



Governing Body

347th Session, Geneva, 13–23 March 2023

Institutional Section

INS

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Twentieth item on the agenda

Composition, agenda and programme of standing bodies and meetings

▶ Part I Composition and agenda of standing bodies and meetings

Workers' Symposium: New Approaches to Workers' Education for Trade Union Revitalization (18–20 September 2023)

Background

1. The role of workers' education has remained a critical tool for building worker consciousness during this period of dramatic transformation in the world of work. As the world of work continue to address the multiple transformations in the context of changing labour markets, driven by technological advancement, climate change, globalization and demographic shifts, workers' education continues to become a vehicle for capacity-building, and the surest way to strengthen union activism and ensure effective worker representation through social dialogue and collective bargaining for policy transformation, development, and social change.
2. Thus, workers' education is the vehicle upon which workers' organizations have built their capacities and influence in the ever-changing world of work. This is true now and will certainly be the case in the future. The 2023 global Symposium on workers' education for trade union revitalization hinges on previous work on this topic with the aim of building the capacity of union leaders, activists and members, in line with their twenty-first century union education requirements as a precursor to achieving decent work, ecological preservation guided by just transition principles and social justice for all. The expected outcome of the Symposium is to

enhance workers' solidarity, as an anvil of social change, through the exploration of new and effective ways of addressing the critical challenge of funding workers' education programmes through collaboration, use of union facilities, investment in membership organizing and in-house union digital infrastructure, and advocacy for the public financial support for workers' education programmes. The Symposium will also address the measures for the standardization of workers' education curricula to meet the training needs of twenty-first century participants and to guarantee the effective management of labour education programmes.

3. *The Officers of the Governing Body recommend the holding of the Workers' Symposium on the dates proposed.*

Invitations to observers from intergovernmental organizations, and international non-governmental organizations to the 111th Session of the International Labour Conference

4. In addition to the intergovernmental organizations for which standing arrangements were approved by the Governing Body, and which provide for their automatic invitation to the International Labour Conference, the Officers of the Governing Body have authorized the Director-General to invite other intergovernmental organizations listed in the appendix as observers.
5. Under the Constitution of the Organization and the Standing Orders of the Conference, international non-governmental organizations other than those with which consultative relationships have been established may be invited by the Governing Body to be represented at the Conference insofar as attendance at the plenary sittings is concerned, while the invitation of such organizations to be represented on committees appointed by the Conference remains a matter for the Conference itself.
6. At its 256th Session (May 1993), the Governing Body delegated to its Officers the authority to invite international non-governmental organizations wishing to be represented at sessions of the General Conference, it being understood that requests for invitations presenting a particular problem would continue to be submitted to the Governing Body through its Officers.
7. The Director-General has received requests to be represented at the 111th Session (2023) of the International Labour Conference from the organizations listed in the appendix, which have expressed interest in certain items on the agenda. These include the Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development, an organization that has requested to attend the Conference for the first time.
8. All other organizations listed have already been invited to one or more sessions of the Conference after their requests to be invited had been approved by the Officers of the Governing Body. In making their requests, these organizations supplied proof of their interest in following the proceedings of the Conference.
9. *The Officers authorize the Director-General to issue an invitation to the organizations listed in the appendix to document GB.347/INS/20, it being understood that it will be for the Conference to consider their requests to participate in the work of the committees dealing with the agenda items in which they have stated a special interest, and to inform the organizations concerned that they may nominate one person only for each of the agenda items in respect of which their interest has been recognized.*

► Part II. Programme of ILO official meetings for the remainder of 2023 and advance information for 2024 and 2025 (subject to further Governing Body decisions)

Date	Title of meeting	Place
2023		
9–10 March	Committee on Freedom of Association	Geneva
13–23 March	347th Session of the Governing Body	Geneva
24–28 April	Technical Meeting on a Green, Sustainable and Inclusive Economic Recovery for the Civil Aviation Sector	Geneva
8–12 May ¹	Meeting of Experts on Decent Work in Agro-food: An Essential Part of Sustainable Food Systems	Geneva
1–2 June	Committee on Freedom of Association	Geneva
5–16 June	111th Session of the International Labour Conference	Geneva
17 June	348th Session of the Governing Body	Geneva
11–16 September	Eighth Meeting of the Standards Review Mechanism Tripartite Working Group	Geneva
18–20 September	Workers' Symposium: New Approaches to Workers' Education for Trade Union Revitalization	Virtual
25–29 September ¹	Technical Meeting on Digitalization in the Retail Sector as an Engine for Economic Recovery and Decent Work	Geneva
11–20 October	21st International Conference of Labour Statisticians	Geneva
26–27 October	Committee on Freedom of Association	Geneva
30 October–9 November	349th Session of the Governing Body	Geneva
20–24 November ¹	Technical Meeting on Decent and Sustainable Work in the Inland Waterways Sector	Geneva
27 November–9 December	Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations	Geneva
Last quarter	Second Meeting of the Joint ILO–IMO Tripartite Working Group to Identify and Address Seafarers' Issues and the Human Element	To be confirmed
2024		
First quarter	Meeting of Experts to produce Joint ILO–IMO Guidelines for Medical Examination of Fishers	Geneva
14–15 March	Committee on Freedom of Association	Geneva
18–28 March	350th Session of the Governing Body	Geneva
Date tbc	112th Session of the International Labour Conference	Geneva

Date	Title of meeting	Place
Date tbc	351st Session of the Governing Body	Geneva
October	Joint ILO–UNESCO Committee of Experts on the Application of the Recommendations concerning Teaching Personnel (CEART)	Paris
24–25 October	Committee on Freedom of Association	Geneva
28 October–7 November	352nd Session of the Governing Body	Geneva
25 November–7 December	Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations	Geneva
Last quarter	Third meeting of the Joint ILO–IMO Tripartite Working Group to identify and address seafarers’ issues and the human element	To be confirmed
2025		
7–11 April ²	Fifth Meeting of the Special Tripartite Committee established under the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as amended (MLC, 2006)	Geneva
First half	Subcommittee on Wages of Seafarers of the Joint Maritime Commission	Geneva

¹Further to the decision taken by the Governing Body at its 346th Session (October–November 2022) (see [GB.346/POL/3](#), Appendix I); ²Further to the decision taken by the Governing Body at its 346th Session ([GB.346/LILS/PV](#), para. 64(e)).

- 10.** *The Officers of the Governing Body approved the programme of meetings for the remainder of 2023, subject to further decision-making of the Governing Body.*

► Draft decision

11. The Governing Body, upon the recommendation of its Officers:

- (a) approved the holding of the Workers’ Symposium: New Approaches to Workers’ Education for Trade Union Revitalization on 18–20 September 2023;**
- (b) authorized the Director-General to issue an invitation to the organizations listed in the appendix to document GB.347/INS/20, it being understood that it would be for the Conference to consider their requests to participate in the work of the committees dealing with the agenda items in which they have stated a special interest, and to inform the organizations concerned that they may nominate one person only for each of the agenda items in respect of which their interest has been recognized;**
- (c) endorse the proposals made in relation to the invitation of intergovernmental and international non-governmental organizations as observers to the other official meetings listed in the appendix to document GB.347/INS/20; and**
- (d) took note of the programme of meetings contained in Part II of document GB.347/INS/20, subject to further decision-making of the Governing Body.**

Proposed invitations of observers to the 111th Session of the International Labour Conference and to other ILO official meetings

Title of the meeting	Intergovernmental organizations (by standing arrangement)	Intergovernmental organizations (authorized by the Officers of the Governing Body)	International non-governmental organizations (authorized by the Governing Body)
111th Session of the International Labour Conference	<p>United Nations entities, specialized agencies and related organizations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) • International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) • International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) • International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) • International Maritime Organization (IMO) • International Monetary Fund (IMF) • International Organization for Migration (IOM) • International Telecommunication Union (ITU) • Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) • Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for International Migration • Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) • African Regional Labour Administration Centre (ARLAC) • Arab Centre for Labour Administration and Employment (ACLAE) • Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CAEMC) • African Regional Centre for Labour Administration (CRADAT) • Commonwealth Secretariat • European Public Law Organization (EPLO) • Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) • International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) • Latin American and Caribbean Economic System (SELA) • Nordic Council (NC) • Nordic Council of Ministers (NMR) • Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) • Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Social Security Association (ISSA) (by standing arrangement) <p>Organizations having general consultative status with the ILO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) • International Organisation of Employers (IOE) • International Cooperative Alliance (ICA) • Organization of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU) • Business Africa • World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) <p>Employers' organizations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federation of European Social Employers • International Christian Union of Business Executives • World Employment Confederation • World Federation of Personnel Management Associations <p>Workers' organizations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • African Organization of Mines, Metal, Energy, Chemical and Allied Trade Unions • Arab Federation of Petroleum, Mines and Chemical Workers

Title of the meeting	Intergovernmental organizations (by standing arrangement)	Intergovernmental organizations (authorized by the Officers of the Governing Body)	International non-governmental organizations (authorized by the Governing Body)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • United Nations • United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) • United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) • Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA) • United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) • United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) • United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) • United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) • United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-HABITAT) • United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) • United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) • United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) • United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) • United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) • United Nations Population Fund (UNPFA) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ibero-American Social Security Organization • Ibero-American General Secretariat (SEGIB) • Pacific Community (SPC) • West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asociacion Latinoamericana de Abogados Laboralistas • Building and Wood Workers’ International • Confederación de Trabajadores y Trabajadoras de las Universidades de las Américas • Confederación Latinoamericana y del Caribe de Trabajadores Estatales • Education International • European Centre for Workers’ Questions • European Confederation of Independent Trade Unions • European Trade Union Confederation • General Confederation of Trade Unions • IndustriALL Global Union • International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions • International Council of Police Representative Associations • International Domestic Workers Federation • International Energy and Mines Organization • International Secretariat for Catholic Engineers, Agronomists and Industry Officials • International Transport Workers’ Federation • International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers’ Associations • International Young Christian Workers • Latin American Union of Municipal Workers • Public Services International • Southern African Trade Union Coordination Council

- United Nations Regional Commissions
 - Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)
 - Economic Commission for Europe (ECE)
 - Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC)
 - Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia (ESCWA)
- United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)
- United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants
- United Nations University (UNU)
- United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)
- World Bank Group
- World Food Programme (WFP)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)
- World Tourism Organization (UNWTO)
- World Trade Organization (WTO)

Regional organizations

- African Development Bank (AfDB)
- African Union (AU)
- Andean Community (CAN)
- Arab Labour Organization (ALO)
- Asian Development Bank (ADB)
- Asian Productivity Organization (APO)

- Trade Union Advisory Committee to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
- Trade Union International of Pensioners and Retired Persons
- Trade Unions International of Transport Workers
- Trade Unions International of Workers in Agriculture, Food, Commerce, Textiles and Allied Industries
- Trade Unions International of Workers in the Mining, the Metallurgy and the Metal Industries
- Trade Unions International of Workers in the Building, Wood, Building Materials and Allied Industries
- UNI Global Union
- Union Latinoamericana de Trabajadores de Organismos de Control
- World Organization of Workers

Other organizations

- African Commission of Health and Human Rights Promoters
- Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development
- Anti-Slavery International
- Association of Volunteers for International Service
- Caritas Internationalis
- Clean Clothes Campaign
- Exchange and Cooperation Centre for Latin America
- Global Alliance Against Traffic in Women
- HomeNet
- Human Rights Watch
- Institution of Occupational Safety and Health

Title of the meeting	Intergovernmental organizations (by standing arrangement)	Intergovernmental organizations (authorized by the Officers of the Governing Body)	International non-governmental organizations (authorized by the Governing Body)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) • Caribbean Community (CARICOM) • Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) • Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) • Inter-African Conference on Social Security (CIPRES) • Council of Europe • East African Community (EAC) • Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) • Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) • Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU) • European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) • European Union (EU) • Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) • Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) • Latin American Integration Association (ALADI) • League of Arab States • South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) • Southern African Development Community (SADC) • Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR) • Organization of American States (OAS) 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Association for Educational and Vocational Guidance • International Association of Free Thought • International Catholic Migration Commission • International Commission on Occupational Health • International Confederation of Executive Staff • International Coordination of Young Christian Workers • International Council of Nurses • International Kolping Society • International Occupational Hygiene Association • Make Mothers Matter • Migrant Forum in Asia • Organización de Entidades Mutuales de las Américas • SOLIDAR • Soroptimist International • StreetNet International • The International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association • Union Africaine de la Mutualité • Union of International Associations • Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing • World Council of Churches • World Medical Association • World Movement of Christian Workers • World Union of Professions

Title of the meeting	Intergovernmental organizations (by standing arrangement)	Intergovernmental organizations (authorized by the Officers of the Governing Body)	International non-governmental organizations (authorized by the Governing Body)
<p>21st International Conference of Labour Statisticians (Geneva, 11–20 October) Additional observers ¹</p>	<p>Other organizations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries (CPLP) • G7++Friends of the Gulf of Guinea • International Association of Economic and Social Councils and Similar Institutions (IAESCSI) • Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) • Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) • Organisation internationale de la francophonie (OIF) <p>• United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees</p> <p>• United Nations Industrial Development Organization</p> <p>• The World Bank Group</p> <p>Regional organizations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • European Commission Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion • European Training Foundation • Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arab Maghreb Union • Islamic Development Bank Institute 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ford Foundation • World Economic Forum <p>Other organizations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Institute for Social Research and Data Innovation at the University of Minnesota

Title of the meeting	Intergovernmental organizations (by standing arrangement)	Intergovernmental organizations (authorized by the Officers of the Governing Body)	International non-governmental organizations (authorized by the Governing Body)
<p>Technical meeting on decent and sustainable work in the inland waterways sector (Geneva, 20–24 November 2023) Additional observers ²</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Danube Commission (DC) • International Sava River Basin Commission (ISRBC) • Intergovernmental Committee on the Paraguay-Paraná Waterway (CIH) • International Commission for the Congo-Oubangui-Sangha Basin (CICOS) 	

¹ The list of observers to this meeting was approved by the Governing Body at its 345th Session (June 2022) (see [GB.345/INS/7](#), Appendix II); ² The list of observers to this meeting was approved by the Governing Body at its 346th Session (October–November 2022) (see [GB.346/INS/19](#), Appendix).