



TENTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Report of the Director-General**Obituary*****Mr. Henri Rougier Georget***

1. The Director-General announces, with deep regret, the death, on 5 March 2001, of Mr. Henri Rougier Georget, former Employer member of the Governing Body.
2. Born in Agadez (Niger) on 29 November 1925, Mr. Georget joined the army after leaving school and was decorated with several medals for his service in the Second World War. He subsequently engaged in the fight for the independence of his country. After his return to Niger, he created a number of enterprises, such as Sonifroid, Sonico, and other joint ventures.
3. Aware of the problems faced by enterprises in his country, he became a founding member of the National Union of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises and Industries of Niger, for which he fought with all his characteristic energy and generosity. He thus became a precursor of liberalism in Niger and played a leading role in the promotion of African employer activities, both at the regional and international levels. He was President of the Ad Hoc Committee set up to establish the Pan African Employers' Confederation, of which he became the first President in 1986. Mr. Georget was also a member of the Executive Committee of the International Organization of Employers from 1964 to 1992 and President of that Organization's General Council for the year 1983-84.
4. For three decades, Mr. Georget was the Employers' delegate of Niger to the International Labour Conference, of which he was elected Employer Vice-Chairperson in 1979. From 1966 to 1972 and from 1978 to 1990 he was a regular Employer member of the Governing Body, where he played a leading role notably as the Employer spokesperson on the Board of the International Training Centre in Turin. He will be remembered by all those who had the privilege of knowing and working with him for his dynamic engagement in promoting economic and social development, his commitment to defending the Employers' position in the ILO, as well as his sense of justice and friendship. His strong will and determination never to cease in the face of adversity made him an example to follow.

5. *The Governing Body will no doubt wish to request the Director-General to convey its sympathy to the family of Mr. Georget, the Pan African Employers' Confederation and to the International Organization of Employers.*

Geneva, 8 June 2001.