

National action to stimulate the economy and employment.

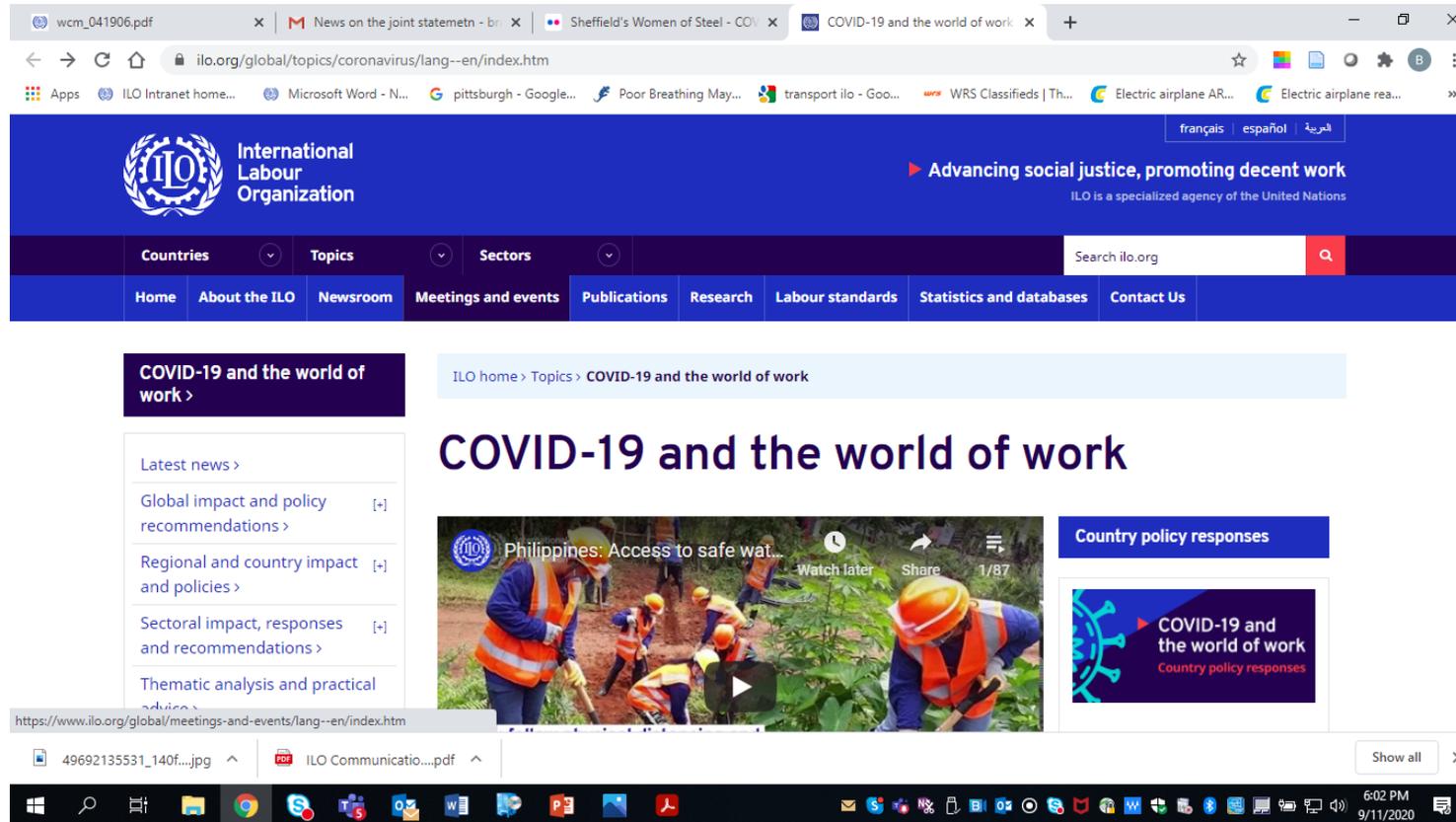
Targeted action to support enterprises, jobs and incomes.

Protection of workers in the workplace.

The role of social dialogue.



ILO COVID-19 resources



The screenshot shows the ILO website's COVID-19 resources page. The browser address bar displays the URL: [ilo.org/global/topics/coronavirus/lang--en/index.htm](https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/coronavirus/lang--en/index.htm). The page header features the ILO logo and the tagline "Advancing social justice, promoting decent work". The main navigation menu includes "Home", "About the ILO", "Newsroom", "Meetings and events", "Publications", "Research", "Labour standards", "Statistics and databases", and "Contact Us". The page content is titled "COVID-19 and the world of work" and includes a video player for "Philippines: Access to safe water" and a section for "Country policy responses". The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the time as 6:02 PM on 9/11/2020.

<https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/coronavirus/lang--en/index.htm>

Examples of COVID-19 OSH tools

The screenshot shows a web browser window with multiple tabs. The active tab is titled "ILO Brief" and displays the following content:

International Labour Organization

► ILO Brief

August 2020

Social dialogue on occupational safety and health in the Covid-19 context

Ensuring a safe return to work

Practical examples

The browser's address bar shows the URL: ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_dialogue/---dialogue/documents/briefingnote/wcms_754226.pdf. The browser's taskbar at the bottom shows the Windows logo, search icon, and various application icons. The system tray in the bottom right corner displays the time as 6:22 PM on 9/11/2020.

ILO COVID-19 Monitor

wcm_041906.pdf | News on the joint statemtn - br... | Sheffield's Women of Steel - COV... | ILO Monitor: COVID-19 and the w... | +

ilo.org/wcmstp5/groups/public/@dgreports/@dcomm/documents/briefingnote/wcms_749399.pdf

ILO Monitor: COVID-19 and the world of work. Fifth edition 1 / 22

Tools >

ILO Monitor: COVID-19 and the world of work. Fifth edition
Updated estimates and analysis

30 June 2020

Key messages

Looking back: Labour market disruptions in the first half of 2020

Workplace closures

- The vast majority, namely, 93 per cent, of the world's workers continue to reside in countries with some sort of workplace closure measure in place. This global share has remained relatively stable since mid-March, but with a marked shift towards softer measures. Currently, the Americas is experiencing the highest level of restrictions on workers and workplaces.

Working-hour losses: Much larger than previously estimated

- The latest ILO estimates show that working-hour losses have worsened during the first half of 2020, reflecting the deteriorating situation in recent weeks, especially in developing countries. During the first quarter of the year, an estimated 5.4 per cent of global working hours (equivalent to 155 million full-time jobs) were lost relative to the fourth quarter of 2019. Working-hour losses for the second quarter of 2020 relative to the last quarter of 2019 are estimated to reach 14.0 per cent worldwide (equivalent to 400 million full-time jobs), with the largest reduction (18.3 per cent) occurring in the Americas.
- The factors driving the decline in working hours vary considerably across the countries for which relevant data are available. In some countries, shorter working hours and "being employed but not working" (e.g. where workers are put on temporary leave) contributed significantly to the decline, while in others, the main driving factor was people being pushed into unemployment and inactivity. These variations suggest that a narrow focus on unemployment does not allow a proper assessment of the pandemic's impact on the labour market.

With disproportionate impact on women workers

- Since the COVID-19 crisis is disproportionately affecting women workers in many ways, there is a risk of losing some of the gains made in recent decades and exacerbating gender inequalities in the labour market. In contrast to previous crises, women's employment is at greater risk than men's, particularly owing to the impact of the downturn on the service sector. At the same time, women account for a large proportion of workers in front-line occupations, especially in the health and social care sectors. Moreover, the increased burden of unpaid care brought by the crisis affects women more than men.

Looking ahead: Outlook and policy challenges

Outlook for the second half of 2020

- ILO projections suggest that the labour market recovery during the second half of 2020 will be uncertain and incomplete. In the baseline scenario, working-hour losses are likely to still be in the order of 4.9 per cent (equivalent to 140 million full-time jobs) in the fourth quarter of the year. However, under the pessimistic scenario, which assumes a second wave of the pandemic in the second half of 2020, working-hour losses would be as high as 11.9 per cent (equivalent to 340 million full-time jobs) in the last quarter. Even in the optimistic scenario, which assumes a fast recovery, global working hours are unlikely to return to the pre-crisis level by the end of 2020.

Policies for a job-rich recovery

- The actual labour market outcomes in the remainder of 2020 will be shaped by policy choices and actions as well as by the pandemic's

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6:03 PM 9/11/2020

MARITIME



Problems

- OSH – personal protection equipment
- Medical care at sea
- Access to medical care ashore
- Working beyond work agreements
- Repatriation

Inability to change crews due to:

- restrictions on travel
- embarkation and disembarkation in ports
- quarantine measures
- reductions in available flights
- limits on the issuing of visas and passports.


International Labour Organization
ILO brief

ILO Sectoral Brief

Date: 17 April 2020

COVID-19 and maritime shipping & fishing

The shipping sector carries 90 per cent of global trade and is the main artery of international supply chains. As of mid-April, the volume of global merchandise trade was falling by 13 per cent, and there are estimates of a decline of 32 per cent or more. With 384 sailings cancelled, the first half of 2020 could see a 25 per cent reduction in shipping, with a 10 per cent annual fall in 2020. The impact of COVID-19 on employment in the shipping sector, with its 2 million seafarers, is therefore substantial. The cruise shipping sector, with 250,000 seafarers, has been particularly badly affected, as certain countries have advised against travel by cruise ship,¹ and major cruise companies have suspended operations.²

The maritime fishing sector, which employs tens of millions of fishers, is a major supplier of food, and particularly animal proteins. Many fishing vessels are unable to leave port and the demand for many seafood products is substantially reduced.³

The COVID-19 crisis is affecting the personal safety and health of seafarers and fishers, their conditions of work and their ability to join and leave their vessels, with a consequent impact on their capacity to perform their key role in ensuring transport by sea, serving passengers and harvesting seafood.



Maritime Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine (MTWU)

¹ WHO: Remarks by DG as events, 8 April 2020.

² Bowler, T.: Seafarers in Global Association, www.bowling.com, 11 April 2020.

³ United States Department of State: <https://www.state.gov>, updated 8 March 2020.

⁴ CIA: www.cia.gov announces voluntary suspension of US cruise operations, Cruise Lines International Association, 13 March 2020.

⁵ www.ilo.org, <https://www.ilo.org> affecting the fisheries and aquaculture food systems, 10 April 2020.

<https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/coronavirus/sectoral/lang--en/index.htm>

Responses by UN agencies to COVID-19 maritime issues

Rights of seafarers, as set out in the Maritime Labour Convention, and rights of fishers, as set out in the Work in Fishing Convention, cited as basis for addressing problems

- **Joint statements calling on seafarers, fishers and other to be designated as «key workers»**
- **Protocols for safe crew changes**
- **Tools for managing COVID-19 cases on board ships**
- **Interventions with States (e.g. access to medical care in port)**

WHO “Promoting public health measures in response to COVID-19 on cargo ships and fishing vessels, published on 25 August 2020”

- **Pre-boarding (including screening)**
- **Onboard (Risk Analysis, Preventive Measures, Environmental measures, Managing suspected COVID-19 cases and their contacts, Access to medical facilities, Obligations of shipowners)**
- **Leaving the ship (Public health measures for shoreside visits, Public health measures throughout the journey)**

Communications

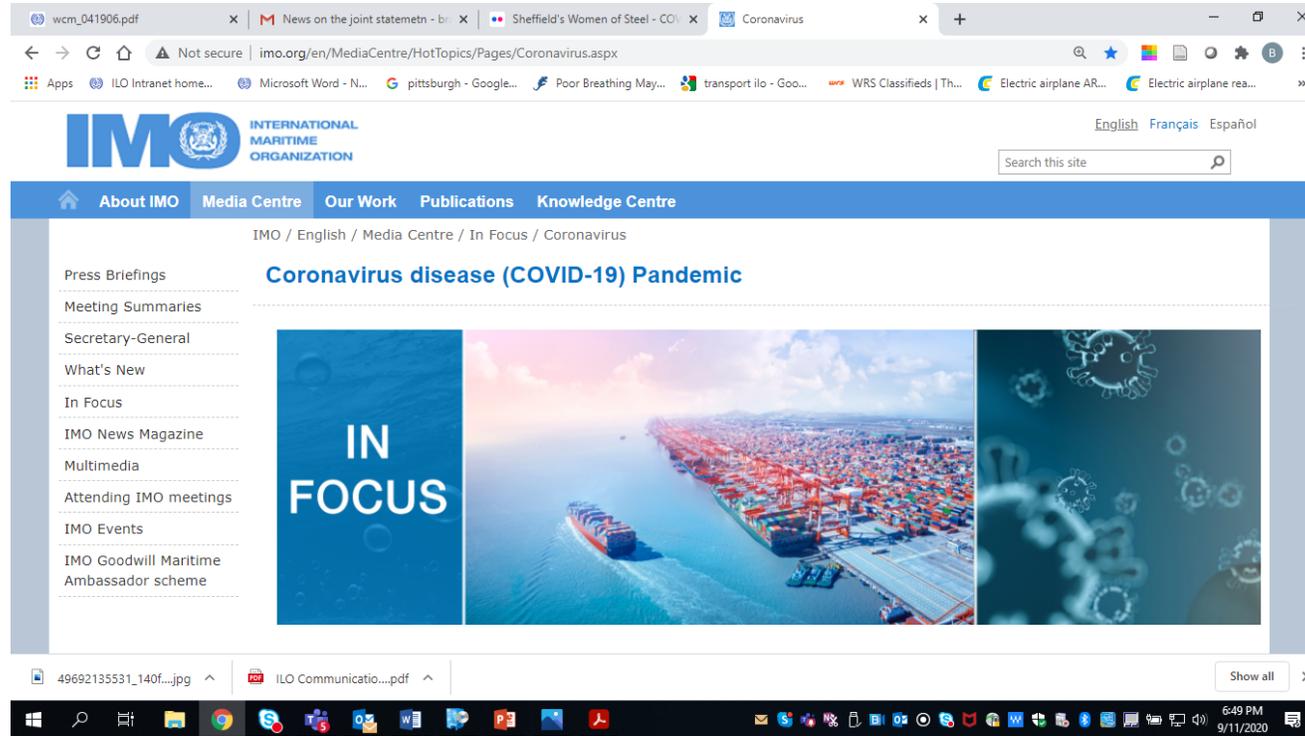
Digital tools and mobile applications

Training

Mental and psychosocial support

https://www.who.int/publications/i/item/WHO-2019-nCoV-Non-passenger_ships-2020.1

IMO COVID-19 site



The screenshot shows a web browser displaying the IMO website's COVID-19 page. The browser's address bar shows the URL: imo.org/en/MediaCentre/HotTopics/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx. The page features the IMO logo and navigation menu. The main content area is titled "Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) Pandemic" and includes a large banner image with the text "IN FOCUS" and a background image of a port with a ship and a virus particle. The left sidebar contains a list of navigation links: Press Briefings, Meeting Summaries, Secretary-General, What's New, In Focus, IMO News Magazine, Multimedia, Attending IMO meetings, IMO Events, and IMO Goodwill Maritime Ambassador scheme. The bottom of the browser shows the Windows taskbar with the date and time: 6:49 PM, 9/11/2020.

<http://www.imo.org/en/MediaCentre/HotTopics/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx>

ILO Sea Fisheries project and COVID-19

Online Working Group Meeting on COVID19

To strengthen the protection of migrant fishers in the Southeast Asia, SEA Forum for Fishers emphasized the need for streamlined coordination at both national and regional levels during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Raising Awareness on COVID19 with Trade Unions

Fishing is one of the sectors impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Fishers do not only lose their livelihoods but also face a greater risk of human trafficking. The ILO and its partners raise their awareness for better protection and prevention.

<https://seafisheriesproject.org/events/>

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Final thoughts

Make use of tools, guidance developed for the maritime sectors to respond to COVID-19

Consider the value of ratified and implemented international labour standards to help protect in times of crisis

Pressure governments, and those who depend on shipping and fishing, to facilitate crew changes of seafarers and fishers

Thank you