310th Session of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office (March 2011)

List of provisions that may be affected by the current proposals on Governing Body reform

Proposals from document GB.310/WP/GBC/1(Rev.)	Current provisions or practice	Legal implications of the proposals
 II.A.7 A screening procedure to make an initial assessment of all proposals and determine the agenda of the next session; this would entail: the holding of a meeting, in the course of a given Governing Body session (no later than Friday of the last week), of a screening group composed of the Officers of the Governing Body, the Government group Chairperson, the regional coordinators and the secretariats of the Employers' and the Workers' groups; ILO executive directors should also attend; for consideration of that meeting, the Office would issue a draft provisional agenda, no later than two working days in advance of the above meeting; this would ensure adequate opportunity for proper consultations within the groups; the draft provisional agenda would include, as an annex, a tentative plan of work with a clear indication of time frames for each section referred to in Part II.B of this paper; the necessary flexibility to deal with urgent matters arising between sessions would be ensured by provision for consultations with the Officers, the Government group Chairperson, the regional coordinators and the secretariats of the Employers' and Workers' groups in order to be able to adapt the agenda initially agreed; if needed, an updated tentative plan of work would then be distributed. 	 GBSO 3.1. Agenda of the Governing Body 3.1.1. The agenda for each session shall be drawn up by the Officers of the Governing Body with the assistance of the Director-General. 3.1.2. Any subject which the Governing Body shall have decided at its last session to include in the agenda shall be included in the agenda for the next session. 3.1.3. The agenda shall be circulated to the members so as to reach them not less than 14 days before the date of the meeting. With the consent of the Officers of the Governing Body, matters of urgent importance may be added to the agenda of any session. Section 5 – Procedures 5.1. Procedure for placing an item on the agenda of the International Labour Conference 5.2. Procedure for placing on the agenda of the Conference the question of revising a Convention in whole or in part 5.3. Procedure for placing on the agenda of the Conference the question of revising a Recommendation in whole or in part 5.4. Procedure concerning the placing on the Conference agenda of the abrogation of a Convention in force, or the withdrawal of a Convention which is not in force or of a Recommendation Introductory note Paragraphs 15–17 defining the role of groups and mentioning regional coordinators. 	New provisions in article 3.1 GBSO dealing with the role of the groups in the agenda-setting procedure and New paragraph in the introductory note dealing with the groups' organization and the calendar

Proposals from document GB.310/WP/GBC/1(Rev.)	Current provisions or practice	Legal implications of the proposals
	Paragraph 34. Effect to be given to resolutions adopted by the Conference Each resolution adopted by the Conference is submitted to the Governing Body committee competent for its subject matter. Only resolutions not falling within the competence of any committee are submitted directly to the Governing Body.	
 inclusion in the agenda of the follow-up to previous decisions; this would entail: 		
 clear formulation of decision points in documents; a distinction to be made between decisions of a purely formal or procedural nature (for which follow-up is not requested) and those of a substantive or operational nature requiring follow-up action; this distinction would be highlighted by the Office when drafting points for decision, clearly indicating whether a given decision required reporting on follow-up action or not. This would be confirmed by the Governing Body itself when adopting the respective points for decision; a Director-General's supplementary report outlining follow-up action taken by the Office on decisions specifically requiring it would be presented to the Governing Body; this could be in tabular or matrix form and would provide basic information on action taken, the time frame for further action, those responsible for taking action, budgetary implications, and items which were not acted upon (outlining the reasons for this); the screening group (referred to above) would determine if such supplementary reports are to be produced once or twice a year. 	 GBSO 2.2.5. The functions conferred on the Director-General by the Constitution of the Organization being reserved, the Chairperson shall supervise the observance of the provisions of the Constitution and the execution of the decisions of the Governing Body. Introductory note Procedure for determining the agenda of the International Labour Conference 31. The items to be placed on the agenda of the Conference are considered at two successive sessions of the Governing Body, so that the decision is taken two years prior to the opening of the session of the Conference in question. 32. The first stage of the discussion, which takes place at the autumn session, consists in identifying the subjects from which a choice could be made. For this purpose, the Governing Body bases its discussion on a paper containing all the information necessary on the items proposed by the Director-General. 33. The second stage, which takes place at the March session, consists in adopting a definitive decision. The paper serving as the basis for this discussion covers any additional items proposed by the Governing Body during the first stage of the discussion. If a decision cannot be taken at the March session, it is still possible to adopt a definitive decision at the following November session. However, to allow for full preparation by the Office, such a third discussion should remain an exceptional practice. 	New provisions in article 3.1 GBSO and cross reference to 2.2.5 and New paragraph in the introductory note

GB310_Room document_[2011-03-0126-2]-En.docx

Proposals from document GB.310/WP/GBC/1(Rev.)	Current provisions or practice	Legal implications of the proposals
 removal from the agenda of those items which are purely procedural or informative and which do not call for a substantive Governing Body discussion; this would entail the following rules: all items on the agenda would be, by definition, for guidance and/or for decision; documents identified as "for information only" – for instance, items such as programmes of meetings, information notes on symposia and seminars and certain reports of the Officers of the Governing Body – would be posted on the ILO's Governing Body website and published (as Governing Body documents) but would not be intended for discussion; a document containing a list of all papers "for information only" presented to a given session would be prepared for the Governing Body to take note of; the list would be annexed to the Governing Body agenda; any member of the Governing Body would have the right to request the opening of a discussion on a "for information only"; members of the Governing Body would have the right to request the opening of a discussion on a "for information only"; consultations, to be held between March and June 2011, would establish a more clear definition and scope of the concept of papers "for information only". 	GBSO 5.5.5. Documents prepared by the International Labour Office and dealing with the items on the agenda of the Governing Body shall be circulated to members of the Governing Body before the opening of each session. () Introductory note None	New provisions in article 3.1 GBSO and New paragraph in the introductory note
side events – meetings or initiatives not intrinsic to the business of the session, but involving the participation of Governing Body members, should be an exception and kept to a minimum. They should not in any way coincide with Governing Body meetings. All such side events should be approved by the Officers in consultation with the regional coordinators.	GBSO None Introductory note None	New paragraph in introductory note (if necessary, since it is outside the scope of the GB)

Proposals from document GB.310/WP/GBC/1(Rev.)	Current provisions or practice	Legal implications of the proposals
 II.B.9 The new structure would be based on two basic and interrelated concepts: no more than one meeting should take place at any time, so that (with the exception of the bodies referred to in paragraph 11) all Governing Body participants would be able to take part in them; the Governing Body would take the form of a continuous plenary structured in a limited number of defined spaces called sections; it is to be noted that the present quorum rule 4 would be maintained. 	 ILCSO Article 18 1. Any motion or resolution involving expenditure shall in the first instance, or in the case of resolutions referred to the Resolutions Committee as soon as that Committee is satisfied that the resolution is receivable and within the competence of the Conference, be referred to the Governing Body which, after consultation of its Programme, Financial and Administrative Committee, shall communicate its opinion to the Conference. 2. The opinion of the Governing Body shall be circulated to the delegates at least 24 hours before the motion or resolution is discussed by the Conference. 3. The Governing Body and the Programme, Financial and Administrative Committee may delegate the authority to carry out their responsibilities under this article to their officers. 	Deletion of articles 4.1.1 and 4.1.2 GBSO
	GBSO 2.2.8. The Chairperson shall examine the working of the various services of the Office, and shall convoke the Programme, Financial and Administrative Committee when necessary.	
	Section 4 – Committees and working parties 4.1. Programme, Financial and Administrative Committee 4.1.1. A Programme, Financial and Administrative Committee shall be appointed consisting of the Chairperson of the Governing Body, who shall be Chairperson of the Committee, and such other members as the Governing Body shall appoint, with the representatives of the Governments, Employers and Workers having an equal number of votes. 4.1.2. The Programme, Financial and Administrative Committee shall examine the estimates and the expenditure of the International Labour Office, study any financial and administrative questions which may be referred to it by the Governing Body or submitted to it by the Director-General and undertake such duties as may be assigned to it by the Governing Body.	

4

Proposals from document GB.310/WP/GBC/1(Rev.)	Current provisions or practice	Legal implications of the proposals
	 4.1.3. The Governing Body shall take no decision regarding any proposal involving expenditure until that proposal has been referred in the first instance to the Programme, Financial and Administrative Committee. The Programme, Financial and Administrative Committee shall make a report, including an estimate of the cost, and a suggestion as to the manner in which provision should be made for the necessary expenditure. 4.1.4. The Programme, Financial and Administrative Committee may delegate to its Officers the authority to carry out its responsibilities under article 18 of the Standing Orders of the International Labour Conference. Any such delegation shall be made only for one specific session of the Conference, and relate only to proposals involving expenditure during a financial period for which a budget has already been adopted. 4.2. Other committees and working parties 4.2.1. The Governing Body may appoint a committee, subcommittee or working party to consider any matter which in its view requires examination, subject to the provisions of paragraph 4.1.3 above. 4.2.2. Subject to specific provisions, each committee shall elect officers comprising a Chairperson, an Employer Vice- Chairperson and a Worker Vice-Chairperson. 4.2.3. The representatives of governments, employers and workers in the committees shall have an equal number of votes, unless the Governing Body shall otherwise expressly determine. Annex VII: Procedures for the selection and appointment of the ILO External Auditor Introductory note 	Modification of articles 2.2.8, 4.1.3 and 4.1.4, and of Annex VII GBSO (suppression of PFAC, competence transferred to the GB plenary) Accordingly, modification of paragraphs 21–23 of the introductory note
	Paragraphs 21–23	
 II.B.12 Full sessions of the Governing Body would continue to take place in March and November. In addition, as is the case today, the Governing Body would have, in June: a half-day meeting after the closing of the International Labour Conference; and a (short) meeting of its Programme, Finance and 	ILO Constitution Article 7 8. The Governing Body shall regulate its own procedure and shall fix its own times of meeting. A special meeting shall be held if a written request to that effect is made by at least sixteen of the representatives on the Governing Body.	None

Proposals from document GB.310/WP/GBC/1(Rev.)	Current provisions or practice	Legal implications of the proposals
Administrative Section during the Conference.	GBSO 3.2. <i>Times of meeting</i> 3.2.1. The Governing Body shall normally hold three ordinary sessions in each year. 3.2.2. Without prejudice to the provisions of article 7 of the Constitution of the Organization, the Chairperson may also summon a special meeting should it appear necessary to do so, and shall be bound to summon a special meeting on receipt of a written request to that effect signed by sixteen members of the Government group, or twelve members of the Employers' group, or twelve members of the Workers' group. 3.2.3. At each session the Governing Body shall decide on the date of the following session. In the event of it becoming necessary in the interval between two sessions to alter the date decided on, the Chairperson may, after consultation with the Vice-Chairpersons, make the necessary alteration. Introductory note 19. Since 1995 the Governing Body's work has been distributed between a full autumn session (November) and another in the spring (March), as well as a one-day session in June immediately after the International Labour Conference.	
II.B.13 The length of each full session would be determined by its agenda as established through the new screening procedure.	GBSO None Introductory note 20. In principle, with the exception of the June session, the plenary sessions of the Governing Body last up to three-and- a-half days, and are preceded by a half-day of group meetings. The committees meet during the previous one-and- a-half weeks at ordinary sessions, and during the previous two-and-a-half weeks at the spring sessions when the programme and budget proposals are examined.	Modification of paragraph 20 of the introductory note
15. Each section would be composed of a limited number of autonomous segments in order to better organize the agenda and ensure that important issues are not systematically left out.	GBSO None Introductory note None	Addition to the introductory note

Proposals from document GB.310/WP/GBC/1(Rev.)	Current provisions or practice	Legal implications of the proposals
16. Time allocation: As the business to be conducted would determine the time needed, the indicative time allocated to each section could change from session to session, as well as the order in which the sections will be treated. This would be duly noted in the tentative plan of work to be examined by the screening group (see paragraph 7). This would help to establish defined spaces and to ensure predictability for participants with specific responsibilities or competences.	GBSO None Introductory note None	Addition to the introductory note
Decision-making: Each section would take its own decisions (as part of a continuous plenary) as the Governing Body proceeded; decisions would be posted on the ILO's Governing Body website on the same day they are taken.	GBSO Articles 6.1–6.3 Introductory note Paragraphs 24–25	None
Chairperson, Vice-Chairpersons and spokespersons: The Officers would remain the same throughout the entire Governing Body session. There would therefore be no specific Officers for the different sections of the continuous plenary. Nevertheless, the Officers of the Governing Body would be free to delegate their authority to direct the debates to one member for each section (or segment) within a given Governing Body period or session. This would be done in advance, in writing.	 ILO Constitution Article 7 7. The Governing Body shall, from time to time, elect from its number a chairman and two vice-chairmen, of whom one shall be a person representing a government, one a person representing the employers, and one a person representing the workers. GBSO 2.1. Officers 2.1.1. The Officers shall consist of a Chairperson and two Vice-Chairpersons chosen one from each of the three groups. Only regular members of the Governing Body may be elected Officers. 2.2. Duties of the Chairperson 2.2.1. The Chairperson shall declare the opening and closure of the sitting. Before proceeding with the agenda the Chairperson shall bring before the Governing Body any communications which may concern it. The Chairperson shall direct the debates, maintain order, ensure observance of the Standing Orders, accord or withdraw the right to address the Governing Body, put questions to the vote and announce the result of the vote. 2.2.2. The Chairperson shall have the right to take part in the discussions and to vote, but shall not have a casting vote. 	Modification of article 2.2.4 GBSO

Proposals from document GB.310/WP/GBC/1(Rev.)	Current provisions or practice	Legal implications of the proposals
	2.2.3. When the Governing Body has before it a matter of a	
	purely ceremonial nature, the Chairperson may decide to	
	speak alone on behalf of the Governing Body or to appoint,	
	following appropriate consultations, another member or deputy	
	member for this purpose.	
	2.2.4. In the absence of the Chairperson, the two Vice-	
	Chairpersons shall preside at alternate sittings.	
	2.2.5. The functions conferred on the Director-General by the	
	Constitution of the Organization being reserved, the	
	Chairperson shall supervise the observance of the provisions	
	of the Constitution and the execution of the decisions of the	
	Governing Body.	
	2.2.6. For the purpose provided in paragraph 2.2.5, the	
	Chairperson shall, during the interval between the sessions,	
	be invested with such functions as the Governing Body may	
	deem fit to delegate for the joint signature or the visa of certain	
	documents, for the preliminary approval of inquiries, or for the	
	despatch of official representatives of the Office to meetings, conferences or congresses.	
	2.2.7. The Chairperson shall be informed without delay by the	
	Director-General of significant events in the work of the Office	
	and of any events which may require intervention, in order to	
	take, within the limits of the power granted to the Chairperson,	
	any steps which may be necessary. The Chairperson may	
	consult the Vice-Chairpersons upon any matter submitted for	
	decision under this paragraph.	
	2.2.8. The Chairperson shall examine the working of the	
	various services of the Office, and shall convoke the	
	Programme, Financial and Administrative Committee when	
	necessary.	
	2.3. Delegation of authority to the Officers	
	2.3.1. The Governing Body may delegate to its Officers the	
	authority:	
	(a) to approve the programme of meetings and the dates of	
	symposia, seminars and similar meetings;	
	(b) to invite member States or States which are not Members	
	of the Organization;	
	(c) to invite official international organizations;	
	(d) to invite non-governmental international organizations.	

Proposals from document GB.310/WP/GBC/1(Rev.)	Current provisions or practice	Legal implications of the proposals
	 2.3.2. The decisions of the Officers of the Governing Body shall be communicated to the Governing Body for information. If there is no agreement among the Officers, the question shall be referred to the Governing Body for decision. 2.3.3. The Governing Body may delegate to its Officers the authority to carry out its responsibilities under article 18 of the Standing Orders of the International Labour Conference. Any such delegation shall be made only for one specific session of the Conference, and relate only to proposals involving expenditure during a financial period for which a budget has already been adopted. 	
	Introductory note None	
 Reporting: there would be no need for formal approval of the report of each section within a given Governing Body session. However, to ensure adequate reporting, the following procedure would be put in place: the Office would make available, during the last week, the provisional reports of the sections taking place during the first week; Governing Body members would have a deadline for amendments to their own interventions; such amendments to be presented directly to the secretariat without the need to announce them in the Governing Body itself; the reports of each section, once amended, would be incorporated into the minutes of a given Governing Body session; these minutes, covering the entire proceedings of a given Governing Body session of the Governing Body. 	 GBSO 5.5.2. A stenographic record of the sittings of the Governing Body shall be kept. It shall not be published or distributed. 5.5.3. The Secretariat of the Governing Body shall keep the minutes of the meetings. They shall not be published. At the beginning of each session the minutes of the previous session shall be approved. 5.5.4. When the minutes have been approved by the Governing Body, they shall be circulated to the governments of the States Members and may be made public. () Introductory note Adoption of reports of committees 26. Draft reports of committees are prepared by the officials servicing the committee in question, under the responsibility of the reporter or the Chairperson, where there is no reporter. The draft report is communicated to the Chairperson and the Employer and Worker Vice-Chairperson, who must approve it before it is reproduced and submitted to the Governing Body for adoption. 27. With the exception of the reports of the Committees set up by the Governing Body to examine representations under article 24 of the ILO Constitution and working parties, the reports of the 	Modification of paragraphs 26–29 of the introductory note

Proposals from document GB.310/WP/GBC/1(Rev.)	Current provisions or practice	Legal implications of the proposals
	 committees are adopted by the Governing Body without introduction or other discussion. The Chairperson of the Governing Body submits for adoption each point for decision and proposes that the Governing Body take note of the report in its entirety. 28. Nevertheless, members of the Governing Body still have the possibility of making amendments to their own statements as reflected in the report and to submit, in accordance with the Standing Orders of the Governing Body (article 5.6), proposals for amendments to the points for decision. 29. The Chairperson may permit individual interventions and allow a discussion in the following cases: 	
	 (i) where the committee concerned is unable to reach a consensus on a particular point or has to take a decision by a majority vote, in which case the point concerned may need to be further discussed by the Governing Body; 	
	 (ii) where the Officers of the Governing Body unanimously consider that an issue raised in a committee report is sufficiently important to warrant discussion by the Governing Body; 	
	(iii) if a formal request is made by a group spokesperson or by at least 14 members of the Governing Body for discussion on a particular item in the report.	
17. To better align the Governing Body structure with the ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization, as well as simplifying the structure and reducing duplication, five sections would be created:	GBSO None	
 a Policy Development Section (POL); 	Introductory note	Additions to the introductory note
 a Legal Issues and International Labour Standards Section (LILS); 	None	
 a Programme, Financial and Administrative Section (PFA); 		
■ a High-Level Section (HL);		
an Institutional Section (INST).		

Proposals from document GB.310/WP/GBC/1(Rev.)	Current provisions or practice	Legal implications of the proposals
 II.C.23. In order to enhance active participation by all groups, the following measures would be put in place: () papers under consultation at the discretion of the Director-General, as well as relevant information, would be shared at the same time with ACT/EMP and ACTRAV and with the regional coordinators; 	ILO Constitution: Article 8: (1) There shall be a Director-General of the International Labour Office, who shall be appointed by the Governing Body, and, subject to the instructions of the Governing Body, shall be responsible for the efficient conduct of the International Labour Office and for such other duties as may be assigned to him.	
 consultations with the Officers of the Governing Body during Governing Body sessions would be enlarged to include the Government group Chairperson and the regional coordinators. 	GBSO 5.5.5. Documents prepared by the International Labour Office and dealing with the items on the agenda of the Governing Body shall be circulated to members of the Governing Body before the opening of each session ().	
	Introductory note None	Possible change in Internal Governance Documents
 24. In order to enhance transparency the following measures would be put in place: the right to reply of Government members of the Governing Body would be ensured upon their request and in the manner and the time to be decided by the Chairperson, provided they had been specifically mentioned by name in the discussion (including in the concluding remarks by the Vice-Chairpersons); 	GBSO 2.2.1. The Chairperson shall declare the opening and closure of the sitting. Before proceeding with the agenda the Chairperson shall bring before the Governing Body any communications which may concern it. The Chairperson shall direct the debates, maintain order, ensure observance of the Standing Orders, accord or withdraw the right to address the Governing Body, put questions to the vote and announce the result of the vote.	None or addition to the introductory note
	Introductory note None	
the right to speak of observers and, in particular, of representatives from member States which are not members of the Governing Body would be ensured, in situations and under modalities to be determined.	GBSO 1.8. Representation of States which are not members of the Governing Body 1.8.1. When the Governing Body considers any matter arising out of a representation under article 24 or a complaint under article 26 of the Constitution, the government concerned shall, if not already represented on the Governing Body, be entitled to send a representative to take part, without the right to vote, in its proceedings while the matter is under consideration.	Modification of article 1.8 GBSO and of paragraph 9 of the introductory note Further guidance needed regarding "situations and under modalities to be determined"

Proposals from document GB.310/WP/GBC/1(Rev.)	Current provisions or practice	Legal implications of the proposals
	Adequate notice of the date on which the matter will be considered shall be given to the government. 1.8.2. When the Governing Body considers a report of the Committee on Freedom of Association or of the Fact-Finding and Conciliation Commission on Freedom of Association containing conclusions on a case relating to a government which is not represented on the Governing Body, that government shall be entitled to send a representative to take part, without the right to vote, in the proceedings of the Governing Body while the conclusions on the case in question are under consideration.	
	 4.3. Committee of the Whole 4.3.1. The Governing Body may decide to meet as a Committee of the Whole in order to hold an exchange of views, in which representatives of governments that are not represented on the Governing Body may, in the manner determined by it, be given an opportunity to express their views with respect to matters concerning their own situation. The Committee of the Whole shall report to the Governing Body. 	
	Introductory note 9. The situation of States which are not represented on the Governing Body is governed by the provisions of articles 1.8 and 4.3 of the Standing Orders, which allow representatives of such States to take part, without the right to vote, in proceedings concerning representations under articles 24 and 25 of the Constitution, complaints under article 26 of the Constitution, cases under consideration by the Committee on Freedom of Association or a Fact-Finding and Conciliation Commission on Freedom of Association, or, in a committee of the whole, to express their views with respect to matters concerning their own situation.	
25. The composition of working parties and committees would be decided on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the present Standing Orders of the Governing Body and the fact that, due to its particular regional structure and composition, eight governments (or any other multiple of four) would help to accommodate regional concerns.	GBSO 4.2. Other committees and working parties 4.2.1. The Governing Body may appoint a committee, subcommittee or working party to consider any matter which in its view requires examination, subject to the provisions of paragraph 4.1.3 above.	None

Proposals from document GB.310/WP/GBC/1(Rev.)	Current provisions or practice	Legal implications of the proposals
	 4.2.2. Subject to specific provisions, each committee shall elect officers comprising a Chairperson, an Employer Vice-Chairperson and a Worker Vice-Chairperson. 4.2.3. The representatives of governments, employers and workers in the committees shall have an equal number of votes, unless the Governing Body shall otherwise expressly determine. 	
	Introductory note None	
26. The Office would improve support to the Government group by establishing a facility to promote full participation by governments – and, in particular, participation by the Government group Chairperson, regional coordinators, labour attachés and Geneva-based missions – in the life and governance of the International Labour Organization and Office.	ILO Constitution: Article 8: (1) There shall be a Director-General of the International Labour Office, who shall be appointed by the Governing Body, and, subject to the instructions of the Governing Body, shall be responsible for the efficient conduct of the International Labour Office and for such other duties as may be assigned to him. GBSO None Introductory note None	None
II.D.27. In particular circumstances an item on the agenda might not require a document, or a document might be replaced by an oral or PowerPoint presentation. This would be duly noted in the provisional agenda and on the ILO's Governing Body website.	GBSO 5.5.5. Documents prepared by the International Labour Office and dealing with the items on the agenda of the Governing Body shall be circulated to members of the Governing Body before the opening of each session. () Introductory note None	Modification of article 5.5.5. GBSO
28. Length and presentation of Governing Body documents. The Office should provide clear, concise and decision-oriented texts. However, due to the different nature of the documents, it does not seem feasible to establish a single limit to the number	GBSO None	None

Proposals from document GB.310/WP/GBC/1(Rev.)	Current provisions or practice	Legal implications of the proposals
of pages. Nevertheless, the following measures would be introduced in order to enhance governance and a "reader- friendly" format: ()	Introductory note None	
 29. Timeliness of Governing Body documents. The general principle would be the following: Governing Body documents should be available electronically, in the three official languages, 15 working days prior to the start of the public Governing Body meetings; if a document is not available electronically, in the three official languages, 15 working days prior to the start of the public Governing Body meetings, the respective item would be postponed to the following Governing Body session; in the case of the programme and budget, a period of 20 working days would be required; derogations to this rule would be exceptional and would require prior agreement from the Officers of the Governing Body, after consulting the Government group Chairperson and the regional coordinators. 30. By definition, this general principle would not apply to those reports and documents directly linked with meetings, missions and initiatives taking place closer to or during the Governing Body session. This is the case of an important number of documents to be presented to the Institutional Section. Neither would the rule apply to papers "for information only". 	 GBSO 3.1.3. The agenda shall be circulated to the members so as to reach them not less than 14 days before the date of the meeting. With the consent of the Officers of the Governing Body, matters of urgent importance may be added to the agenda of any session. 5.5.5. Documents prepared by the International Labour Office and dealing with the items on the agenda of the Governing Body shall be circulated to members of the Governing Body before the opening of each session. () Introductory note None 	Modification of article 5.5.5 GBSO
31. Establishing a single time limit for all interventions during a Governing Body session seems unrealistic, given the different nature of the items to be discussed and the different types of intervention (Office presentations, spokesperson interventions, group statements, individual speeches). Each section would, therefore, determine its own time management procedures. Sections might wish to use a standard default procedure, to be decided. The criteria would be set in advance.	GBSO 2.2.1. The Chairperson shall declare the opening and closure of the sitting. Before proceeding with the agenda the Chairperson shall bring before the Governing Body any communications which may concern it. The Chairperson shall direct the debates, maintain order, ensure observance of the Standing Orders, accord or withdraw the right to address the Governing Body, put questions to the vote and announce the result of the vote. Introductory note None	Modification of the introductory note

14