

Chapter I

Duties, obligations and privileges

ARTICLE 1.1

Status of officials

The officials of the International Labour Office are international civil servants whose obligations are not national but exclusively international. By accepting appointment they pledge themselves to discharge their functions and to regulate their conduct with the interests of the International Labour Organization alone in view. They shall be subject to the authority of the Director-General and shall be responsible to him in the exercise of their functions. They shall not seek or accept instructions in the performance of their duties from any government or other authority external to the International Labour Office.

ARTICLE 1.2

Conduct

Officials shall conduct themselves at all times in a manner befitting their status as international civil servants. They shall avoid any action, and in particular any kind of public pronouncement, which may adversely reflect on their status. They are not expected to abandon their national sentiments or their political or religious convictions, but they shall at all times bear in mind the reserve and tact incumbent upon them by reason of their status. They shall not engage in any political or other activity or occupation or hold any office which is incompatible with the proper discharge of their duties, and shall obtain the prior approval of the Director-General before they engage in outside occupations.

ARTICLE 1.3

Use of information

(a) Officials shall exercise the utmost discretion in all matters of official business. They shall not, except in the performance of their duties or by authorization of the Director-General, communicate to any person unpublished information known to them by reason of their official position. These obligations shall continue to bind officials after they leave the service.

(b) Officials shall not publish, cause to be published, or assist in the publication of any material relating to the International Labour Organization or deliver a public address relating to the Organization, except in the course of their duties or by authorization of the Director-General.

ARTICLE 1.4

Declaration of loyalty

(a) The Director-General, on entering upon his duties, shall make and sign the following declaration before the Governing Body in public session:

I solemnly undertake to exercise in all loyalty, discretion and conscience the functions that have been entrusted to me as Director-General of the International Labour Office, to discharge these functions and regulate my conduct with the interests of the International Labour Organization alone in view, not to seek or accept instructions in regard to the performance of my duties from any government or other authority external to the International Labour Organization, and at all times to uphold the Constitution of the International Labour Organization.

(b) The Deputy Directors-General, the Assistant Directors-General and the Treasurer and Financial Comptroller, on entering upon their duties, shall make and sign the following declaration before the Governing Body in public session:

I solemnly undertake to exercise in all loyalty, discretion and conscience the functions that have been entrusted to me as¹ . . . of the International Labour Office, to discharge these functions and regulate my conduct with the interests of the International Labour Organization alone in view, and not to seek or accept instructions in regard to the performance of my duties from any government or other authority external to the International Labour Office.

(c) Other officials, on entering upon their duties, shall make and sign the following declaration:

I solemnly undertake to exercise in all loyalty, discretion and conscience the functions that have been entrusted to me as an official of the International Labour Office, to discharge these functions and regulate my conduct with the interests of the International Labour Organization alone in view, and not to seek or accept instructions in regard to the performance of my duties from any government or other authority external to the International Labour Office.

ARTICLE 1.5

Honours and gifts

An official shall not accept any honour, decoration, favour, gift or fee from any government or from any other source external to the Organization, unless in the opinion of the Director-General such acceptance is compatible with his status as an international civil servant.

¹ Deputy Director-General, Assistant Director-General, or Treasurer and Financial Comptroller, as the case may be.

ARTICLE 1.6

Candidature for political office

Any official who becomes a candidate for a public office of a political character shall resign from the Office.

ARTICLE 1.7

Privileges and immunities

The privileges and immunities attaching to the International Labour Organization by virtue of article 40 of the Constitution, and the arrangements made with governments by virtue thereof, are conferred in the interests of the Organization. These privileges and immunities furnish no excuse to the officials who enjoy them for non-performance of their private obligations or for failure to observe laws and police regulations. In any case where these privileges and immunities arise, the official concerned shall immediately report to the Director-General, who will decide whether they shall be waived.

ARTICLE 1.8

Penalty for non-observance

(Deleted)

ARTICLE 1.9

Assignment of duties

(a) The Director-General shall assign an official to his duties and his duty station subject to the terms of his appointment, account being taken of his qualifications.

(b) The Director-General may second an official, with his consent, for temporary duty outside the service of the Office.