



## Fourth report of the Steering Committee

1. As recorded in its third report (*Record of Proceedings* No. 2C), the Steering Committee recommended that the Preparatory Technical Maritime Conference adopt a resolution concerning the procedure to be adopted with respect to the amendments proposed for unbracketed text. There is now also a need for a similarly innovative mechanism to deal with some of the text in the recommended draft for a maritime labour Convention that is still placed inside square [] or soft {} brackets, as not all the technical committees were able to complete their work on such text, due, in particular, to the difficulty in reaching tripartite agreement on the subject matter.
2. Having noted the views of the three groups, the Steering Committee:
  - (a) has decided that all bracketed text on which agreement has not been reached in the technical committees should be removed from the draft Convention to be proposed by the PTMC; and
  - (b) recommends that the provisions concerned be reconsidered in a procedure in which all constituents would be given an opportunity to take an active part.
3. Accordingly, the Committee unanimously recommends to the plenary session of the PTMC that it adopt the following resolution:

*The Preparatory Technical Maritime Conference, convened in Geneva by the Governing Body of the International Labour Office from 13 to 24 September 2004;*

*Considering that it has not been possible for the PTMC to reach agreement on all the text of the recommended draft that has been placed inside square [] or soft {} brackets;*

*Recalling its previous resolution in which it decided, inter alia, upon a procedure to deal with the amendments that had been proposed for unbracketed text;*

*Has decided to request the Governing Body to instruct the Office:*

- (a) *to convene a meeting, at no direct cost to the Office, which will be open to representatives of all governments attending this PTMC as well as to the representatives designated by the international organizations of shipowners and seafarers, for the purpose of providing the Office with advice concerning generally acceptable wording for the previously bracketed provisions on which agreement has not been reached;*

- 
- (b) *to provide the participants, in advance of the meeting, with information on the substance of the provisions concerned accompanied by the necessary explanations concerning the intentions and background for each such provision;*
  - (c) *to communicate, for comment, all new wording on which tripartite consensus is reached, accompanied by the necessary explanations, to the governments of all member States as well as to the international organizations of shipowners and seafarers; and*
  - (d) *to include, in the report that it is to prepare for the Maritime Session of the General Conference in accordance with article 38, paragraph 4(b), of the Standing Orders of the Conference, an account of all new wording referred to, together with a summary of the constituents' views communicated to it.*