

Article 15

Where a married man is employed on contract within his own country but at a considerable distance from his home, the competent authority shall take all practical steps in appropriate cases to afford him full opportunity to be accompanied if he so desires by his wife and family.

SECTION 6.—PENAL SANCTIONS

Article 16

1. It shall be an aim of policy to abolish penal sanctions for breach of contract of employment as defined in Article 1 of the Penal Sanctions (Indigenous Workers) Convention, 1939.

2. Consideration shall be given to the application of the Penal Sanctions (Indigenous Workers) Convention, 1939, to those dependent territories where the imposition of penal sanctions may occur in respect of which the Convention is not already in force.

3. Consideration shall be given to the desirability of ratifying the Penal Sanctions (Indigenous Workers) Convention, 1939, by such states responsible for dependent territories where the imposition of penal sanctions may occur as have not already done so.

SECTION 7.—EMPLOYMENT OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PERSONS

Article 17

1. Adequate provision shall be made in dependent territories, to the maximum extent possible under local conditions, for the progressive development of broad systems of education, vocational training and apprenticeship, with a view to the elimination of illiteracy among children and young persons and to their effective preparation for a useful occupation.

2. In order that the child population may be able to profit by existing facilities for education and in order that the extension of these facilities may not be hindered by a demand for child labour, the employment of persons below the school-leaving age shall be prohibited in any area where educational facilities are provided on a scale adequate for the majority of the children of school age.

Article 18

1. Children under the age of twelve years shall not be employed in any employment, except on light work of an agricultural or domestic character in which only members of the employer's family are employed or except on agricultural light work carried on collectively by the local community. This age shall be progressively raised along with the school-leaving age.

2. Where the transfer of children to the family of an employer is permitted by custom the conditions of transfer and of employment shall be closely regulated and supervised, whether the children are above or below twelve years of age. The progressive abolition of all such transfers shall be an aim of policy for all dependent territories.

Article 19

Children under the age of fifteen years shall not be employed or work in any industrial undertaking or in any branch thereof.

Article 20

Children under the age of fifteen years shall not be employed or work on vessels.

Article 21

1. Young persons under the age of sixteen years shall not be employed underground in mines.

2. The employment underground in mines of young persons who have attained the age of sixteen years but not that of eighteen years shall be conditional on the production of a medical certificate attesting fitness for such work, signed by a doctor who shall be approved by the competent authority.

Article 22

1. Young persons under the age of eighteen years shall not be employed or work on vessels as trimmers or stokers.

2. When a trimmer or stoker is required in a port where young persons of less than eighteen years of age only are available, such young persons may be employed and in that case it shall be necessary to engage two young persons in place of the trimmer or stoker required. Such young persons shall be at least sixteen years of age.

3. Provided that the provisions of this Article do not apply—

- (a) To the employment of young persons on vessels mainly propelled by other means than steam;
- (b) To young persons of not less than sixteen years of age who, if found physically fit after medical examination, may be employed as trimmers or stokers on vessels exclusively engaged on coastal trade.

Article 23

The provisions of Articles 18(1), 19 and 20 do not apply to work, approved and supervised by the competent authority, done by children or young persons in *bona fide* state or private technical schools or school ships or training ships having prescribed courses of study and reasonable limits on the length of time in which students may remain in training or apprenticeship.