INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE

Governing Body

GB.300/16 300th Session

Geneva, November 2007

SIXTEENTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Report of the Committee on Sectoral and Technical Meetings and Related Issues

- **1.** The Committee on Sectoral and Technical Meetings and Related Issues (STM) met on 5 November 2007.
- **2.** The Meeting was chaired by Mr L. Héthy (Hungary). The Employer and Worker Vice-Chairpersons were Mr G. Trogen and Mr J. Zellhoefer, respectively.
- **3.** The Chairperson announced that the Officers had decided that there would be a number of changes in the agenda. There would be no oral report on the recently held meeting on supply chains in the food and drink industries, but rather the full written report would be submitted to the March session of the Governing Body. Item 3 concerning the Committee of Experts on the Application of the Recommendations concerning Teaching Personnel (CEART) had been withdrawn as there was no paper before the Committee on Legal Issues and International Labour Standards. And item 5(a) on developments in the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) would now be discussed as the Second Supplementary Report of the Director-General to the Governing Body. ¹
- I. Purpose, duration and composition of the activities to be held in 2008 and new proposals for activities in 2008–09, including proposals resulting from the groupings of sectors' advisory bodies
 - **4.** Ms Walgrave, Acting Executive Director of the Social Dialogue Sector, introduced Part A of the paper on this item, ² noting that it covered the purpose, duration, composition and dates of meetings or forums decided in March 2007 concerning four groupings:
 - agriculture and forestry (agriculture sector);
 - energy and mining (oil and gas production; oil refining sector);

¹ GB.300/20/2.

² GB.300/STM/1.

- transport (shipping, ports, fisheries, waterways sector two meetings); and
- private sector services (commerce sector).
- 5. She recalled that the global dialogue forums differed from tripartite meetings in that they were informal in nature, would not be subject to the Standing Orders for Sectoral Meetings, and were intended to comprise a smaller number of Worker and Employer delegates. Representatives from interested governments of member States as well as additional Employer and Worker delegates could participate at no cost to the ILO, bearing in mind the need to keep the forums on an appropriate scale.
- 6. Mr Zellhoefer noted that the constituents and the Office had come a long way since the Committee's last session in March 2007. The changes then agreed upon with regard to how sectoral activities were carried out were far-reaching. Concrete recommendations, made through advisory bodies, better reflected constituents' priority needs. He thanked the regional coordinators who had participated in the advisory bodies for their involvement and expressed his group's hope for their continued participation, since governments played a crucial role in facilitating enabling conditions for social dialogue. He also hoped that the good and fruitful collaboration with the Employers would continue in future biennia. In principle, his group endorsed the proposals in Part A of the paper. However, they could not support the move that only ten participants from each group were to be invited to the meeting on oil and gas as this differed from the 12 each recommended by the advisory body. He also wished to underline that the advisory body on private sector services had recommended that a follow-up activity be envisaged in relation to the global dialogue forum on commerce. Such follow-up would need to be decided after appropriate further consultations with the constituents. Since this was not mentioned in the document before the Committee, he requested the Office's assurances that this recommendation would indeed be reflected in the 2008–09 programme of activities.
- 7. Mr Trogen considered the new approach to have produced positive results, but felt further discussions and follow-up were required to refine procedures. The proposals in the paper demonstrated the fact that good experience had already been achieved; its processes could, nevertheless, still be improved as it demanded a lot of additional work for both the Office and participants. It had, for example, been difficult to find dates that were acceptable for all stakeholders, so that a lot of energy had to go into negotiating schedules and on who should participate. However, the content of the discussions was more than satisfactory and the parties' strong interest in consensus had prevailed. In addition, his group still had some minor concerns, including on the composition of groupings as the current arrangement differed considerably with regard to the number of sectors in each grouping. It was also unclear as to what this would mean in relation to activities during a biennium, although the Employers were in favour of flexibility in this respect. There were also concerns in relation to the ambitions of the Workers' side to hold cross-sectoral activities (as in the case of the "from well to wheel" proposal in the oil industry and the recently held "global food chains" meeting. While Employers respected the Workers' interest in these issues, they found it difficult to match participants from the Workers' side without unduly risking diluting the substance of discussions. His group therefore wished to reiterate that the distribution aspect in paragraph 8 be limited to distribution within oil and gas companies and not be extended to cover the general transport system. With this clarification and the understanding that 12, rather than ten, participants should be invited to the oil and gas meeting, his group agreed to the proposals made in Part A.
- **8.** The representative of the Government of the Czech Republic, speaking on behalf of the group of 38 industrialized market economy countries (IMEC), considered it too early to make conclusions in relation to the new orientation decided upon by the Governing Body in March 2007. IMEC had participated in the advisory body meetings and made some

suggestions. He stressed that sectoral activities should fit in the overall ILO strategic framework and all its proposed activities should be evaluated in this light. Proposals recommended through the advisory bodies should feature defined targets and draft budgets. IMEC was satisfied that many of the activities discussed during the advisory bodies were within the DWCP framework. IMEC also agreed that tripartite commitment was necessary when designating a country to be the host of a sectoral activity. With regard to the paper, he commended the Office for the fact that the proposals respected IMEC's recommendations to have more focused, smaller and shorter (in the case of meetings) activities. He regretted, however, that no budgetary information on any of the proposals had been submitted. An appendix to the paper, consisting of a comprehensive table of endorsed activities (including the date, number of participants and estimated costs), would be useful when the Governing Body discussed the Committee's report. IMEC endorsed the proposals made in paragraph 31 and considered that the Office was following a promising approach to improve the visibility, credibility and influence of the Sectoral Activities Branch.

- **9.** Mr Zellhoefer agreed with the representative of the Government of the Czech Republic that sectoral activities needed to be in line with the ILO's strategic objectives and DWCPs, in order to ensure coherency. As regarded the Employers' concerns, his group felt these to have been addressed during prior consultations. Given the involvement of two different global union federations (GUFs) and the increasing pressures on the transport sector from high energy prices, his group deemed that a portion of the meeting should be dedicated to the transport of the commodity. He acknowledged the difficulties likely to be faced by the Employers to find the right blend of participants, but considered this an opportunity to have a less formal discussion on extraction, production and delivery of the commodity. Further refinement of the proposal might be required in the future, but the basic proposal made in the document was very workable.
- 10. Mr Trogen thanked the representative of the Government of the Czech Republic for his participation in the advisory bodies and shared his view that all sectoral activities needed to be in line with the programme and budget, as well as DWCPs. The budgetary questions raised were important; it would indeed be helpful if cost estimates for each of the proposed activities could be provided. In relation to the proposal for a broader scope for the oil and gas meeting, his group required more time to consider the issue.
- 11. Ms Walgrave accepted the Employer and Worker suggestion that 12 participants each from the Employer and Worker sides be envisaged for the oil and gas meeting, instead of the ten indicated in the paper before the Committee. Concerning the statement by the representative of the Government of the Czech Republic, she undertook to take into consideration his comments to ensure that the activities stood within the budget adopted by the Conference. It was, however, very difficult to predict with any certainty such important factors as the likely costs of transportation or the dollar exchange rate in 2009.
- **12.** Introducing Part B of the paper, Ms Walgrave clarified that this comprised two different types of proposals:
 - those which had been discussed in advisory body meetings; and
 - others not discussed at advisory bodies but which the Office had already included in the paper submitted to the Committee at its March 2007 session.

In view of the fact that the latter had not been discussed by the advisory bodies, she suggested that the Committee could endorse subparagraph (b) of paragraph 31 of the paper, but, in order to remain consistent with the new approach, decide that advisory bodies be convened before mid-January to discuss proposals which could then be taken

into account by the Office in its own submission to the Committee in its next session in March 2008.

- 13. Mr Trogen stated that his group supported the activities set out in Part B of the paper. In relation to paragraph 23, however, he suggested that the training material be subject to a similar procedure as described in paragraph 29. In addition, the title of the action programme in public utilities should be revised to refer to "strengthening social dialogue in the utilities sector" instead of the current "strengthening utilities". In relation to subparagraph 31(c) of the paragraph for decision, he asked the Office to clarify how many activities could still be selected and the motivation for including these proposals in the paper.
- 14. Mr Zellhoefer pointed out that the proposals in paragraphs 16, 17 and 25 were not endorsed by his group. These had already not found the support of his group in March 2007. He therefore agreed with the Office that a decision on the remaining activities be deferred to March 2008, following further consultations through the advisory bodies. His group endorsed the proposals in subparagraph (b) of decision paragraph 31. In relation to the action programme on transport equipment manufacturing, he was glad to report that there was already agreement between the Workers and Employers on two countries to work in. He hoped that the governments of these two countries (India and South Africa) would agree to the action programmes, so that activities could start in early 2008. Consultations were continuing with Employers and governments on additional countries. However, his group was concerned that the specialist in charge of this sector was scheduled to retire by the end of 2007; it was crucial that the Office identified and appointed a new sectoral expert swiftly so that the work on the action programme was not delayed. If the programme did not start in early 2008, his group would request a meeting of the advisory body for the manufacturing grouping to be convened in the second quarter of 2008 in order to discuss possible changes to the format or content of the activity.
- 15. As for the proposal for the "infrastructure, construction and related industries" grouping, Mr Zellhoefer noted that no reference was made to the advisory body's recommendation to conduct a study on workers' representation in health and safety in the construction industry. This proposal should have been included in the document and in the work programme of the Branch. His group supported a global dialogue forum on decent work through public procurement and construction contracts and reiterated the Workers' interest in embedding this work in the context of the Labour Clauses (Public Contracts) Convention, 1949 (No. 94), which provided for the inclusion of labour clauses in public contracts. Agreement had been reached with the Employers in this regard in the advisory body, and this issue needed to be referred to clearly. Other recommendations to the Office made by the advisory body for commerce were important to note. It raised the possibility of holding global dialogue forums in the private sector services in the next biennium, in addition to those noted in the Office document, targeting the following sectors: temporary employment agencies, the gaming industry, telecoms, knowledge-intensive business services and the graphical industry. It had been further agreed that an advisory body, to be convened in March 2008, would discuss these proposals in greater detail.
- 16. His group supported the action programme for the utilities sector with participants from both Public Services International (PSI) and the International Federation of Chemical, Energy, Mine and General Workers' Union (ICEM) (including the Employers' suggestion to amend its title) and the follow-up to the action programme on public administration. He recalled that the advisory body for this grouping had also recommended that follow-up activities to the action programme in health services focus on practical issues of concern for workers and on assistance to develop strategies for safeguarding and improving conditions of work in order to reverse migration flows. Finally, the Workers endorsed the proposal for the "education and research" grouping. However, a final decision on whether

a single validation workshop should be held in Geneva or several at a regional level should be deferred for the time being. In relation to government participation, he requested that efforts be made to ensure that representatives from education ministries attended. He also disagreed with the idea of a tripartite workshop, suggesting, instead, that the issue be discussed in the next advisory body meeting. His group preferred a bipartite seminar comprising workers on one side and representatives of education ministries and of private education employers on the other. A decision on the two remaining main activities should be taken in the next session of the Committee. However, one slot could be left open to allow the Office the ability to respond to any urgent issue that might emerge during the biennium.

- 17. Mr Trogen stated that his group supported the inclusion of a study on workers' representation in health and safety in the construction industry in the programme for the "infrastructure, construction and related industries" grouping, as proposed by Mr Zellhoefer. He also urged the Office to expedite the appointment of a new sectoral expert in charge of the action programme for the transport equipment manufacturing sector.
- **18.** In response to a request for clarification, Ms Walgrave pointed out that the following main activities had been decided upon by the Governing Body in March 2007:
 - a meeting of experts to adopt a revised code of practice on safety and health in agriculture;
 - a tripartite meeting on promoting social dialogue and good industrial relations from oil and gas exploration and production to oil and gas distribution;
 - a meeting of experts to adopt guidelines on port State responsibilities for the inspection of labour conditions on board ships;
 - a meeting of experts to adopt guidelines on flag State responsibilities under the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006; and
 - a global dialogue forum on vocational education and skills development for commerce workers.
- **19.** In addition, the following main activities, recommended through the advisory body process, had found the Committee's support:
 - action programme on transport equipment manufacturing: the employment relationship, rights at work and social protection (in the "manufacturing" grouping);
 - global dialogue forum on decent work in local government procurement for infrastructure provision;
 - development of training material on occupational safety and health and project management for different actors (both in the infrastructure, construction and related industries grouping);
 - action programme on strengthening social dialogue in the utilities sector (in the "public services and utilities" grouping); and
 - human resource "tool kit of good practices" and training programme (in the "education and research" grouping).

- **20.** Out of the two activities related to the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, one would not need to be financed from the Sectoral Activities Programme's budget. The study referred to by Mr Zellhoefer for the construction industry, and the additional follow-up activity on public services (in paragraph 28 of the paper) were not considered main activities. Referring to the observation of the Secretary of the Workers' group, Ms Walgrave confirmed that the two proposals for the infrastructure, construction and related industries grouping (paragraphs 21–23 in STM/1) were considered as a single activity; therefore, two more main activities could be selected.
- **21.** In view of the discussion, the representative of the Government of the Czech Republic reiterated the need for the Office to prepare and submit a comprehensive table of all proposals. If the Office were not able to produce such a table before the end of the Committee's session, it should prepare one in time for the Governing Body's discussion of the Committee's report in the coming week.
- **22.** Mr Trogen and Mr Zellhoefer agreed that budgetary information was not needed for this session; however, estimates, as repeatedly recommended in the advisory bodies, should be communicated to the Committee. Mr Zellhoefer suggested that a table appended to the Committee's report would suffice for this purpose.
- **23.** The Chairperson endorsed the suggestion that a table comprising the proposals be produced, and asked the Office to prepare the table and estimates. (See appendix.)
- **24.** In view of the discussion, the Secretary of the Workers' group suggested that the following language replace the current paragraph 31(c) of GB.300/STM/1:
 - the discussion of additional proposals by the Office in the March 2008 session of the Governing Body, following advisory body consultations.
- **25.** Mr Zellhoefer added that since the Council of Global Union Federations would meet in mid-January 2008 this needed to be taken into consideration when scheduling advisory bodies.
- **26.** Mr Trogen supported the Workers' proposed wording.
- **27.** In response to the observation from the representative of the Government of the Czech Republic that the proposed wording remained silent regarding the "energy and mining" and "private sector services" groupings, the Secretary of the Workers' group explained that such a reference had been left out in order to permit discussions among various bodies.
- **28.** The representative of the Government of the Czech Republic agreed to the text, but considered that those two groupings were implied, even if not explicitly included in the wording.
- **29.** The Secretary of the Employers' group pointed out that in its next session the Committee needed to take a decision on two additional main activities. Between this session and the deadlines given to the Office in January, four or five advisory bodies could still meet and make appropriate recommendations for activities.
- 30. The Committee on Sectoral and Technical Meetings and Related Issues recommends that the Governing Body:

- (a) endorse the purpose, composition, duration and dates of the meetings on agriculture, oil and gas, maritime and the global dialogue forum on commerce as proposed in Part A of document GB.300/STM/1 and listed in paragraph 18 above, as follows:
 - (i) that the purpose of the Meeting of Experts on agriculture would be to adopt a code of practice on safety and health in agriculture, that eight experts should be nominated from each group and that the meeting should last for eight days from 22 to 30 September 2009;
 - (ii) that the tripartite meeting on oil and gas should focus on recent developments, contract work employment, industrial relations, social dialogue and the implication of contract work issues in the oil production and oil transportation sectors, that 12 Employer and 12 Worker participants be invited and that it should last for four days, from 11 to 14 May 2009;
 - (iii) that the purpose of the maritime meetings would be to adopt guidelines for the implementation of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, and should be held, one following the other, between 15 and 26 September 2008. The composition and exact duration of the two meetings would be determined later;
 - (iv) that the purpose of the global dialogue forum on vocational education and skills development for commerce workers would be to examine current and future skills needs in the commerce sector as a basis for designing skills development strategies and vocational education programmes for workers to support their employment prospects and employability, as well as to improve business productivity and competitiveness. The forum would last for two days, 24 and 25 November 2008, and would be composed of six Employer and six Worker representatives and all governments would be invited. Other Employers and Workers could attend at their own expense;
- (b) endorse the activities contained in Part B of document GB.300/STM/1, recommended by advisory bodies for groups of sectors concerning the groupings and listed in paragraph 19 above: manufacturing; infrastructure, construction and related industries; public services and utilities; and education and research; and
- (c) that additional proposals by the Office be discussed in the March 2008 session of the Governing Body, following advisory body consultations.

II. Effect to be given to the recommendations of sectoral and technical meetings

Tripartite Meeting on the Production of Electronic Components for the IT Industries: Changing Labour Force Requirements in a Global Economy (16–18 April 2007)

- **31.** Ms Walgrave introduced the paper ³ and indicated that the *Note on the proceedings* ⁴ summarized the discussions at the meeting and included its conclusions. This was the first-ever meeting in the ILO on the manufacture of electronic components in the information technology (IT) industry.
- **32.** A very high number of prominent IT companies attended as observers. Two industry CSR bodies the Electronic Industry Code of Conduct (EICC) and the Global e-Sustainability Initiative (GeSI) each sent representatives.
- 33. A set of conclusions were adopted on social dialogue, recognition of standards throughout the supply chain and lifelong learning. A number of other activities were highlighted such as: investigating industry-specific occupational safety and health risks; promoting OSH standards; strengthening labour inspection; and identifying and promoting best practices. It was stressed that this was the beginning of a process of social dialogue in the IT industry that could continue in the framework of the Decent Work Agenda.
- **34.** Mr Zellhoefer indicated that the Workers' group had taken note of the conclusions of the meeting. He believed that future emphasis should be on improving social dialogue in key producing countries as the lack of communication between workers and employers in the electronics sector was currently one of the largest obstacles to promoting respect for labour standards in the industry. He supported the points for decision.
- **35.** Mr Trogen said that he was satisfied that real employers (29 observers, in addition to the ten designated) attended the meeting and would continue to do so in the future. The Employers also supported the point for decision.
- 36. The Committee on Sectoral and Technical Meetings and Related Issues recommends that the Governing Body:
 - (a) authorize the Director-General to communicate the Note on the proceedings:
 - (i) to governments, requesting them to communicate these texts to the employers' and workers' organizations concerned;
 - (ii) to the international employers' and workers' organizations concerned; and
 - (iii) to the international organizations concerned;

³ GB.300/STM/2/1.

⁴ TMITI/2007/10.

(b) request the Director-General to bear in mind, when drawing up proposals for the future work of the Office, the wishes expressed by the meeting in the conclusions.

III. Update on the ILO's participation in the development by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) of safety recommendations for small fishing vessels

- 37. Ms Walgrave introduced the paper, ⁵ recalling that ILO involvement in this work had begun with decisions taken by the Committee and Governing Body in March 2006. She noted that the adoption of the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188), and its Recommendation at the 96th Session of the International Labour Conference made participation in this work even more important, particularly as one of the tasks envisaged was to ensure that the draft safety recommendations did not conflict with these new instruments. She noted that the ILO delegation to the most recent IMO meeting SLF 50 had included a representative from the Office, from Employers and from Workers, but not from governments, and that it was important that future delegations were fully tripartite.
- **38.** Mr Trogen supported the work and endorsed the paragraphs for decision.
- **39.** Mr Zellhoefer said that the Workers appreciated the paper, and agreed that future delegations should be fully tripartite. He noted the importance of the safety recommendations during the interim period before the ILO Convention entered into force, particularly because they dealt with small fishing vessels, where protection is needed. The Workers endorsed the paragraphs for decision.
- **40.** The representative of the Government of Kenya welcomed the ILO paper. He commended the social partners for their participation in the delegation to SLF 50 and said that it was important to ensure that future delegations maintained a tripartite character. He endorsed the paragraphs for decision.
- **41.** The representative of the Government of France supported this work, as smaller fishing vessels had the highest rates of accidents. It was important to ensure consistency between ILO and IMO instruments. The future delegation should be tripartite. He endorsed the paragraphs for decision.
- 42. The Committee on Sectoral and Technical Meetings and Related Issues recommends that the Governing Body:
 - (i) authorize the continued participation by the ILO in the development of safety recommendations for decked fishing vessels of less than 12 metres in length and undecked fishing vessels, and participation by an ILO tripartite delegation to the next (51st) Session of the IMO's Subcommittee on Stability and Load Lines and on Fishing Vessels' Safety;
 - (ii) invite the nomination of one representative each from the governments, Employers and Workers to participate, at no cost to the Office, in the work

⁵ GB.300/STM/4.

of the correspondence group and in the ILO delegation to the 51st Session of the IMO's Subcommittee on Stability and Load Lines and on Fishing Vessels' Safety in 2008;

(iii) request the Office to continue to report to the Committee on any new developments concerning this work.

IV. Joint ILO/IMO/Basel Convention Working Group on Ship Scrapping: Third Session

- **43.** Mr Héthy introduced the paper, ⁶ saying that it would be the ILO's turn to host the Third Session of the Joint Working Group (JWG).
- **44.** Mr Zellhoefer said that the Workers' group thanked the Office for the paper. They were happy to see that the JWG would have an opportunity to consider interim measures pending entry into force of the IMO Convention. A recent EU Green Paper had estimated that accidents and fatalities were likely to increase over the next couple of years as unskilled workers would be recruited to deal with the increase in obsolete ships as single hull vessels were phased out. He hoped that the JWG would come up with concrete measures. The Workers' group could support the paragraph for decision, but recalled that paragraph 5 of the paper also listed other potential items which might be considered.
- **45.** Mr Trogen said that the Employers supported the paragraph for decision.
- 46. The Committee on Sectoral and Technical Meetings and Related Issues recommends that the Governing Body request the Director-General to:
 - (a) proceed, in consultation with the constituents, to discuss and, if possible, agree on an agenda and date for the meeting with the IMO and Basel Convention secretariats; and
 - (b) report to the Committee on the outcome of those discussions at its next session in March 2008.

V. Other questions

(a) Joint ILO/WHO Meeting on the Revision of the International Medical Guide for Ships (IMGS)

(Geneva, 25-26 July 2007)

47. Introducing the paper, ⁷ Ms Walgrave recalled the importance of the International Medical Guide for Ships which had been discussed by the abovementioned meeting. The proposals of that meeting for amendments to be made to the Guide were being taken account of by the WHO in the finalization of the publication. She also drew attention to the proposal that the Guide should be revised more frequently and that the Office should discuss with the WHO as to how this should be done.

⁶ GB.300/STM/5/2.

⁷ GB.300/STM/6/1.

- **48.** Mr Trogen and Mr Zellhoefer both supported the publication of the IMGS and agreed that the revision of this important publication should not have to wait for 20 years in the light of fast medical progress. Mr Zellhoefer urged that the new Guide be published in as many languages as possible.
- **49.** The representative of the Government of France agreed that the revision had become very urgent and he supported efforts for future revisions to be made more regularly and in a timely manner. He pointed out the need for the Office to request the WHO to translate the IMGS into the other official languages and to encourage translations into as many languages as possible.
- **50.** The representative of the Government of Kenya said that the importance of safety and health in the maritime industry could not be overemphasized. The revised IMGS was an important contribution in that regard. He therefore supported the decisions proposed.
- **51.** The representative of the Government of Nigeria supported the conclusions of the Joint Meeting and the proposal for further revisions every five years.
- 52. The Committee on Sectoral and Technical Meetings and Related Issues recommends that the Governing Body:
 - (i) note the report of the Joint ILO/WHO Meeting on the Revision of the International Medical Guide for Ships and the publication of the IMGS by the WHO as a Joint WHO/IMO/ILO publication; and
 - (ii) request the Office to confer with the WHO, in consultation with the constituents concerned and taking into account established practices between the two organizations, with the view to proposing an appropriate mechanism to review on a five-year basis and revising as appropriate the International Medical Guide for Ships, as well as assessing the financial implications to support this process.

(b) Project on avian flu and the workplace

- **53.** Ms Walgrave stated that the Advisory Body on Agriculture had requested that the Office provide information to the Committee concerning a project on avian flu in the workplace, which would target poultry workers in Thailand. The paper before the Committee ⁸ described the work of the ILO avian flu task force as well as the main features of the first ILO project funded through the UN Central Fund for Influenza Action and implemented jointly by the ILO and the International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers' Associations (IUF).
- 54. Mr Zellhoefer observed that the project on avian flu was a good example of the Sectoral Activities Programme working with other partners on urgent and emerging issues. While noting the involvement of the IUF, he felt that the topic could be of interest to other Global Union Federations as well, for example Public Services International (PSI) for health services, the Union Network International (UNI) for retail, and the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) for transport. The Workers' group requested that national centres be invited to participate in national activities within the project on avian flu and expressed the hope that employers' organizations would be able to be involved in the task force and field activities. It was important to promote dialogue within the ILO on the

⁸ GB.300/STM/6/2.

employment consequences of avian flu. Mr Zellhoefer suggested that additional donors be sought for further activities in this important area.

55. Mr Trogen agreed fully with Mr Zellhoefer's remarks.

Geneva, 8 November 2007.

Points for decision: Paragraph 30;

Paragraph 36; Paragraph 42; Paragraph 46; Paragraph 52.

Appendix: Sectoral activities 2008-09 1

Grouping	Governing Body decisions (March 2007)	STM Committee recommendations to the Governing Body (November 2007)	Dates	Number of participants
Agriculture and forestry	Meeting of experts to adopt a code of practice on safety and health in agriculture		22–30 September 2009	8 - 8 - 8
Energy and mining	Tripartite meeting on promoting social dialogue and good industrial relations from oil and gas exploration and production to oil and gas distribution		11–14 May 2009	12 – 12 – all governments ²
Manufacturing		Action programme on transport equipment manufacturing – the employment relationship, rights at work and social protection	n.a.	n.a.
	Joint ILO/IMO/Basel Convention Working Group on Ship Scrapping: Third Session		Possibly 29–30 October 2008	Not yet decided, but previously 5 Employers and 5 Workers (at no cost to the Office) ³
Infrastructure, construction and related industries		Global dialogue forum on decent work in local government procurement for infrastructure provision	Late 2008	Composition not yet decided
		Proposal for training material on occupational safety and health and project management for different actors	n.a.	n.a.

¹ Given that a number of important factors are yet unknown (including exchange rates) and decisions that would be required to make a budget estimate in accordance with internal ILO rules (such as the designation of target countries and delegate composition by countries) have only been partially decided, final cost estimates are not yet possible. In the case of meetings and global dialogue forums, they would be based on average costs incurred in comparable meetings/seminars.

² In accordance with the Governing Body's decision in March 2007, all governments will be invited to sectoral meetings at their own cost.

³ But, as the ILO will host JWG 3, there will be some organizational costs, even without interpretation.

Grouping	Governing Body decisions (March 2007)	STM Committee recommendations to the Governing Body (November 2007)	Dates	Number of participants
Transport	Meeting of experts to adopt guidelines on port State responsibilities for the inspection of labour conditions on board ships		Both meetings will be held consecutively from 15–26 September 2008	
	Meeting of experts to adopt guidelines on flag State responsibilities under the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006		See above	See above
	Further implementation of the road map for the establishment of a border-monitoring tool and facilitation bodies (follow-up activity)		n.a.	n.a.
Private sector services	Global dialogue forum on vocational education and skills development for commerce workers		24–25 November 2008	6 - 6 4
	Follow-up to the action programme on skills and employability in telecommunications services in Africa		n.a.	n.a.
Public services and utilities	Follow-up to the action programme on the international migration of health service workers: the supply side		n.a.	n.a.
		Action programme on strengthening social dialogue in the utilities sector	n.a.	n.a.
		Additional follow-up activity on public services	n.a.	n.a.
Education and research		Human resource "tool kit of good practices" and training programme	n.a.	n.a.

⁴ Six Employers and six Workers will be invited at the expense of the Office; interested governments and additional Workers or Employers can attend at no cost to the Office.