



Governing Body

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GB.329/POL/4

Policy Development Section
Social Dialogue Segment

POL

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FOURTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Sectoral meetings held in 2016 and proposals for sectoral work in 2017 and 2018–19

Purpose of the document

The Governing Body is invited to take note of the reports of three meetings held in the second part of 2016, to authorize the publication of a revised Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Ports, to endorse the proposals made in section II in relation to sectoral meetings to be held in late 2017 and to endorse the proposals made in relation to global sectoral meetings for 2018–19 (see draft decision in paragraph 28).

Relevant strategic objective: All.

Main relevant outcome/cross-cutting policy driver: Cross-cutting policy driver: social dialogue.

Policy implications: The Code of Practice would replace an older 2005 Code of Practice with the same title and become part of ILO guidance on this matter.

Legal implications: None.

Financial implications: None in addition to the Programme and Budget Proposals for 2018–19.

Follow-up action required: The Office will be required to deliver the programme, if adopted.

Author unit: Sectoral Policies Department (SECTOR).

Related documents: GB.329/PFA/1.

I. Meetings held in the second half of 2016

A. Meeting of Experts to Adopt Policy Guidelines for the Promotion of Sustainable Rural Livelihoods Targeting the Agro-food Sectors (26–30 September 2016)

1. In accordance with earlier decisions of the Governing Body,¹ the Meeting of Experts to Adopt Policy Guidelines for the Promotion of Sustainable Rural Livelihoods Targeting the Agro-food Sectors was held in Geneva from 26 to 30 September 2016.
2. The Meeting was chaired by Mr Sammy Nyambari (Kenya). The three Vice-Chairpersons were: Mr Elsayed Abd Elrazik Mohamed Hassan (Egypt) from the Government group; Mr Andrew John Hoggard from the Employers' group; and Mr Kingsley Ofei-Nkansah from the Workers' group.
3. The Meeting was attended by eight experts from the Governments, eight experts from the Employers' group and eight experts from the Workers' group, as well as by 31 Government observers. There were 19 observers from intergovernmental organizations (IGOs) and international non-governmental organizations (INGOs).
4. The ILO had prepared draft policy guidelines to serve as a basis for the Meeting's deliberations.² While progress was made in the review of some parts of the draft policy guidelines, the Meeting of Experts was unable to conclude its work.³
5. In the absence of a recommendation from the meeting of sectoral advisory bodies held 11–13 January 2017, the Office, following an earlier precedent,⁴ proposes that the Governing Body could give consideration to convening a Meeting of Experts in the biennium 2018–19 to allow the review of the draft guidelines to be concluded.

B. Global Dialogue Forum on the Challenges and Opportunities of Teleworking for Workers and Employers in the ICTS and Financial Services Sectors (24–26 October 2016)

6. In accordance with earlier decisions of the Governing Body,⁵ the Global Dialogue Forum on the Challenges and Opportunities of Teleworking for Workers and Employers in the

¹ [GB.323/PV](#), para. 294; [GB.325/PV](#), para. 518.

² Appendix I of MEPSLA/2016/5 (ILO: Draft policy guidelines for the promotion of sustainable rural livelihoods targeting the agro-food sectors, [MEPSLA/2016](#) (Geneva, ILO, 2016)).

³ MEPSLA/2016/5.

⁴ [GB.307/STM/2/3](#).

⁵ [GB.323/PV](#), para. 294; [GB.326/PV](#), para. 410.

Information and Communications Technology Services (ICTS) and Financial Services Sectors was held in Geneva from 24 to 26 October 2016.

7. The Meeting was chaired by Ms Elsbeth Akkerman (Netherlands). The Vice-Chairpersons were: Mr Enrique López Arce (Paraguay) from the Government group; Mr Ignacio Funes de Rioja from the Employers' group; and Ms Annika Flaten and Mr Andy Kerr were co-Vice-Chairpersons from the Workers' group.
8. The Forum was attended by 94 participants, including 51 Government representatives and advisers from 23 member States, as well as eight Employer and 28 Worker participants, and seven observers from the IGOs and the INGOs.
9. The purpose of the Forum was to allow tripartite participants to share their experience of telework in the above sectors with a view to increasing their understanding of, and developing consensus on the way forward with regard to its: (a) prevalence; (b) economic and social risks and benefits; and (c) employment relationships.
10. The points of consensus reached by the Forum, including recommendations for future action by the ILO and its Members, are included in the final report of the discussion.⁶

C. Meeting of Experts to Adopt a Revised Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Ports (21–30 November 2016)

11. In accordance with earlier decisions of the Governing Body,⁷ the Meeting of Experts to adopt a revised Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Ports met from 21 to 30 November 2016 in Geneva.
12. The Meeting was chaired by Mr Bro-Mathew Hilifavali Shinguadja (Namibia). The three Vice-Chairpersons were: Mr Pedro Valverde Sento Se (Brazil) from the Government group; Mr Paul Mackay from the Employers' group; and Ms Susan Murray from the Workers' group.
13. The Meeting was attended by eight Government experts accompanied by nine advisers, eight Employer experts accompanied by three advisers, and eight Worker experts accompanied by two advisers. There were 46 observer experts from interested governments, and five observers IGOs and NGOs.
14. The purpose of the Meeting was to revise and update the (2005) ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Ports and adopt a new code. A draft revised version of the Code of Practice had been prepared by the Office and served as the basis for the discussions. The report⁸ summarizes the Meetings' discussions, which were concluded with the adoption of a new Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Ports, which replaces the existing 2005 code.

⁶ GDFTWEFS/2016/9.

⁷ [GB.323/PV](#), para. 294; [GB.326/PV](#), para. 410.

⁸ MESH/2016/6.

II. Upcoming meetings (second half of 2017)

15. In light of the adoption of the programme of sectoral meetings for 2016–17 by the Governing Body at its 323rd Session (March 2015),⁹ the Office has prepared the attached list with proposals regarding dates, duration, official title, purpose and composition of the remaining meetings envisaged for the second half of 2017.¹⁰

III. Sectoral policies: Programme of work 2018–19

A. The sectoral approach to decent work

Introduction

16. The ILO's sector-specific approach to the promotion of decent work cuts across the entire Decent Work Agenda with its four pillars – employment, rights at work, social protection and social dialogue, and its focus on gender equality and non-discrimination, as defined by the 2008 ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization and the subsequent 2016 ILC Resolution.¹¹
17. The ILO promotes decent work in specific economic and social sectors¹² by providing support to tripartite constituents to be able to address their needs and challenges at the global, regional and national levels. Sector-specific work is pursued by fostering collaborative work throughout the Office to reinforce the interrelated, inseparable, and mutually supportive character of the four pillars of the Decent Work Agenda. Office-wide synergies and collaboration will continue to be strengthened in pursuit of the sectoral approach in line with the ten policy outcomes and enabling outcome A of the ILO Programme and Budget.
18. The Office will also contribute directly to achieving several targets of the Sustainable Development Goals through policy development and technical assistance in specific sectors. Attention will be given to a just transition to environmental sustainability and green jobs in those sectors most affected by climate change.
19. In the context of the review of the Sectoral Policies Department (SECTOR), the 328th Session of the Governing Body (November 2016) noted the need to bring the sector-specific approach to decent work in line with the ILO's broader priorities. To that effect several Governing Body members supported the proposed alignment of the sectoral research agenda with the Future of Work Centenary Initiative. In that context it is to be noted that several of the global sectoral meetings proposed for 2018–19 will potentially contribute to the Future of Work knowledge base, including those relating to digitalization in the

⁹ [GB.323/POL/4](#); [GB.323/PV](#), para. 294.

¹⁰ Appendix I.

¹¹ [2016 ILC Resolution on Advancing Social Justice through Decent Work](#).

¹² The Office addresses needs and challenges in 22 different sectors, divided into eight groupings: (i) agriculture, food and forestry; (ii) education and research; (iii) energy and mining; (iv) infrastructure, construction and related sectors; (v) manufacturing; (vi) private services sectors; (vii) public service, utilities and health; and (viii) maritime and transport.

chemical industries, e-waste, and the changing employment relationships in tertiary education.

Means of action

20. The sector-specific approach to decent work is promoted through the following means of action:
- building consensus among tripartite constituents on sector-specific policies and practices through global and regional sectoral meetings;
 - promoting the ratification and effective implementation of sectoral Conventions and Recommendations as well as sector-specific codes of practice, guidelines and tools;
 - developing and disseminating knowledge and information relating to sector- and/or industry-specific economic and employment trends and challenges;
 - providing policy advice and building capacity, and implementing development cooperation projects; and
 - fostering policy coherence on key sectoral issues through strategic partnerships with other United Nations agencies, other multilateral organizations and stakeholders.
21. These means of action are used by the Office to implement the biennial Sectoral Policies Programme, which is comprised of: (i) global sectoral meetings, based on proposals from the sectoral Advisory Bodies ¹³ and (ii) recurrent work that the Office is mandated to carry out.

B. Proposed global sectoral meetings 2018–19

22. The ILO promotes social dialogue for consensus-building on sector-specific policies and practices through global tripartite meetings. The objective of such meetings is to adopt conclusions and/or points of consensus as well as codes of practice and guidelines on key and emerging issues at the sectoral level. The outcomes of these meetings, which include recommendations for future action, are submitted to the Governing Body for its endorsement. Once they have been endorsed by the Governing Body, such recommendations are subsequently taken into account when programming future work.
23. Based on the recommendations of the sectoral advisory bodies, the Office proposes to hold eight ¹⁴ global tripartite sectoral meetings in 2018 and 2019 (see Appendix II) for the following sectors/groupings: chemical industries; education; forestry; mechanical and electrical engineering (e-waste); media, culture and graphical (sports); public service; maritime (shipping); transport (road). In addition, a sitting of the Joint Maritime

¹³ Sectoral advisory bodies (composed of governmental regional coordinators, coordinators of the International Organisation of Employers (IOE) and the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) and representatives of relevant Global Union federations and IOE sectoral partners, and supported by the Office) were established in 2007, to deepen the consultation process on reviewing the content and type of sectoral activities, making recommendations in order to assist the Office in setting priorities for sectoral work (see [GB.298/12\(Rev.\)](#), para. 40). They most recently met between 11 and 13 January 2017, chaired by Mr Luis Rodrigo Morales (Mexico).

¹⁴ Resources will be kept in reserve to allow for one additional meeting if and when required (see [GB.328/POL/8](#), Appendix II).

Commission's Subcommittee on Wages of Seafarers to update the minimum basic wage figure for able seafarers will be convened as well as the 13th Session of the Joint ILO/UNESCO Committee of Experts on the Application of the Recommendations concerning the Teaching Personnel (CEART). Moreover, a meeting of experts to adopt a Code of Practice on shipbuilding and ship repair, deferred from 2016–17, will be held in the first quarter of the biennium.

C. Recurrent sectoral work 2018–19

24. Recurrent sectoral work includes the implementation of International Labour Conference and Governing Body decisions and resolutions, conclusions, points of consensus, tools, guidelines and codes of practice adopted by sectoral meetings. The recurrent sectoral work also includes substantive contributions to the policy outcomes of the ILO's strategic plan 2018–21, including in particular the promotion of decent work in the rural economy.
25. The recurrent sector-specific research agenda will continue to contribute to enhancing the knowledge base of the Future of Work Initiative. Evidence-based research will be conducted on trends and challenges in the organization of work and production in different sectors and their implications for the quality of working life and for decent work. This would enable the Office to tailor its policy recommendations on a wide range of issues based on sector-specific data. In so doing, the ILO could make unique sector-specific contributions to the global debates about the future of work, including the impact of technology, poverty reduction, changes in the employment relationship, and women's employment.
26. The ratification and effective implementation of sectoral Conventions and Recommendations¹⁵ and the application of sector-specific codes of practice, guidelines and tools¹⁶ will be promoted through technical advice, training and promotional activities at the global, regional and country levels.
27. The promotion of policy coherence and leveraging support for decent work through strategic partnerships continues to be an indispensable element of the ILO's sector-specific work, particularly in the light of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development. As many multilateral organizations operate on the basis of a sector-specific mandate efforts will be made to further strengthen strategic partnerships within the United Nations system, including with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the World Health Organization; the International Maritime Organization; the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; UN-Water; UN-Oceans; UNWTO; ICAO; OECD; other international organizations and institutions, including the World Bank Group, regional development banks, and the G20.

¹⁵ <http://www.ilo.org/sector/Resources/sectoral-standards/lang--en/index.htm>.

¹⁶ <http://www.ilo.org/sector/Resources/codes-of-practice-and-guidelines/lang--en/index.htm>.

Draft decision**28. The Governing Body:**

- (a) takes note of the reports of the meetings in section I of the paper;*
- (b) authorizes the Director-General to publish the Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Ports;*
- (c) authorizes the Director-General to communicate the report of the Global Dialogue Forum on the Challenges and Opportunities of Teleworking for Workers and Employers in the Information and Communications Technology Services (ICTS) and Financial Services Sectors to governments, requesting them to communicate the reports to the employers' and workers' organizations concerned, and to the international employers' and workers' organizations and other international organizations concerned;*
- (d) requests the Director-General to bear in mind, when drawing up proposals for future work, the recommendations for future action by the ILO made by the Global Dialogue Forum on the Challenges and Opportunities of Teleworking for Workers and Employers in the Information and Communications Technology Services (ICTS) and Financial Services Sectors;*
- (e) decides to include in the programme of meetings for 2018–19 a meeting of experts to adopt policy guidelines for the promotion of sustainable rural livelihoods targeting the agro-food sectors;*
- (f) endorses the proposals contained in Appendix I of GB.329/POL/4 relating to the dates, duration, official title, purpose and composition of the meetings listed therein; and*
- (g) endorses the proposed programme of global technical sectoral meetings for 2018–19 contained in Appendix II of GB.329/POL/4, subject to approval by the 106th Session of the International Labour Conference in June 2017 of the corresponding allocations in the Programme and Budget for 2018–19.*

Appendix I

Programme of sectoral meetings (second half of 2017 and first quarter 2018)

Meetings as adopted by the Governing Body (GB.323/POL/4)	Proposed dates	Proposed duration	Proposed title	Proposed purpose	Proposed composition (G/E/W)
Tripartite sectoral meeting on issues relating to migrant fishers as part of the follow-up to the Resolution concerning the promotion of welfare for fishers adopted at the 96th Session (2007) of the International Labour Conference	18–22 September 2017	5 days	Tripartite Meeting on Issues Relating to Migrant Fishers	The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss issues relating to migrant fishers as part of the follow-up to the Resolution concerning the promotion of welfare for fishers adopted at the 96th Session (2007) of the International Labour Conference. The meeting may adopt conclusions and resolutions.	All Governments; eight Employer participants; eight Worker participants. IGOs and NGOs as observers.
Meeting of Experts to adopt a draft revised Code of Practice on safety and health in opencast mines	16–20 October 2017	5 days	Meeting of Experts on Safety and Health in Opencast Mines	The purpose of the meeting is to review and adopt a revised Code of Practice on safety and health in opencast mines.	Eight Government experts; eight Employers experts; eight Workers experts; all Governments as observers. ¹ IGOs and NGOs as observers. Governments ² to be invited: Australia; Canada; Chile; Indonesia; Germany; Russian Federation; South Africa; Zambia. Governments for the reserve list: Brazil; China; Ghana; India; Mongolia; Namibia; Sweden; United States.

Meetings as adopted by the Governing Body (GB.323/POL/4)	Proposed dates	Proposed duration	Proposed title	Proposed purpose	Proposed composition (G/E/W)
Meeting of Experts to adopt a Code of Practice on safety and health in shipbuilding and ship repair	22–26 January 2018	5 days	Meeting of Experts to Adopt a Code of Practice on Safety and health in Shipbuilding and Ship Repair	The purpose of the meeting is to review and adopt an ILO Code of Practice on safety and health in shipbuilding and ship repair.	<p>Eight Government experts; eight Employers experts; eight Workers experts; all Governments as observers. ¹</p> <p>IGOs and NGOs as observers.</p> <p>Governments ³ to be invited: Brazil; China; Japan; Nigeria; Philippines; Romania; Singapore; the United Arab Emirates.</p> <p>Governments for the reserve list: the Dominican Republic; Germany; India; Italy; Republic of Korea; South Africa; United States; Viet Nam.</p>

¹ Decisions on representation of observers, IOs and NGOs will be taken following further consultations, which will take place after the March 2017 session of the Governing body. ² In preparing the proposals, the Office took into account the following criteria: (a) appropriate geographical distribution; (b) the importance of the country concerned in relation to the sector; (c) the importance of the sector for the country concerned; (d) existing national regulatory frameworks, including ratification of relevant international labour standards. ³ In preparing the proposals, the Office took into account the following criteria: (a) appropriate geographical distribution; (b) the importance of the country concerned in relation to the sector; (c) the importance of the sector for the country concerned; (d) appropriate balance between shipbuilding and ship repair, since these activities are different and often do not take place in same countries.

Appendix II

Recommendations by the sectoral advisory bodies for global sectoral meetings for 2018–19

Sectors	Proposals
Manufacturing	
Chemical industries	A Global Dialogue Forum on challenges for decent and productive work arising from digitalization in the chemical and pharmaceutical industries.
Manufacturing	
Mechanical and electrical engineering	A Global Dialogue Forum on decent work in the management of electrical and electronic waste (e-waste).
Manufacturing	
Transport equipment manufacturing	A Meeting of Experts to adopt a Code of Practice on safety and health in shipbuilding and ship repair. ¹
Agriculture, food and forestry	
Forestry	A Sectoral Meeting on promoting decent work and safety and health in forestry.
Private services	
Media; culture; graphical	A Global Dialogue Forum on decent work in the world of sport.
Public services, utilities and health	
Public service	A Meeting of Experts to adopt a draft revised guidelines on social dialogue in public emergency services in a changing environment.
Education and research	
Education	The ILO/UNESCO Committee of Experts on the Application of the Recommendation concerning the status of Teachers (CEART). A Global Dialogue Forum on employment terms and conditions in tertiary education.
Maritime and transport	
Maritime (shipping) ²	The Joint Maritime Commission (JMC) Subcommittee on Wages of Seafarers. A Sectoral Meeting on the recruitment and retention of seafarers and the promotion of opportunities for women seafarers.
Maritime and transport	
Transport (road)	A Meeting of Experts to adopt a Code of Practice or guidelines on best practices in road transport safety.

¹ Originally scheduled to take place in the second half of 2017 and postponed to the first quarter of 2018, in response to the decisions adopted by the Governing Body at its 328th Session (November 2016). ² Technical support will be provided to the next session of the Special Tripartite Committee of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006