



FIRST ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Practical arrangements for the discussion, at the 89th Session (June 2001) of the International Labour Conference, of the Global Report prepared under the follow-up to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work

1. Under the follow-up to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, the International Labour Conference may deal with the Global Report under the follow-up to the Declaration “separately from reports under article 12 of its Standing Orders [...] [at a] sitting devoted entirely to this report, or in any other appropriate way”.¹
2. During the discussions which led to the setting in motion of the follow-up, the Governing Body recommended, and the Conference approved, a set of ad hoc arrangements to permit plenary sittings devoted entirely to the discussion of the first Global Report.² The arrangements, which are appended, were adopted on a provisional basis, subject to review in the light of experience.³ A decision is accordingly to be taken with respect to the procedure for the discussion of the second Global Report at the 89th Session (June 2001) of the International Labour Conference.
3. With a view to ensuring an interactive discussion, the ad hoc arrangements used at the Conference in June 2000 required the suspension of article 12, paragraph 3, and article 14, paragraph 6, of the Standing Orders of the Conference concerning time limits for speeches and the number of statements by each speaker.⁴ They were also adopted bearing in mind that the discussion should correspond to the main elements of the Global Report as explicitly provided for in the annex to the Declaration, namely, (a) to provide a dynamic global picture relating to each category of fundamental principles and rights noted during

¹ Annex, Part III.B.2.

² GB.276/10, paras. 20-55, and GB.276/LILS/1.

³ GB.276/LILS/1, para. 12.

⁴ GB.276/10, para. 55, and International Labour Conference, 88th Session (June 2000), *Provisional Record 7*(Rev.), p. 7/6.

the preceding four-year period; (b) to serve as a basis for assessing the effectiveness of the assistance provided by the Organization; and (c) to serve as a basis for determining priorities for the following period, in the form of action plans for technical cooperation designed in particular to mobilize the internal and external resources necessary to carry them out.

4. Taking into account the time constraints affecting the Conference, it is suggested that the special arrangements be repeated on a trial basis for the discussion of the second Global Report, which will be on the elimination of all forms of forced or compulsory labour. To further enhance the interactive plenary debate that these arrangements were designed to promote, the Director-General plans to include suggested points for discussion in that Global Report.
5. *The Committee may therefore wish to recommend to the Governing Body that it invite the Conference, at its 89th Session, to adopt the ad hoc arrangements set out in the appendix concerning the procedure for the discussion of the Global Report under the follow-up to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work.*

Geneva, 29 September 2000.

Point for decision: Paragraph 5.

Appendix

Ad hoc arrangements for the discussion of the Global Report under the follow-up to the Declaration at the 88th Session of the International Labour Conference ¹

Principle of the discussion

Having regard to the various options referred to in the annex to the Declaration, the Governing Body recommends that the Global Report submitted to the Conference by the Director-General should be dealt with separately from the Director-General's reports under article 12 of the Conference Standing Orders and should be discussed during plenary sittings devoted entirely to it.

Timing of the discussion

Two sittings on the same day should be convened for the discussion of the Global Report, with the possibility, if necessary, of extending the sitting or convening a further sitting on the same day or on a different day, as appropriate.

In order to take account of the programme of work of the Conference and of the fact that a number of ministers who usually are present during the second week of the Conference may wish to take the floor, the discussion of the Global Report should be held during the second week of the Conference.

Procedure for the discussion

The separate discussion of the Global Report recommended above implies in particular that the statements made during the discussion of the Global Report should not fall under the limitation concerning the number of statements by each speaker in plenary provided for in article 12, paragraph 3, of the Standing Orders, and that the discussion should not be governed by the provisions of article 14, paragraph 6, concerning the time limit for speeches. These provisions should accordingly be suspended under the procedure provided for in article 76 of the Standing Orders to the extent necessary for the discussion of the Global Report.

In order to allow a maximum number of constituents to express their views, a speech by a visiting minister pursuant to article 12, paragraph 3, of the Conference Standing Orders should not be additional to that by a government delegate of the member concerned.

Organization of the discussion

Special arrangements should be worked out for the organization of the discussion.

The time available should be divided into three phases: a first phase devoted to opening statements by the spokespersons of the non-governmental and regional groups; a second phase for statements by individual delegates; and a third phase to allow spokespersons of the groups and, where possible, other delegates to make their concluding remarks in the discussion.

¹ As published in document GB.276/LILS/1 (November 1999).

During the first and third phases, no strict time limit for speeches should apply unless this becomes unavoidable. During the second phase, the time limit for speeches should be calculated on the basis of the number of speakers registered.