



Reports of the Selection Committee

First report

1. Election of the Officers of the Committee

The Selection Committee elected its Officers as follows:

Chairperson: Mr. F. Ribeiro Lopes (Portugal)

Employer Vice-Chairperson: Mr. A. M'Kaissi (Tunisia)

Worker Vice-Chairperson: Mr. L. Trotman (Barbados)

2. Reminder of the Selection Committee's new authority under the Standing Orders

The Selection Committee noted that, at its 90th Session (2002), the Conference adopted a set of amendments to its Standing Orders aimed at streamlining a number of Conference procedures.¹

For the Selection Committee, these amendments have resulted in two important changes. Firstly, under article 4, paragraph 2, of the Standing Orders, the Selection Committee, in addition to its traditional authority to fix the time and agenda of the plenary sittings, is now responsible for acting on behalf of the Conference with respect to decisions on non-controversial questions of a routine nature. Thus, except where consensus cannot be reached in respect of any particular question requiring a decision for the proper conduct of business, the Selection Committee can now decide on its own authority and its decisions no longer need to be endorsed by the Conference. Secondly, under article 9(a) of the Standing Orders, the Committee is no longer responsible for approving changes in the composition of committees once their initial membership has been determined by the Conference. This responsibility is now exercised by each group. The membership of committees and modifications thereto will now appear in a separate *Provisional Record* (No. 4, entitled "Composition of committees").

¹ See 90th Session of the ILC, *Provisional Record* No. 2.

3. Discussion of the Reports of the Chairperson of the Governing Body and the Director-General: Opening date for the discussion and closing date for the list of speakers

The Selection Committee has decided that the discussion of the Reports of the Chairperson of the Governing Body and the Director-General will begin on Monday, 9 June, at 10 a.m., and that the list of speakers will be closed on Wednesday, 11 June, at 6 p.m., under the usual conditions.

4. Discussion of the Global Report under the follow-up to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work

At its 286th Session (March 2003), the Governing Body invited the Conference to adopt a set of provisional ad hoc arrangements for the discussion of the Global Report under the follow-up to the Declaration, which are reproduced in Appendix I.

On the basis of those proposed arrangements, and subject to the Conference's approval of the necessary suspension of the Standing Orders, the Selection Committee decided that the Global Report under the follow-up to the Declaration be dealt with separately from the Reports of the Chairperson of the Governing Body and of the Director-General in two plenary sittings entirely devoted to it.

The Selection Committee decided that the two sittings be held on Friday, 13 June.

5. Plan of work of Conference committees

The Selection Committee endorsed a draft plan of work for committees, which is not binding but would enable them, in organizing their work, to take maximum possible account of the overall needs and possibilities of the Conference. The plan is attached in tabular form for the information of the Conference (Appendix III).

6. Suggestions to facilitate the work of the Conference

As in previous years, the Selection Committee confirmed the following principles.

(a) Quorum

- (i) the quorum is fixed provisionally in the brief report of the Chairperson of the Governing Body on the basis of the credentials received on the day before the opening of the Conference; the said report is published as *Provisional Record* No. 5A. This provisional quorum will remain unchanged until the Credentials Committee determines the quorum on the basis of registrations, it being understood that, if an important vote were to take place in the initial stages of the Conference (once the Credentials Committee has been appointed), the Conference might request the Credentials Committee to determine the quorum in an urgent report;

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- (ii) thereafter, the quorum will be adjusted, under the authority of the Credentials Committee, so as to take into account new registrations and notices of departure from delegates leaving the Conference;
 - (iii) delegates should register personally, immediately on arrival, as the quorum is calculated on the basis of the number of delegates registered;
 - (iv) acceptance of appointment as a delegate implies an obligation to be available in Geneva personally, or through an adviser authorized to act as a substitute for the work of the Conference until its end, as important votes often take place on the last day;
 - (v) delegates who are nevertheless obliged to leave the Conference before it finishes should give notice of their forthcoming departure to the secretariat of the Conference. The form utilized to indicate their date of departure also enables them to authorize an adviser to act and to vote in their place. At group meetings held during the second half of the Conference the attention of members of the groups will be drawn to the importance of completing and handing in this form;
 - (vi) in addition, one Government delegate of a country may report the departure of the other Government delegate, and the secretaries of the Employers' and Workers' groups may also give notice of the final departure of members of their groups, who have not authorized advisers to act in their place;
 - (vii) when a record vote is taken in plenary while committees are sitting, delegates are both entitled and expected to leave committees to vote unless they are replaced by a substitute in plenary. Announcements are made in the committees to ensure that all delegates are aware that a record vote is about to take place. Appropriate arrangements will be made for committees meeting in the ILO building.

(b) Punctuality

The Selection Committee would encourage committee chairpersons to start proceedings punctually, irrespective of the number of persons present, but on condition that votes will not be taken unless a quorum is clearly present.

(c) Negotiations

In order to facilitate more continuous negotiation in committees between the different groups, representatives of each group should meet with the chairperson and reporter of the committee and with the representative of the Secretary-General, whenever this is desirable, to ensure that the leaders of each group know fully the minds of their colleagues in the other groups; normally such meetings are held before each group has committed itself to a definite position. The function of these informal meetings is to afford opportunities for a fuller understanding of differences of view before definite positions have crystallized.

7. Participation in Conference committees by Members having lost the right to vote

At its 239th Session (February-March 1988), the Governing Body considered the implications of the appointment, as regular members of Conference committees, of representatives of a member State which had lost the right to vote under article 13, paragraph 4, of the Constitution of the ILO. It noted that, while the appointment of employer and worker representatives from such a State had no practical implications,

because the Employers' and Workers' groups operated an effective system under article 56, paragraph 5(b), of the Conference Standing Orders for ensuring that deputy members of a committee voted in the place of regular members deprived of the right to vote; the same was not true of the Government group. As a result, if a Government that has lost the right to vote is appointed as a regular member of a committee, the distribution of votes between the three groups is distorted because the weighting of votes is based on the full regular membership and, in practice, the Government regular members of committees who are unable to vote do not make use of the possibility afforded by article 56, paragraph 5(a), of appointing a deputy member to vote in their place.

The Governing Body accordingly recommended that, in order to avoid such distortions, members of the Government group should not apply for regular membership of committees if they were not at the time in question entitled to vote. Should this practice, which has been maintained at all sessions of the Conference since 1987, for any reason not be fully respected, the weighting coefficients in committees should be calculated on the basis of the number of Government members entitled to vote. The relevant list of countries currently in arrears is referred to in paragraph 15 of *Provisional Record* No. 5A.

The Selection Committee accordingly confirms that the calculation of weighting coefficients for votes in committees should be based on the number of regular Government members entitled to vote.

8. Requests for representation in Conference committees submitted by non-governmental international organizations

In accordance with article 2, paragraph 3(j), of the Standing Orders of the Conference, the Officers of the Governing Body have decided to invite certain non-governmental international organizations to be represented at the present session of the Conference, it being understood that it would be for the Selection Committee of the Conference to consider their requests to participate in the work of the committees dealing with items on the agenda in which they have expressed a particular interest.

The Selection Committee emphasized that this participation should not hinder the proceedings of committees and should respect the role of the tripartite partners in the discussion. Practical arrangements should be enhanced where possible with such initiatives as a seating area reserved for non-governmental organizations in committee rooms.

The provision of the Standing Orders of the Conference, which is relevant to such requests, is article 56, paragraph 9. In accordance with that article, the Selection Committee invited the following organizations to be represented in the committees stated.

Committee on the Application of Standards

Amnesty International

Arab Federation of Workers in the Building, Wood and Building Materials Industries

Arab Lawyers' Union

Brotherhood of Asian Trade Unionists

Commonwealth Trade Union Council

Democratic Organization of African Workers' Trade Unions

Education International

European Confederation of Independent Trade Unions

European Confederation of Police

General Confederation of Trade Unions

General Union of Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture for Arab Countries

International Alliance of Women

International Centre for Trade Union Rights

International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions

International Confederation of Public Service Officers

International Council of Women

International Energy and Mines Organization

International Entertainment Alliance

International Federation of Building and Wood Workers

International Federation of Chemical, Energy, Mine and General Workers' Unions

International Federation of Human Rights

International Federation of University Women

International Federation Terre des Hommes

International Metalworkers' Federation

International Transport Workers' Federation

International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers' Associations

International Young Christian Workers

Latin American Central of Workers

Latin American Union of Municipal Workers

Permanent Congress of Trade Union Unity of Latin American Workers

Public Services International

Socialist International Women

Trade Unions International of Public and Allied Employees

Trade Unions International of Workers in Agriculture, Food, Commerce, Textiles and Allied Industries

World Confederation of Teachers

World Federation of Industry Workers

World Federation of Scientific Workers

World Federation of Teachers' Unions

World Jewish Congress

World Movement of Christian Workers

World Organization against Torture

Committee on Human Resources

Arab Federation of Workers in the Building, Wood and Building Materials Industries

Arab Lawyers' Union

Brotherhood of Asian Trade Unionists

Education International

European Confederation of Independent Trade Unions

Exchange and Cooperation Centre for Latin America

General Confederation of Trade Unions

General Union of Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture for Arab Countries

International Alliance of Women

International Association for Educational and Vocational Guidance

International Centre for Trade Union Rights

International Christian Union of Business Executives

International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions

International Confederation of Executive Staff

International Confederation of Midwives

International Construction Institute

International Council of Nurses

International Council of Women

International Entertainment Alliance

International Federation of Building and Wood Workers

International Federation of Human Rights

International Federation of Training and Development Organizations

International Federation of University Women

International Metalworkers' Federation

International Young Christian Workers

Latin American Central of Workers

Permanent Congress of Trade Union Unity of Latin American Workers

Socialist International Women

Soroptimist International

Trade Union Advisory Committee to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

Trade Unions International of Workers in Agriculture, Food, Commerce, Textiles and Allied Industries

Union Network International

World Association for Small and Medium Enterprises

World Confederation of Teachers

World Federation of Industry Workers

World Federation of Scientific Workers

World Federation of Teachers' Unions

World Jewish Congress

World Movement of Christian Workers

World Organization against Torture

World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations

Zonta International

Committee on the Employment Relationship

Arab Federation of Workers in the Building, Wood and Building Materials Industries

Arab Lawyers' Union

Democratic Organization of African Workers' Trade Unions

Education International

General Confederation of Trade Unions

International Alliance of Women

International Association for Educational and Vocational Guidance

International Association of Universities of the Third Age

International Centre for Trade Union Rights

International Christian Union of Business Executives

International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions

International Confederation of Executive Staff

International Confederation of Temporary Work Businesses

International Council of Nurses

International Energy and Mines Organization

International Entertainment Alliance

International Federation of Building and Wood Workers

International Federation of Chemical, Energy, Mine and General Workers' Unions

International Federation of Employees in Public Services

International Federation of Human Rights

International Federation of Trade Unions of Transport Workers

International Federation of Training and Development Organizations

International Federation of University Women

International Federation of Workers' Education Associations

International Metalworkers' Federation

International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers' Associations

International Young Christian Workers

Latin American Central of Workers

Permanent Congress of Trade Union Unity of Latin American Workers

Social Alert

Socialist International Women

Trade Union Advisory Committee to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

Trade Unions International of Workers in Agriculture, Food, Commerce, Textiles and Allied Industries

Trade Unions International of Workers of the Building, Wood and Building Materials Industries

World Association for Small and Medium Enterprises

World Confederation of Teachers

World Federation of Industry Workers

World Federation of Teachers' Unions

World Jewish Congress

World Movement of Christian Workers

World Organization against Torture

Zonta International

Committee on Occupational Safety and Health

Amnesty International

Arab Federation of Workers in the Building, Wood and Building Materials Industries

Arab Lawyers' Union

Brotherhood of Asian Trade Unionists

Commonwealth Trade Union Council

Democratic Organization of African Workers' Trade Unions

Education International

European Confederation of Independent Trade Unions

General Confederation of Trade Unions

General Union of Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture for Arab Countries

International Alliance of Women

International Association for Educational and Vocational Guidance

International Association of Labour Inspection

International Centre for Trade Union Rights

International Commission on Occupational Health

International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions

International Construction Institute

International Council of Nurses

International Council of Women

International Energy and Mines Organization

International Entertainment Alliance

International Federation of Building and Wood Workers

International Federation of Chemical, Energy, Mine and General Workers' Unions

International Federation of Employees in Public Services

International Federation of Human Rights

International Federation of Training and Development Organizations

International Federation of University Women

International Metalworkers' Federation

International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers' Associations

International Young Christian Workers

Permanent Congress of Trade Union Unity of Latin American Workers

Public Services International

Trade Union Advisory Committee to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development

Trade Unions International of Workers in Agriculture, Food, Commerce, Textiles and Allied Industries

Trade Unions International of Workers of the Building, Wood and Building Materials Industries

Union Network International

World Confederation of Teachers

World Federation of Industry Workers

World Federation of Scientific Workers

World Movement of Christian Workers
World Organization against Torture
World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations
Zonta International

Committee on Seafarers

Arab Federation of Workers in the Building, Wood and Building Materials Industries
Arab Lawyers' Union
International Centre for Trade Union Rights
International Christian Maritime Association
International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions
International Confederation of Water Transport Workers' Unions
International Federation of Building and Wood Workers
International Federation of Chemical, Energy, Mine and General Workers' Unions
International Federation of Human Rights
International Federation of Trade Unions of Transport Workers
International Metalworkers' Federation
International Shipping Federation
International Textile, Garment and Leather Workers' Federation
International Transport Workers' Federation
International Young Christian Workers
Permanent Congress of Trade Union Unity of Latin American Workers
Trade Unions International of Workers in Agriculture, Food, Commerce, Textiles and Allied Industries
World Movement of Christian Workers

9. Consideration of the Director-General's Report on the situation of workers of the occupied Arab territories

On the basis of proposals submitted to it by the Director-General at the invitation of the Governing Body, the Selection Committee has decided to convene a special sitting for the discussion of the appendix to the Director-General's Report, dealing with the situation

of workers of the occupied Arab territories, it being understood that speakers will have to confine their remarks at that sitting to the said appendix and that, conversely, that subject will not be addressed in the framework of the discussion on the remainder of the Report. It decided that the special sitting should be held in the afternoon of Thursday, 12 June.

The Selection Committee has decided that the list of speakers for the special sitting will be closed at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, 10 June.

The Selection Committee noted that the Director-General intended to devote part of his reply to the discussion of his Report to the lessons to be drawn from the special sitting.

The Selection Committee has decided that, if necessary, the Finance Committee should not meet at the same time as the special sitting.

In addition, the Selection Committee recommends that the Conference allow speakers who so wish to take the floor both on the General Report and during the special sitting, it being understood that the subject to be discussed in that sitting would not be discussed in the debate of the remainder of the Report.

10. Composition of the Credentials Committee

The Selection Committee elected the following Officers as the three members of the Credentials Committee:

Government member: Mr. J.M. Oni (Benin)

Employer member: Ms. L. Sasso-Mazzufferi (Italy)

Worker member: Mr. U. Edström (Sweden)

11. Appointment of the Conference Drafting Committee

The Selection Committee decided that, in accordance with the provisions of article 6, paragraph 1, of the Standing Orders, the Conference Drafting Committee should be composed as follows:

The President of the Conference or his representative;

The Secretary-General of the Conference or his representative;

The Legal Adviser of the Conference and his deputy;

The Director of the International Labour Standards Department;

The members of the relevant committee's Drafting Committee.

12. Delegation of authority to the Officers of the Selection Committee

In accordance with the usual practice, and by virtue of article 4, paragraph 2, of the Standing Orders, the Selection Committee delegated to its Officers the authority to arrange

the programme of the Conference and fix the time and agenda of plenary sittings as well as to decide on any non-controversial issues of a routine nature necessary for the running of the Conference.

The effect of this delegation of authority is that the Selection Committee will only be called on to meet during the present session of the Conference if other substantive matters requiring a decision arise.

13. Electronic voting system

A description of the electronic voting system, to be used in principle for all votes in plenary sittings, in accordance with article 19, paragraph 15, of the Standing Orders, is attached in Appendix II.

14. Participation of a non-metropolitan territory as an observer in the 91st Session (June 2003) of the International Labour Conference

The Secretary-General was asked on 27 May 2003 by the Government of the United Kingdom to submit a request to the Conference that Bermuda be invited to send a tripartite observer delegation to the 91st Session (June 2003) of the Conference.

At its 124th Session (March 1954), the Governing Body decided that, on the recommendation of the member States responsible, non-metropolitan territories might be invited to participate by means of tripartite observer delegations in sessions of the International Labour Conference.

The Selection Committee approved Bermuda's participation in the 91st Session (June 2003) of the International Labour Conference by means of a tripartite observer delegation.

Geneva, 4 June 2003.

(Signed) F. Ribeiro Lopes,
Chairperson.

Appendix I

Ad hoc arrangements for the discussion of the Global Report under the follow-up to the Declaration at the 91st Session of the International Labour Conference ¹

Principle of the discussion

Having regard to the various options referred to in the annex to the Declaration, the Governing Body recommends that the Global Report submitted to the Conference by the Director-General should be dealt with in plenary sittings, separately from the Director-General's reports under article 12 of the Conference Standing Orders.

Timing of the discussion

Two sittings on the same day should be convened for the discussion of the Global Report, with the possibility, if necessary, of extending the sitting or convening a further sitting on the same day or on a different day, as appropriate. In order to take account of the programme of work of the Conference and of the fact that a number of ministers who usually are present during the second week of the Conference may wish to take the floor, the discussion of the Global Report should be held during the second week of the Conference. The date will be determined by the Officers of the Conference.

Procedure for the discussion

The separate discussion of the Global Report recommended above implies in particular that the statements made during the discussion of the Global Report should not fall under the limitation concerning the number of statements by each speaker in plenary provided for in article 12, paragraph 3, of the Standing Orders, and that the discussion should not be governed by the provisions of article 14, paragraph 6, concerning the time limit for speeches. Furthermore, exchanges of views on the suggested points for thematic discussion should not be subject to the restrictions laid down in article 14, paragraph 2, concerning the order in which speakers are called. These provisions should accordingly be suspended under the procedure provided for in article 76 of the Standing Orders to the extent necessary for the discussion of the Global Report. The Officers of the Conference will take any decision necessary concerning the conduct of the discussions, including allowing the participation of the Director-General in the thematic discussion. In order to allow a maximum number of constituents to express their views in the general discussion, a speech by a visiting minister pursuant to article 12, paragraph 3, of the Conference Standing Orders should not be additional to that by a Government delegate of the Member concerned.

Organization of the discussion

Special arrangements should be worked out for the organization of the general discussion and the thematic discussion. The general discussion (opening statements by spokespersons of non-governmental and regional groups, delegates' statements) should take place in the first sitting according to the arrangements agreed upon for the previous discussions. The second sitting should begin with the thematic discussion, for a limited period of time (two hours, for example). It should continue with closing statements by group spokespersons and, if possible, by delegates, which may be preceded by statements that could not be made during the first sitting.

¹ Adopted by the Governing Body at its 286th Session (March 2003).

Appendix II

The electronic voting system

The electronic system provides for votes (in most cases: yes, no, abstention) to be expressed by means of a keyboard on a “voting station” that will be made available to all delegates or persons empowered to vote on their behalf.

Where the electronic system is used, the subject and question to be voted on will be displayed and the President or Chairperson will announce the beginning of the vote. After the President or Chairperson has made sure that all delegates have been given sufficient opportunity to record their vote in one of the voting stations available to them, the President or Chairperson will announce the closure of the vote.

Where the method of vote is by show of hands, once all votes have been registered the final voting figures will be immediately displayed and subsequently published with the following indications: total number of votes in favour, total number of votes against, total number of abstentions and the quorum as well as the majority required.

Where a record vote is taken, once all votes have been registered the final voting figures will be immediately displayed with the following indications: total number of votes in favour, total number of votes against, total number of abstentions and the quorum as well as the majority required. These indications will subsequently be published together with a list of the delegates who have voted, showing how they have voted.

In the case of a secret ballot, once all votes have been registered the final voting figures will be immediately displayed and subsequently published with the following indications: total number of votes in favour, total number of votes against, total number of abstentions and the quorum as well as the majority required. There will be absolutely no access possible to individual votes nor any record of how the delegates have voted.

It is important that delegates should already have decided whether they or another member of their delegation will exercise their right to vote in a given case. Where more than one vote is nevertheless cast on behalf of a delegate at two different moments, or from two different places, only the first vote will be recognized, whether made by a delegate, by a substitute delegate or by an adviser who has received a specific written authorization to that end. Such specific authorizations must reach the secretariat sufficiently before the opening of voting is announced, so as to be duly recorded.

Appendix III – 91st Session (June 2003) of the International Labour Conference – Tentative plan of work

	M 2	T 3	W 4	Th 5	F 6	S 7	M 9	T 10	W 11	Th 12	F 13	S 14	M 16	T 17	W 18	Th 19	F 20
Group meetings	■																
Plenary sittings		■*					■	■	■ ¹	■ ¹ ■ ³	■ ²	□	■	■	■	■	
Finance Committee			■	■	■			A						PI		V	
Application of Standards		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■		A		PI	
Committee on Human Resources <i>(first discussion, standard setting)</i>		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	DC	A		PI		
Committee on the Employment Relationship <i>(general discussion)</i>		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■		A	PI		
Committee on Occupational Safety and Health <i>(general discussion)</i>		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■		A		PI	
Committee on Seafarers <i>(single discussion, standard setting)</i>		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	DC	A		PI	V	
Selection Committee		■															
Governing Body		■**															■

- * Preliminary discussion on the Programme and Budget for 2004-05
- ** Government members of the Programme, Financial and Administrative Committee of the Governing Body
- DC** Drafting Committee
- A** Adoption by the Committee of its report
- PI** Adoption of the report by the Conference in plenary sitting
- V** Record vote in plenary sitting of the Conference

- ¹ Guests of Honour
- ² Discussion of the Global Report under the follow-up to the ILO Declaration
- ³ Special sitting (occupied Arab territories)
- If necessary