



MARINE TRANSPORT WORKERS' TRADE UNION OF UKRAINE E-BULLETIN

JULY-SEPTEMBER 2015

Dear friends!

As you are well aware, for many years our Trade Union cares about the welfare of Ukrainian seafarers' and their families. We are deeply sure that you also make every effort to ensure our seafarers with decent working and living conditions on board foreign flagged vessels. This E-BULLETIN was developed to keep you abreast of the latest international trade union news, and is planned to be sent out on a monthly basis. We hope that you find the information we collect for you useful and interesting!

Yours sincerely,
Oleg Grygoriuk
First Vice Chairman
MTWTU



Black Sea Week of Action

During the period between 6th and 10th of July was held the fourth ITF Week of Action, when ITF inspectors conducted 203 inspections of vessels in 29 ports of the region. They have distributed Black Sea Regional Project leaflets, DVDs of the film "The Dark Side of the Black Sea", Seafarers' Bulletins, booklets Message to Seafarers with contact details of all the world ITF inspectors, as well as t-shirts, specially printed by the unions and ITF. Trade union experts have also advised the seafarers on all the matters of interest.

ITF Inspector in Ukraine Nataliya Yefrimenko together with MTWTU team visited 24 vessels in the port of Odessa. Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine also appreciates the excellent work of our local trade union organizations in Belgorod-Dnestrovsky, Yuzhny, Nikolaev, Kherson, Skadovsk, Berdyansk and Mariupol, who actively participated in the ITF Week of Action and visited 38 vessels. MTWTU visited 62 vessels in total – the largest number of inspections among all the countries participating in the campaign.

MTWTU delegation visited Kherson State Maritime Academy

On July 8, 2015, MTWTU Chairman Michael

Kiriev and First Vice Chairman MTWTU Oleg Grygoriuk visited Kherson State Maritime Academy where they met with the Rector of the Academy Vladimir Khodakovsky and lecturers of the educational institution.



During the meeting MTWTU representatives visited a specialized simulator center aimed at training of future seafarers.

MTWTU congratulated seafarers with 110th Anniversary of the Trade Union Movement on Maritime Transport



The year of 2015 is dedicated to the 110th Anniversary of the Trade Union Movement on Maritime Transport. Namely Odessa seafarers in 1905 were the first to go on strike against the arbitrariness of employers. On June 24, 2015,

Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine, the legal successor of the first water transport workers' trade union, and the Local Black Sea Trade Union Organization of Seafarers invited its members to one of the solemn celebrations of the anniversary year. In a festive atmosphere the seafarers were awarded with Commemorative Certificates of Honor and memorable gifts.

Memorandum between MTWTU and ACV-Transcom Belgium



Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine hosted the delegation of the fraternal trade union ACV Transcom Belgium. On September 1st was held the meeting where MTWTU Chairman Michael Kirieiev presented MTWTU activities and position on both national and international levels to Belgian colleagues. During the meeting between the two trade unions was signed a Memorandum of Understanding, provided by the Mexico City Policy of the International Transport Workers' Federation, as a mean of strengthening cooperation between the ITF affiliated trade unions.

Stephen Cotton visited Odessa



The ITF General Secretary Stephen Cotton urged Ukraine to ratify the ILO MLC 2006 and the ILO Convention № 185 on Seafarers' Identity Documents, and praised the work of Marine

Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine, which celebrates the 110th Anniversary of the Trade Union Movement on Maritime Transport. In his speech at MTWTU Plenary Session in Odessa, Mr. Cotton appreciated the outstanding work of MTWTU in promoting the ILO MLC 2006, as well as MTWTU efforts for the decent representation of seafarers and dockers in conditions of complex political, economic and social environment in Ukraine. He said: "You are a 'fighting back' organization and under Michael Kirieiev's leadership you have proven your willingness to take on a battle when required. We hope your experience can help us to promote that willingness throughout the ITF".

The grand opening of the new MTWTU Head Office



On September 3, 2015 was held the grand opening ceremony of the new Head Office of the Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine.

In May 2014 MTWTU office, for 20 years located in the trade union building, was destroyed during riots. After that MTWTU appealed to the ITF and fraternal trade unions for assistance. 16 trade unions responded to the appeal and after a year and a half MTWTU was able to open the doors of the new Head Office for its members.

Red ribbon was cut by the ITF General Secretary Stephen Cotton and MTWTU Chairman Michael Kirieiev.



Meetings with dockers in Odessa Port

Representatives of the Dockers' Section of the German trade union Verdi and representatives of the dockers' trade union ACV-Transcom Belgium met with the management team of the Operator of Odessa Port Container Terminal HPC-Ukraine.



MTWTU local trade union organization at the HPC-Ukraine successfully operates for many years already, headed by its Chairman Nikolay Polovnyuk. The organization boasts a decent protection of the rights of its trade union members at the close and productive collaboration with the company's management.

Gala concert for the seafarers



On September 11 in Ismail MTWTU held a gala concert for the seafarers, workers and veterans of the maritime enterprises, organizations and institutions of maritime transport – members of Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine. The concert was dedicated to the 110th Anniversary of the Trade Union Movement on Maritime Transport. On stage performed local children's dance groups, the comic duo "Schumacher Brothers" and semifinalist of the famous talent show The Voice of the Country Mila Nitich.

Investing in education

As part of a large MTWTU-IMEC investment project Odessa National Maritime Academy and Kherson State Maritime Academy will receive grants for the purchase of new modern simulators. This was announced during the visit of IMEC and MTWTU delegation to these respective maritime institutions. The delegation included Francesco Gargiulo, IMEC



Chief Executive Officer, Adam Lewis
Manager - Training and Operations, IMEC, and Oleg Grygoriuk, First Vice Chairman MTWTU.

Quest for cadets

On October 1, 2015, Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine together with the Welfare Fund of Maritime Transport "MORTRANS" organized and conducted a fascinating quest called "Odessa Maritime Traditions" for students and cadets of maritime educational institutions.



The teams had to solve as many tasks as possible and to make the team photo on the background of each found object. For each picture and solved task the team received points.

The winners are: the first place took the team called "BEMS" of Odessa National Maritime University, the second went to "Kherson Wolves" of Kherson State Maritime Academy and the third – to "Navy seals" of Odessa National Maritime Academy.

Holiday for children

By long tradition, established by Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine jointly with the Welfare Fund of Maritime Transport "MORTRANS", children of seafarers – MTWTU members were invited to the children entertainment complex Igroland.

