



Governing Body

GB.307/LILS/2/2 307th Session

Geneva, March 2010

Committee on Legal Issues and International Labour Standards

LILS

FOR DECISION

SECOND ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Other legal issues

Standing Orders of the Conference: Practical arrangements for the discussion at the 99th Session (June 2010) of the International Labour Conference of the Global Report prepared under the follow-up to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work

- 1. The Global Report is one of the two aspects (the other being the Annual Report) of the follow-up to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, which is intended to allow the identification of areas in which the assistance of the Organization through its technical cooperation activities may prove useful to its Members to help them implement these fundamental principles and rights. The Report is prepared under the responsibility of the Director-General.
- 2. This Report is submitted to the Conference for tripartite discussion "during a sitting devoted entirely to this Report, or in any other appropriate way". The Conference is not required to adopt conclusions or take decisions on the Report. In the light of the discussion at the Conference, the Director-General should be able to identify conclusions for the preparation of a report to be submitted to the Governing Body; it will then be for the Governing Body to draw conclusions from this discussion "concerning the priorities and plans of action for technical cooperation to be implemented for the following four-year period", in keeping with the promotional nature of the follow-up to the Declaration.
- **3.** In the light of the experience at the 98th Session of the Conference, in particular concerning the Global Jobs Summit, it is proposed that the discussion on the Global Report at the 99th Session of the Conference be organized in an interactive manner as follows.
- **4.** After a limited number of introductory group statements, the discussion could focus on a thematic panel animated by a facilitator which could be followed by an interactive discussion. Points for discussion prepared by the Office in consultation with constituents would be made available in advance. The interactive debate would start in the morning session and continue in the afternoon, and the reading of prepared speeches should be avoided.

- **5.** To this end, it is proposed that the provisional ad hoc arrangements referred to in the appendix, which include the proposal for the suspensions of a number of Standing Orders of the Conference be recommended to the Governing Body in view of their submission to the 99th Session of the International Labour Conference.
- 6. The Committee may wish to recommend to the Governing Body that it invite the Conference, at its 99th Session, to adopt the provisional ad hoc arrangements set out in the appendix concerning the discussion of the Global Report under the follow-up to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and any necessary procedural decisions to give them effect.

Geneva, 16 February 2010.

Point for decision: Paragraph 6.

Appendix

Ad hoc arrangements for the discussion of the Global Report under the follow-up to the 1998 Declaration at the 99th Session of the International Labour Conference

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 be dealt with by the Conference, separately from the Director-General's Reports under article 12 of the Standing Orders of the Conference.

Timing of the discussion

A single sitting (half a day) should be convened for the thematic discussion of the Global Report, with the possibility, if necessary, of extending the sitting. 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 Selection Committee.

Procedure for the discussion

The separate discussion of the Global Report should focus on a thematic panel animated by a facilitator which could be followed by interactive discussions. Points for discussion would be prepared in advance of the Conference. The reading of prepared speeches should be avoided. The course of action 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, and article 14, 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 would 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 proposed for suspension under the procedure provided for in article 76 of the Standing Orders to the extent necessary for the discussion of the Global Report.

Organization of the discussion

Given that the thematic discussion is not intended to lead to the adoption of conclusions or decisions by the Conference, on the one hand, and in consideration of the abovementioned suspensions of the Standing Orders, on the other, the Selection Committee may decide that this discussion should be conducted as a plenary committee that can convene at the same time as the plenary and be chaired by one of the Officers of the Conference. Should the need arise, the Chairperson might be assisted by one or more facilitators.

Report to the plenary

The Chairperson of the plenary committee would present a short oral report to the plenary of the Conference and the thematic discussion would be reproduced in the *Provisional Record*.