



European Union

Written Statement

ILO Governing Body, 343rd session

1st to 13th November 2021

Sectoral meetings in 2021 and proposals for sectoral work in 2022-23

GB.343/POL/2

Geneva, 29 October 2021

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EU Statement

I have the honour of speaking on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

The Candidate Countries the Republic of North Macedonia¹, Montenegro* and Serbia* and the EFTA country Norway, member of the European Economic Area, align themselves with this statement.

We align with the written statement submitted by IMEC.

We restate our strong support for the ILO approach to sectoral work which we firmly believe is a means to achieve the goal of decent work for all.

In this spirit, we welcome the work done to review the sectoral meetings, especially in light of adaptations needed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We appreciate the focus on a just transition to environmental sustainability and green jobs, promoting decent and sustainable work in global and domestic supply chains and achieving several targets of the Sustainable Development Goals, in the framework of multilateral coherence.

The importance and value of social dialogue was visible in the actions taken to respond to the Pandemic and the ongoing recovery.

The EU and its Member States would like to thank the Office for the organization of the Sectoral Meetings held so far in 2021. The positive spirit with which all constituents engaged in the discussions led to fruitful debates and constructive outcomes in these challenging times.

We warmly welcome the acceptance of our proposal for a Tourism focussed meeting and it's scheduling in 2022. We see great merit and relevance in the meeting on COVID-19 and sustainable recovery in the Tourism Sector. We particularly welcome the focus on Occupational Safety and Health which has become such a prominent part of the response to the pandemic. We look forward to the meeting in May 2022, and to exploring the best possible strategies and good practices that work towards a safe and sustainable recovery and

**The Republic of North Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.*

to advance the resilience of tourism into the future, in particular, through reskilling and upskilling.

We welcome the outcome of the Subcommittee on Wages of Seafarers of a resolution concerning the ILO minimum monthly basic pay or wage for able seafarers and its invitation to the GB to convene a meeting of the Subcommittee for the purpose of updating the minimum monthly basic wage which will be of benefit to Seafarers who have been significantly affected by the pandemic.

We also welcome the conclusions adopted at the technical meeting on the Future of Work in the Automotive Industry and the Technical meeting on the Future of Work in the Education Sector in the context of lifelong learning for all, Skills and the Decent Work Agenda.

The EU and its MS would like to thank the Office for scheduling the meeting on the protection of whistle-blowers in the public service sector and we support the timetable for sectoral meetings in 2022 as set out in Appendix 1 of Office Paper (25-29/04/22).

We would also like to reiterate our call to the Office in focusing ILO sectoral work on the transition to formality and to put on record, once again, our interest in a tripartite meeting of experts on ensuring decent work in the platform economy as suggested by the Office in doc GB.341/INS/3/1 and GB343/INS/15.

We support the Office's continuing commitment to further strengthen strategic partnerships across the multilateral system to promote policy coherence and to leverage support for decent work for all. We thank the members of the sectoral advisory body for their work.

Thus, the EU and its Member States support the decision point and ILO sectoral work and endorse the proposed meetings in Appendix 1 and 2.