



SECOND ITEM ON THE AGENDA

**Report of the Meeting of Experts on
Workers in Situations Needing Protection
(Geneva, 15-19 May 2000)**

1. The Meeting of Experts on Workers in Situations Needing Protection was held in Geneva from 15 to 19 May 2000. Mr. Paul Benjamin, Expert appointed by the Government of South Africa, was elected Chairperson. Mr. A. Finlay (Canada), and Mr. B. Garren (United States), were respectively appointed Employer and Worker Vice-Chairperson.
2. The agenda of the Meeting, as approved by the Governing Body at its 275th Session (June 1999), and in conformity with the resolution adopted by the International Labour Conference in June 1998 was as follows:
 1. To examine the following issues arising out of the work of the Committee on Contract Labour at the International Labour Conference in June 1998:
 - (a) which workers, in the situations that began to be identified in the Committee, are in need of protection;
 - (b) appropriate ways in which such workers can be protected, and the possibility of dealing separately with the various situations;
 - (c) how such workers would be defined, bearing in mind the different legal systems that exist and language differences.
 2. To advise the ILO on its future action to protect such workers, including the possible adoption of a Convention supplemented by a Recommendation if such adoption is, according to the normal procedures, considered necessary by the International Labour Conference.
 3. To advise the ILO on other measures to be taken with a view to completing the work commenced by the Conference Committee on Contract Labour.

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3. The [report of the Meeting](#) is appended.¹
 4. The Meeting unanimously adopted a common statement, which is reproduced in paragraph 107 of the report. This statement contains policy guidance on the action that member States might take to address the situations identified by the Meeting, including ILO assistance to be provided to countries in order to develop policies to ensure that laws regulating the employment relationship cover workers needing protection.
 5. The statement also records that the Meeting agreed that action taken by the ILO could include the adoption of instruments by the Conference, including the adoption of a Convention and/or a supplementary Recommendation.
 6. This question is also discussed in the paper before it at its present session concerning proposals for the agenda of the 90th Session (2002) of the Conference.²
 7. *The Governing Body may wish to authorize the Director-General to communicate the report –*
 - (a) *to governments, requesting them to communicate it to the employers' and workers' organizations concerned;*
 - (b) *to the international employers' and workers' organizations concerned;*
 - (c) *to the international organizations concerned.*

Geneva, 21 September 2000.

Point for decision: Paragraph 7.

¹ [MEWNP/2000/4\(Rev.\)](#).

² [GB.279/3](#).