



Non-favourable treatment clause

Each member to the convention has to ensure that fishing vessels flying the flag of any state that has not ratified C.188 do not receive more favourable treatment than fishing vessels that fly the flag of any state that ratified C.188.

C.188 Work in Fishing Convention

There are over 30 million fishers worldwide. Working in the fishing sector differs from other sectors since it takes place in the marine environment where weather conditions can be harsh, and fishing is considered a hazardous occupation.

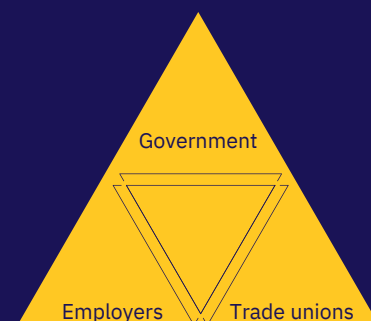
Fishers are often not working for a set wage, but their income is based on a share of the catch. This share-based income applies to both workers and self-employed fishers. While this has certain advantages for the fisher, it may lead to **overly long working hours, greater risk, and more accidents**. The variety in scale of operation, ranging from fishers in remote communities serving local markets to fishers on globally operating vessels with international crews serving the global market, makes the protection of fishers challenging.

These factors call for special considerations for workers on fishing vessels. However, in many countries fishers seem to fall through gaps in the system of laws, regulations and measures that protect other workers. The International Labour Organisation (ILO) is committed to ensure decent work for all fishers and to set standards that provide protection and improve the conditions of as many fishers as possible.

WHAT IS THE WORK IN FISHING CONVENTION C.188?

In 2007, ILO adopted an international standard about work on board fishing vessels for all fishers and fishing vessels engaged in commercial fishing operations*. Fishers need global standards that provide protection, considering the differences within the sector and among different ILO Member States. Legal protection must not only be provided for those working on large, industrial fishing vessels, but also on smaller ones. Above all, standards must serve to improve the conditions of as many fishers as possible.

An important aspect of the Convention is **the tripartite approach**. The Convention calls for countries to engage in consultations with the fishing sector social partners, to give them a genuine opportunity to express their views. Involvement of governments, employers and fishers' representative organizations is a fundamental requirement to achieve workable standards and ongoing effective implementation.



Each ILO Member shall implement and enforce laws, regulations, or other measures with respect to fishers and fishing vessels under its jurisdiction, while the fishing vessel owner has the overall responsibility to ensure that the skipper is provided with the necessary resources and facilities to comply with the obligations of this Convention.

* Commercial fishing means all fishing operations, including fishing operations on rivers, lakes or canals, with the exception of subsistence fishing and recreational fishing.

CONTENT C.188?

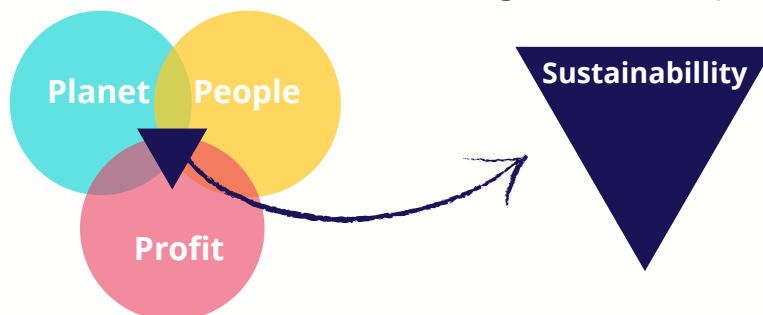
The objective of the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188) is to ensure that fishers have decent conditions of work on board fishing vessels. The Convention addresses a wide variety of social aspects of fishing, like;

- Minimum age
- Medical certificates
- Manning – number and qualifications of fishers
- Minimum hours of rest
- Work agreement/contract
- Right to repatriation
- Recruitment and placement of fishers
- Wages and payment for work
- Accommodation requirements
- Food and water
- Medical care
- Occupational safety and health
- Accident prevention
- Social security
- Protection in the case of work-related sickness, injury, or death

The Convention helps to prevent unacceptable forms of work for **all fishers**. It provides regulations that prevent **forced labour, trafficking, and other abuses**.

LINK WITH CATCHING THE POTENTIAL

The CTP-project is a cooperative effort of the fishing sector and educators to develop and implement an effective, international standard for sustainable fishing training for fishers. In the project, sustainable fishing is defined as a balance of environmental, social, and economic demands - the "three pillars" of sustainability (the three P's – People, Planet and Profit). This triple P approach will form the backbone of the sustainable fisheries training in the CTP-project.



Within this approach, the People P refers to humans, both to fishers and workers in the fishing industry and to people in society. Both societal acceptance of fishing and decent working conditions for fishers are an integral part of the sustainable development of the fishing industry. The ILO Work in Fishing Convention, in combination with local experiences and issues in the different countries, will provide content for the social aspect of the People P in the pilot trainings.

In the EU, the Work in Fishing Convention content is implemented in Directive 2017/159. However, this directive is slightly different. One difference is that C.188 applies to **all commercial fishers**, the related EU-directive **only applies to workers**. Also, hours of rest are defined differently. In the CTP-project, these differences will have to be taken into account.

TRIPLE P



PEOPLE P

