



Ambasciata d'Italia in Etiopia

Work Visa for Subordinate Employment

SEAFARERS

Non-EU citizens intending to carry out employment activities in Italy must apply for a work visa.

Applicants are requested to download and complete the **national visa application form** ([National Form](#)).

Subordinate employment visa – seafarers: A work visa is required for foreign nationals who are to be employed on board vessels flying the Italian flag, as well as for foreign nationals engaged in complementary onboard services on Italian cruise ships (Law No. 856 of 5 December 1986).

For the list of required documents, please consult the checklist below.

Please note that the Embassy reserves the right to request additional documentation if deemed necessary.

Required documents for the application for a subordinate work visa (seafarers / ship embarkation) are as follow. Applicants are advised to submit all documentation complete, up-to-date, and compliant with the requirements indicated.

- National visa application form, duly completed and signed.
- Valid passport with copy, with at least three months' validity beyond the intended date of departure from the Schengen area, issued within the last ten years, and containing at least two blank pages.
- Recent ICAO-format photograph (3.5 x 4.0 cm), with a white or light background, taken within the last six months. For further information, consult the [ICAO Photograph Guidelines](#).
- Proof of residence in Ethiopia or in the country where the application is submitted.

- Flight reservation. It is not necessary to purchase the ticket.
- **Formal request from the shipping company**, including: name of the vessel, type of work to be performed, date of the vessel's arrival at the port, and the seafarer's embarkation date.
- **Individual employment contract.**
- **Copy of subcontracting agreement**, if the worker is not directly employed by the shipping company.
- Certificate of registration of the vessel in the Italian or international registry.
- Any additional documentation requested by the Visa Office.