



Governing Body

316th Session, Geneva, 1–16 November 2012

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Institutional Section

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FIFTEENTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Report of the Officers of the Governing Body

Meeting of Experts on Forced Labour and Trafficking for Labour Exploitation (Geneva, 11–15 February 2013)

Background

1. The 101st Session of the International Labour Conference (2012) ended with the adoption of a “Framework for action on the effective and universal respect, promotion and realization of fundamental principles and rights at work”. The Framework called for various measures to enhance the ILO’s action on fundamental principles and rights at work, including standards-related action.
2. With regard to the elimination of forced labour, the Conference requested the Office to conduct a detailed analysis, including through the convening of a meeting of experts, to identify gaps in existing coverage of ILO standards with a view to determining whether there was a need for standard setting to: (i) complement the ILO’s forced labour Conventions to address prevention and victim protection, including compensation; and (ii) address human trafficking for labour exploitation.
3. It is suggested to hold the Meeting of Experts in February 2013 with the objective to provide to the 317th Session (March 2013) of the Governing Body recommendations regarding possible standards-related action in June 2014.
4. The Programme and Budget for 2012–13 contains no provision for this Meeting. Any decision concerning the holding of this Meeting would therefore be subject to the financial arrangements the Governing Body might adopt to ensure its funding.

Composition

5. It is proposed that this Meeting be attended by eight experts nominated after consultations with Governments, eight experts nominated after consultations with the Employers' group and eight experts nominated after consultations with the Workers' group.
6. In order to obtain the government nominations, the Director-General intends, after consultation with the Regional Coordinators, to approach the governments of eight countries. A reserve list would also be established which would include the governments of eight other countries.

Draft decision

7. *The Officers recommend that the Governing Body approve the above composition formula.*

Agenda

8. The purpose of the Meeting is to formulate recommendations to the Governing Body as to whether there is scope for standard setting to complement the ILO's Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29), and the Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105). The topics to be covered have been identified in the Framework for Action, namely: (i) prevention of forced labour; (ii) victim protection, including compensation; and (iii) human trafficking for labour exploitation. The Office is preparing a detailed analysis of these topics for discussion at the Meeting.

Draft decision

9. *The Officers of the Governing Body may wish to recommend that the Governing Body approve the above agenda.*

Invitation of intergovernmental organizations

10. The Director-General proposes to invite the following intergovernmental organizations to be represented at the Meeting as observers:
 - Council of Europe;
 - International Organization of Migration (IOM);
 - Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR); and
 - United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

Draft decision

11. *The Officers of the Governing Body recommend that the Director-General be authorized to invite the abovementioned intergovernmental organizations to be represented at the Meeting as observers.*

Invitation of non-governmental organizations

12. The Director-General proposes to invite the following non-governmental organizations to be represented at the Meeting as observers:
- Anti-Slavery International (ASI); and
 - Global Alliance against Traffic in Women (GAATW).

Draft decision

13. *The Officers of the Governing Body recommend that the Director-General be authorized to invite the abovementioned non-governmental organizations to be represented at the Meeting as observers.*