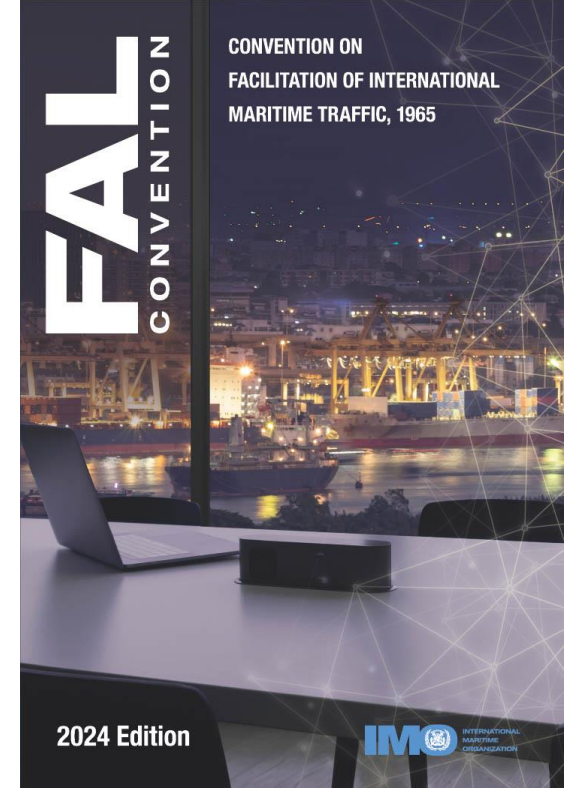


CONVENTION ON FACILITATION OF INTERNATIONAL MARITIME TRAFFIC (FAL CONVENTION)

- ✓ Adopted:1965, Entered into force: 1967
- ✓ Number of Contracting Governments: 132
- ✓ World tonnage: 95.85 % of the world's fleet
- ✓ 46 IMO member States are not yet part of FAL
- ✓ Sections of the FAL Convention:
 - 1. Definitions and general provisions;
 - 2. Arrival, stay and departure of the ship;
 - 3. Arrival and departure of persons;
 - 4. Stowaways;
 - 5. Arrival, stay and departure of cargo and other articles;
 - **6. Public health and quarantine, including sanitary measures for animals and plants;**
 - 7. Miscellaneous provisions.
- ✓ Scope of application: Do not apply to warships or pleasure yachts. It applies to all ships engaged in international voyages .



PUBLIC HEALTH AND QUARANTINE MEASURES IN THE FAL CONVENTION

- ✓ IHR to be complied with and **Seafarers must have access to medical care ashore** and ability to replenish medications
- ✓ Public authorities shall seek the cooperation of shipowners to ensure compliance with any requirements, including those in the IHR, that illness on a ship is to be reported promptly by electronic means to health authorities for the port for which the ship is destined, in order to facilitate provision for the presence of any special medical personnel and equipment necessary for health procedures on arrival
- ✓ **Ships shall not be refused free pratique** by Contracting Governments (public health authorities) for public health reasons; in particular, they **shall not be prevented** from embarking or disembarking, discharging or loading cargo or stores, or taking on fuel, water, food and supplies. Contracting Governments may subject the granting of free pratique to inspection and, if a source of infection or contamination is found on board, the carrying out of necessary disinfection, decontamination, disinsection or deratting, or other measures necessary to prevent the spread of the infection or contamination
- ✓ **Port workers and ship's crew**, regardless of their nationality or flag of their ship, when in their territory, **shall be designated as key workers** (or equivalent) providing an essential service during a public health emergency of international concern.
- ✓ Contracting Governments **shall continue to facilitate ship's crew changes** to the greatest extent possible, including the travel and repatriation of crew, during a public health emergency of international concern applying appropriate public health measures, as well as to ensure access to visas in accordance with the applicable national legislation and procedures.

RECENT EXAMPLES OF COOPERATION BETWEEN WHO AND IMO

- ✓ Alignment of IHR with FAL Convention: FAL 50 adopted amendments to the FAL Convention emanating from the 2024 amendments to the IHR, expected to enter into force on 1 January 2028, unless
- ✓ New data sets included in the IMO Compendium related to health requirements, enabling electronic submission via Maritime Single Windows (MSW) as part of harmonized reporting processes:
 - Maritime Declaration of Health (MDH)
 - Ship Sanitation Certificate