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FIFTEENTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Report of the Director-General

Purpose of the document

This report summarizes information that the Director-General wishes to communicate to the Governing Body concerning progress in international labour legislation and internal administration.

Relevant strategic objective: Not applicable.

Policy implications: None.

Legal implications: None.

Financial implications: None.

Follow-up action required: None.

Author units: International Labour Standards Department (NORMES); Office of the Legal Adviser (JUR); Human Resources Development Department (HRD); and Official Relations Branch (RELOFF).

Related documents: None.

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I. Membership of the Organization

1. By letter dated 30 March 2015, the Government of the Cook Islands filed an application for membership of the International Labour Organization. In his reply to the Government of the Cook Islands, the Director-General noted that the Government had formally accepted the obligations of the ILO Constitution and, since the Cook Islands was not a Member of the United Nations, he informed the Government that the application for membership would be submitted to the International Labour Conference for examination and decision, in accordance with article 1, paragraph 4, of the ILO Constitution.
2. The International Labour Conference, at its 104th Session (June 2015), decided by 441 votes in favour, 3 votes against and 25 abstentions, to admit the Cook Islands as a member of the ILO. The Cook Islands accordingly became the 186th member State of the International Labour Organization on 12 June 2015.

II. Progress in international labour legislation

Ratifications of Conventions

3. Since the information submitted to the 323rd Session of the Governing Body to 3 September 2015, the Director-General has registered the following **33** ratifications of international labour Conventions and a ratification of a Protocol.

Belgium

Ratification registered on 10 April 2015:

Workers with Family Responsibilities Convention, 1981 (No. 156)

Ratifications registered on 10 June 2015:

Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (Disabled Persons) Convention, 1983 (No. 159)

Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189)

Plurinational State of Bolivia

Ratification registered on 10 February 2015:

Safety and Health in Construction Convention, 1988 (No. 167)

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Ratification registered on 31 March 2015:

Labour Relations (Public Service) Convention, 1978 (No. 151)

Chad

Ratifications registered on 4 June 2015:

Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952 (No. 102)

Employment Policy Convention, 1964 (No. 122)

Chile

Ratification registered on 10 June 2015:

Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189)

Cook Islands

Ratifications registered on 12 June 2015:

Right of Association (Agriculture) Convention, 1921 (No. 11)

Weekly Rest (Industry) Convention, 1921 (No. 14)

Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29)

Minimum Wage Fixing Machinery (Agriculture) Convention, 1951 (No. 99)

Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105)

Dominican Republic

Ratification registered on 15 May 2015:

Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189)

Gabon

Ratifications registered on 28 July 2015:

Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 (No. 155)

Occupational Health Services Convention, 1985 (No. 161)

Safety and Health in Construction Convention, 1988 (No. 167)

Georgia

Ratification registered on 3 February 2015:

Seafarers' Identity Documents Convention (Revised), 2003 (No. 185)

Indonesia

Ratification registered on 31 August 2015:

Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 2006 (No. 187)

Kazakhstan

Ratifications registered on 3 February 2015:

Protection of Wages Convention, 1949 (No. 95)

Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 2006 (No. 187)

Ratification registered on 5 March 2015:

Minimum Wage-Fixing Machinery Convention, 1928 (No. 26)

Mexico

Ratification registered on 10 June 2015:

Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138)

Mongolia

Ratifications registered on 17 April 2015:

Employment Service Convention, 1948 (No. 88)

Private Employment Agencies Convention, 1997 (No. 181)

Montenegro

Ratification registered on 3 February 2015:

Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 (MLC, 2006)

Niger

Ratifications registered on 14 May 2015:

Private Employment Agencies Convention, 1997 (No. 181)

Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930

Ratification registered on 29 June 2015:

Labour Administration Convention, 1978 (No. 150)

Panama

Ratifications registered on 11 June 2015:

Tripartite Consultation (International Labour Standards) Convention, 1976 (No. 144)

Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189)

Portugal

Ratification registered on 17 July 2015:

Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189)

Turkey

Ratifications registered on 23 March 2015:

Safety and Health in Construction Convention, 1988 (No. 167)

Safety and Health in Mines Convention, 1995 (No. 176)

Declaration concerning the application of Conventions regarding non-metropolitan territories (article 35 of the Constitution)

4. The Director-General has registered the following declaration concerning the application of international labour Conventions regarding the following non-metropolitan territory:

France

Declaration registered on 29 October 2014:

Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 2006 (No. 187)

Acceptance of the obligations of the Convention: New Caledonia

Ratifications/acceptances of the instrument for the amendment of the Constitution of the International Labour Organisation, 1986

5. Since the preparation of the document submitted to the 320th Session (March 2014) of the Governing Body, the Director-General has received the following acceptance of the instrument for the amendment of the Constitution of the International Labour Organisation, 1986:

South Africa	Acceptance	16 March 2015
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6. The total number of ratifications and acceptances is now at **103**, including two Members of chief industrial importance. As a result, as of 27 July 2015, an additional 21 ratifications/acceptances by member States – including three by Members of chief industrial importance – were required for the instrument to enter into force.

Ratifications/acceptances of the instrument for the amendment of the Constitution of the International Labour Organisation, 1997

7. Since the preparation of the document submitted to the 323rd Session (March 2015) of the Governing Body, there has been no change to the number of ratifications/acceptances of the instrument for the amendment of the Constitution of the International Labour Organisation, 1997.

8. The total number of ratifications and acceptances remains at **123**, including seven Members of chief industrial importance. As of 27 July 2015, only one additional ratification or acceptance was required for the instrument to enter into force.¹

III. Internal administration

9. Article 4.2(d) of the Staff Regulations:

Vacancies in the Director and Principal Officer category shall be filled by the Director-General by transfer in the same grade, promotion or appointment. Such promotions or appointments, other than to vacancies in technical cooperation projects, shall be reported to the Governing Body with a short statement of the qualifications of the persons so promoted or appointed.

10. The following appointments and promotions are accordingly reported to the Governing Body:

Mr Fabio Bertranou (Argentina)

Appointed Director of the ILO Decent Work Team and Country Office for the South Cone of Latin America (DWT/CO–Santiago), with effect from 1 April 2015.

Mr Bertranou is a specialist in labour market, social protection, social security and pensions issues. He has been Officer-in-Charge of the ILO Country Office for Argentina since January 2014, and Senior Labour Market Specialist at that Office since August 2009. Previously, Mr Bertranou was Senior Social Security Specialist at the ILO DWT in Santiago, promoting technical cooperation activities principally in the Southern Cone of Latin America. In 2008, he took six months' sabbatical leave to take up a post as Senior Economist in the Human Development Department at the World Bank. He contributed to the drafting of the report of the Advisory Group chaired by Ms Michelle Bachelet on "Social protection floor for a fair and inclusive globalization" (2011). He has published articles and books on labour markets, social security, pensions and health-care reforms in Latin America. Before joining the ILO in 2001, Mr Bertranou worked as consultant for UN–ECLAC and the World Bank, holding a number of academic and government posts.

Mr Bertranou, who was born in 1966, holds a PhD in Economics and a Graduate Certificate in Latin American Public and Social Policy Studies from the University of Pittsburgh.

Ms Panudda Boonpala (Thailand)

Appointed Director of the ILO Decent Work Team for South Asia and Country Office for India (DWT/CO–New Delhi), with effect from 1 August 2015.

Ms Boonpala has been with the ILO since 1995, serving on the ILO International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) in Geneva from 1995 to 2003. In 2003, she was appointed Senior Specialist on Child Labour, Decent Work Team for East and South East Asia in Bangkok, ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, where she continued until 2008. Ms Boonpala was the ILO Country Director in Bangladesh from

¹ In accordance with article 36 of the ILO Constitution, to enter into force, an amendment to the ILO Constitution must be ratified or accepted by two-thirds of ILO member States, including at least five of the ten Members of chief industrial importance. As there are currently 186 member States, each of the 1986 and 1997 Amendments needs to be ratified or accepted by 124 of them.

2008 to 2010, then becoming Deputy Director of the ILO DWT/CO–New Delhi in July 2011.

Ms Boonpala has 20 years' experience in the ILO providing technical advisory services to Government, employers' organizations and trade unions, on fundamental principles and rights at work issues, including child labour, migration and trafficking prevention, informal economy workers and domestic workers. She has led the design and implementation of Decent Work Country Programmes in Bangladesh and India.

Ms Boonpala holds an MA in Administration and Management of Labour Welfare from the Thammasat University, Bangkok, Thailand.

Ms Annette Ching (Trinidad and Tobago)

Appointed Director of the Director-General's Office (CABINET), with effect from 1 May 2015. Promotion to D2 was reported to the Governing Body in November 2011.

Ms Claudia Coenjaerts (Belgium)

Appointed Director of the ILO Decent Work Team and Office for the Caribbean in Port-of-Spain (DWT/O–Port-of-Spain), with effect from 1 August 2015.

Ms Coenjaerts joined the ILO in 1991 as a junior programme officer in Bangkok. Her subsequent career has led her to work extensively in programmes dealing with labour and employment issues. During her assignments as Country Office Director in Bangladesh and in Sri Lanka she worked closely with local stakeholders, developing strong technical cooperation programmes as well as a solid policy portfolio ranging from institutional reform to industrial relations and job creation. As the Deputy Regional Director for Africa, she managed ILO operations for the region. In her most recent position as President and CEO of the Fair Labor Association, she led a global team of 60 staff working on a multi-stakeholder initiative to bring transparency and accountability for social and labor compliance in the supply chains of large multinational companies.

Ms Coenjaerts, who was born in 1965, holds a BA and an MA in Sociology from the Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium.

Mr Akira Isawa (Japan)

Appointed Deputy Director of the Sectoral Policies Department (SECTOR), with effect from 1 October 2015.

Mr Isawa joined the Ministry of Labour of Japan in 1980, working in various capacities in the field of employment and social policies. He held the post of Director of the Labour Inspection Division, Director of the Industrial Relations Division and Director-General of the Statistics and Information Department. His career has brought him into frequent contact with the ILO. In particular, from 1997 to 2000, he worked as Counsellor responsible for ILO activities at the Permanent Mission of Japan to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva. During the same period, he served as Regional Coordinator of the Asia and Pacific group and in 1998 played an active role in the adoption of the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work.

Since July 2013, he has been Assistant Minister for International Affairs at the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan and has taken part in many international conferences, meetings and forums. In particular, he represented his Government on the

Governing Body of the ILO and acted as Sherpa at the G20 Employment Ministers Meetings.

Mr Isawa, who was born in 1956, holds a BA in Law from the University of Tokyo, Japan.

Mr Virgilio Levaggi Vega (Peru)

Appointed Director of the Partnerships and Field Support Department (PARDEV), with effect from 1 August 2015. Promotion to D1 was reported to the Governing Body in March 2006.

Mr Juan Llobera Serra (Spain)

Appointed Deputy Legal Adviser, Office of the Legal Adviser and Office of Legal Services (JUR), with effect from 1 March 2015. Promotion to D1 was reported to the Governing Body in March 2009.

Ms Regina Monticone (United States)

Appointed Senior Adviser to the Director of the ILO Office for the United States in Washington DC, with effect from 1 July 2015. Promotion to D1 was reported to the Governing Body in November 2012.

Ms Carmen Moreno (Spain)

Appointed Director of the ILO Decent Work Team and Country Office for Central America (DWT/CO–San José), with effect from 1 September 2015. Promotion to D1 was reported to the Governing Body in March 2008.

Ms Vera Lucia Paquete-Perdigão (Guinea-Bissau)

Appointed Director of the ILO Decent Work Team for Central Africa and Country Office for Cameroon, Angola and Sao Tome and Principe (DWT/CO–Yaoundé), with effect from 1 July 2015.

Prior to joining the ILO, Ms Paquete-Perdigão led a career in development at both national and international levels spanning some 20 years. She has extensive experience in economic development, child labour, project management, poverty reduction and gender issues. In her native Guinea-Bissau, she served as Senior Officer in the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation and then as Deputy Director of a social action fund supported by the World Bank. At international level before joining the ILO, she worked for the World Bank's Evaluation Department, in Washington DC, and in Angola.

Ms Paquete-Perdigão joined the ILO International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) in 2001 as Senior Regional Coordinator for Africa. From 2003, she served as Senior Child Labour Specialist for Africa based in Dakar, Senegal. Among other activities, she supervised the application of ILO Conventions and Recommendations on child labour and related activities in Africa. In this capacity, she was responsible for promoting the integration of child labour outcomes into Decent Work Country Programmes, and generally working with ILO constituents, civil society organizations, regional bodies (particularly the Economic Community of West African States – ECOWAS) and international agencies promoting fundamental principles and rights at work.

Ms Paquete-Perdigão, who was born in 1965, holds an MA in Economic Development from Vanderbilt University, Tennessee, United States, and an MS in Economics, majoring in Business Management, from Jules Verne University, Amiens, France.

Mr Georges Politakis (Greece)

Appointed Legal Adviser and Director of the Office of Legal Services (JUR), with effect from 1 March 2015. Promotion to D1 was reported to the Governing Body in November 2014.

Ms Corinne Vargha (Hungary)

Appointed Director of the International Labour Standards Department (NORMES), with effect from 1 July 2015. Promotion to D1 was reported to the Governing Body in November 2014.