



THIRD ITEM ON THE AGENDA

The World Commission on the Social Dimension of Globalization established by the ILO: Information on progress to date

1. At its session in November 2001, the ILO Governing Body decided to create a World Commission of eminent personalities. This paper provides an update on progress.
2. As requested by the Governing Body, the Director-General undertook wide consultations on the membership of the Commission and has appointed individuals with recognized eminence and authority, with due regard to gender, regional balance, tripartite perspectives and the principal views and perceptions on globalization. This was a complex exercise, which also had to take into account expressions of interest from several quarters to contribute to the Commission and its work, as well as the availability of key individuals. As a result, it became necessary to increase the number of appointments beyond the 18 originally foreseen to a total of 21. For the first time, two sitting Heads of State have agreed to serve as co-Chairs of the Commission: H.E. Ms. Tarja Halonen, President of the Republic of Finland, and H.E. Mr. Benjamin Mkapa, President of the United Republic of Tanzania. They bring to the Commission great personal commitment and vision, as well as the unique experiences of their countries and regions in dealing with the challenges of globalization. In addition to the co-Chairs, 19 distinguished individuals have been appointed by the Director-General to serve on the Commission. They have made internationally recognized contributions to policy-making, knowledge development and opinion-building in different parts of the world. Their biographical details can be found in the appendix.
3. The ILO Governing Body also decided that the Director-General and the Officers of the Governing Body would serve as ex officio members of the Commission. The ex officio members will, as a group, facilitate the work of the Commission by providing a linkage with the ILO, including the provision of information on discussions, views and conclusions reached in the Governing Body as necessary. The ex officio members, acting in their personal capacities, will provide their experience and points of view for the consideration of the Commission, but will not be signatories to the final report of the Commission. After consultations, it was decided that Officers of the Governing Body who change their status after the Governing Body elections in June 2002, would continue to serve as ex officio members of the Commission in order to ensure continuity. Newly elected Officers of the Governing Body would also join the Commission as ex officio members, subject to the

same understanding on the scope and nature of their contributions to the work of the Commission.

4. The Governing Body arrived at a consensus on the terms of reference of the World Commission¹ on the basis of proposals² put before it, and by taking into account the comments and discussions in the Working Party on the Social Dimension of Globalization. In order to ensure that the Commission is fully informed of the views of the members of the Governing Body, a full set of all relevant documents has been made available to the commissioners. It would be for the Commission, as an independent and high-level body, to prepare its own report.
5. The Director-General has appointed Mr. Padmanabha Gopinath, currently Counsellor to the Director-General, as Executive Secretary of the Commission. Mr. Gerry Rodgers, Director of the Policy Integration Department, will take general responsibility for the substantive technical support to the Commission. Mr. Gopinath and Mr. Rodgers paid visits to the co-Chairs of the Commission early this year, in order to inform them in more detail of the background to the creation of the Commission, and to consult them on further action. A secretariat has been established to provide both operational and technical support to the work of the Commission. The staff of the secretariat will consist of ILO officials, a number of them detached, depending on the needs of the Commission, on a part-time or temporary basis from their regular assignments in various parts of the Office, to undertake this work.
6. In order to allow the Commission to draw on relevant ongoing work within the ILO, arrangements have been made for each technical sector and unit of the Office to make contributions to the substantive work of the secretariat. This includes the preparation of papers on specific issues as requested by the Commission and the regular provision of information and documentation. The regional offices have also been asked to nominate focal points for purposes of coordination with the secretariat in Geneva.
7. The secretariat has already commenced preliminary activities in preparation for the first meeting of the Commission. It is preparing background technical materials, drawing on ILO work and other sources, and putting together other documentation as material for reference for the commissioners. A web site has been established to give ready access to publicly available materials on the work of the Commission (<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/WCSDG/index.htm>).
8. The Director-General has informed the Secretary-General of the United Nations and heads of relevant international organizations of the creation of the Commission. This follows earlier discussions at the ACC (now CEB) on the need for greater consistency and policy integration at the international level. In addition, other international organizations have

¹ Report of the Working Party on the Social Dimension of Globalization, *Oral Report by the Chairperson of the Working Party*, Nov. 2001, GB.282/12. The terms of reference of the World Commission were summarized by the Chairperson of the Working Party and are contained in para. 13 of his Oral Report. They include: the title of the Commission and its timeframe; its relationship to the ILO; criteria for its composition; the issues or parameters of work to be addressed raised either in the debate or in written submissions.

² *Means of enhancing the action of the Working Party on the Social Dimension of Globalization*, June 2001, GB.281/WP/SDG/1; Report of the Working Party on the Social Dimension of Globalization, *Oral Report by the Chairperson of the Working Party*, June 2001, GB.281/9; *Enhancing the action of the Working Party on the Social Dimension of Globalization: Next steps*, Nov. 2001, GB.282/WP/SDG/1.

been invited to make a contribution to the work of the secretariat. The secretariat has met with senior officials of the UN, IMF, World Bank, WTO and UNCTAD to discuss their substantive contributions to the secretariat in the form of relevant information, ongoing research and other background materials. Several organizations have already identified focal points to support the work of the Commission, and possible arrangements for short-term staff secondments are being explored. Further consultations with organizations of the multilateral system are envisaged.

9. In order to prepare for the launch of the Commission, preliminary discussions between the advisers of the co-Chairs and the secretariat were held to decide upon the working modalities and logistical support for the Commission. The co-Chairs met in Geneva on 27 February 2002 and exchanged views on the objectives and scope of the Commission.
10. The World Commission was launched by the Director-General and the co-Chairs at a press conference held at ILO headquarters on 27 February 2002. There was extensive media coverage of this event. Prior to the launch, the Director-General held informal briefings with regional groups at the Ambassadorial level, as well as with the Officers of the Governing Body, to inform them of progress in setting up the Commission. The Director-General stressed that it would be important for the Commission to be able to tap into the knowledge pool in each region, in terms of both individual expertise and networks, and invited those concerned to make substantive contributions to the secretariat reflecting regional needs and perspectives on globalization.
11. The first meeting of the Commission will be held in Geneva from 25 to 26 March 2002. This meeting is expected to examine the key substantive issues involved and the methods of work of the Commission, and to decide on its future meetings and the timeframe for the subsequent development of its programme of work. In the light of preliminary consultations on these matters, a revision has been made of the initial budget estimate for the Commission's work, which has been placed before the Programme, Financial and Administrative Committee of the Governing Body.

Geneva, 13 March 2002.

Appendix

Composition of the World Commission on the Social Dimension of Globalization

Co-Chair: H.E. Ms. Tarja Halonen, President of the Republic of Finland. Ms. Tarja Halonen was elected 11th President of Finland in February 2000 and assumed office on 1 March 2000. She is Finland's first female Head of State. President Halonen was born in Helsinki in 1943. She graduated from the University of Helsinki in 1968 and has a Master of Law degree. President Halonen became a lawyer with the Central Organization of Finnish Trade Unions in 1970, a position she held during her political career as a Member of Parliament and Cabinet Minister. President Halonen joined the Social Democratic Party in 1971. Her political career began in 1974 when she was appointed parliamentary secretary to the Prime Minister, a post she held until 1975. She was elected to Parliament in 1979 and held her seat in five consecutive elections until she assumed the office of President of Finland. President Halonen has served in three cabinets. Her appointments have been: Minister at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health from 1987 to 1990, Minister of Justice in 1990-91, and Minister for Foreign Affairs from 1995 to 2000. She was also Minister responsible for Nordic cooperation in 1989-91. President Halonen has also played an active role at the Council of Europe, first as Deputy-Chair of the Finnish delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly from 1991 to 1995 and later in the Ministerial Committee. She was also a member of the Committee of Wise Persons of the Council of Europe in 1998-99. President Halonen has paid close attention to issues of human rights, democracy and civil society. Issues concerning social justice and promotion of equality have been central themes throughout her political career.

Co-Chair: H.E. Mr. Benjamin Mkapa, President of the United Republic of Tanzania. Mr. Benjamin W. Mkapa was elected President of the United Republic of Tanzania in November 1995. He is the third President of the United Republic of Tanzania since independence in 1961. President Mkapa was born in 1938 in Masasi, in the Mtwara region of the country. He received his primary education in Tanzania and continued his studies at Makere University College in Uganda, obtaining a Preliminary Arts degree in 1959, and Bachelor of Arts in English in 1962. President Mkapa's career began in local administration in Dodoma, where he was appointed district officer in 1962. He became a foreign service officer later that year. In 1966 Mr. Mkapa embarked upon a long career in journalism. During the 1960s and 1970s, he served as managing editor of two of Tanzania's leading newspapers, *The Nationalist Uhuru* and *The Daily News*. His experience in the news media led to his being appointed, in 1974, as Press Secretary to the President of Tanzania, H.E. Mr. Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, whom he served for two years. In 1976, Mr. Mkapa became one of the founding editors of the Tanzania News Agency (SHITATA). His career in international diplomacy included a number of high positions, including High Commissioner to Nigeria (in 1976) and Minister for Foreign Affairs (from 1977 to 1980). In 1982, he served as High Commissioner to Canada and in 1983 as Ambassador to the United States. He returned home in 1984 where he was again appointed as Minister for Foreign Affairs. In the early 1990s he became Minister for Information and Broadcasting and, in 1992, he served as Minister for Science, Technology and Higher Education, prior to being elected President in 1995. Throughout his political career, President Mkapa has worked to strengthen Tanzanian democracy, while increasing the country's openness to international trade and investment.

Giuliano Amato (Italy): Vice-President of the Constitutional Convention of the European Union. Dr. Amato served as Prime Minister of Italy twice, from 1992 to 1993 and from 2000 to 2001. A Member of Parliament from 1983 to 1993, Dr. Amato has held several other important government positions, including those of Deputy Prime Minister, Treasury Minister, Minister of Institutional Reforms and President of the Italian Antitrust Authority. Dr. Amato is a lawyer by training and was a Professor of Italian and Comparative Constitutional Law at the University of Rome, School of Political Science, from 1975 to 1997.

Ruth Cardoso (Brazil): First Lady of Brazil and President of the Community Solidarity Council, an organization that has been promoting inter-sectoral partnerships in the fight against poverty and social exclusion since 1995. Dr. Cardoso was previously Senior Researcher at the Brazilian Centre of Analysis and Planning and Professor of Anthropology at the University of Sao Paulo. She is a member of the Board of the United Nations Foundation and is the author of many books and articles on youth, social movements, civil society and new social actors.

Heba Handoussa (Egypt): Managing Director of the Economic Research Forum for the Arab countries, Iran and Turkey. Professor Handoussa is also a member of the Shura Council, Egypt's Upper House of Parliament. An economist by training, Professor Handoussa taught at the American University in Cairo and was subsequently appointed as Vice-Provost. She has served as an adviser to the Egyptian Government and consultant to the World Bank. Her numerous research publications cover the areas of structural adjustment, industrial policy and foreign aid, institutional reform and comparative development models.

Eveline Herfkens (Netherlands): Minister for Development Cooperation since 1998. From 1996 to 1998, Ms. Herfkens was Ambassador to the United Nations and the WTO. During that time, she was a member of the Board of the UN Research Institute for Social Development (UNRISD) and Chair of the Bureau of the Economic Commission for Europe. From 1990 to 1996, she was Executive Director of the World Bank Group. Before that, Ms. Herfkens was a member of Parliament for the Labour Party of the Netherlands for nine years. Trained as a lawyer, Ms. Herfkens has also been active in several non-governmental organizations.

Ann McLaughlin Korologos (United States): Vice-Chairperson of the Rand Corporation. Ms. Korologos, who served as US Secretary of Labour from 1987 to 1989, also served as Under-Secretary of the Department of the Interior and as an Assistant Secretary of the Department of Treasury. From 1996 to 2000, Ms. Korologos was Chairperson of the Aspen Institute. She is currently a senior adviser to Benedetto, Gartland and Company, an investment banking firm in New York, and serves as a member of the Board of AMR Corporation and its subsidiary American Airlines, Fannie Mae, Harman International Industries, Kellogg Company, Microsoft Corporation, Vulcan Materials and Host Marriott Corporation.

Lu Mai (China): Secretary-General of the China Development Research Foundation since 1998. Mr. Lu has also been Senior Research Fellow of the Development Research Centre of the State Council since 1995. Mr. Lu has extensive experience in rural reform in China, and was Director of the Experimental Area Office for Rural Reform, Research Centre for Rural Development of the State Council in the late 1980s. He is the author of numerous publications on economic reform, and served as a consultant for the World Bank, the Asian Development Bank and other international organizations.

Deepak Nayyar (India): Vice-Chancellor of the University of Delhi. Dr. Nayyar is a distinguished economist, having taught at universities in India, France and the United Kingdom. He served as Chief Economic Adviser to the Government of India and was Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Finance. The author of numerous books and articles, Dr. Nayyar is Chairperson of the Board of Governors of the World Institute for Development Economics Research, and a member of the Advisory Council for the International Development Centre at the University of Oxford.

Taizo Nishimuro (Japan): Chairperson of the Board of Toshiba Corporation. A career business executive with Toshiba, Mr. Nishimuro has worked in international sales and marketing of electronic components and consumer electronics. Mr. Nishimuro is currently Vice-Chairperson of Keidanren (a Japanese industrial organization) and policy board member of Nikkeiren (Japanese employers' organization) and has been informally designated as Vice-Chairperson of the Japan Business Federation (JBF), which will be established in May 2002 by the merging of Nikkeiren and Keidanren.

Valentina Matvienko (Russian Federation): Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation with responsibility for social issues, education and culture. Ms. Matvienko is also responsible for relations between the Government and trade unions, social movements and associations, religious organizations and the mass media. Appointed to her current position in 1999, Ms. Matvienko first served as Deputy Prime Minister in charge of social issues in 1998. Prior to that, Ms. Matvienko was a diplomat and long-serving government official. From 1991 to 1995, she served as Russian Ambassador to Malta, and from 1997 to 1998 as Russian Ambassador to Greece.

François Perigot (France): President of the International Organisation of Employers since June 2001. Mr. Perigot has had an extensive career in French industry, having served as Chairperson and CEO of Thibaud, Gibbs et Cie (from 1968 to 1970) and then held the position of Chairperson and CEO of Unilever France (from 1971 to 1986.) From 1986 to 1994, Mr. Perigot served as President of the National Council of French Employers. Since 1997, Mr. Perigot has been President of the Mouvement des Entreprises de France (MEDEF) International, the main employer organization in France.

Surin Pitsuwan (Thailand): Member of Parliament and former Minister of Foreign Affairs. Dr. Surin has had a long career in government and foreign affairs. Dr. Surin served as Minister of Foreign Affairs from 1997 to 2001, and before that was Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs from 1992 to 1995. He has served as a Member of Parliament for six consecutive terms since being elected in 1986. A graduate in political science, Dr. Surin is currently a member of the Commission on Human Security and is a regular columnist for major newspapers in Thailand and the region.

Julio Maria Sanguinetti (Uruguay): President of the Circulo de Montevideo, a forum which aims to open up new forms of governance and achieve sustainable development in Latin America. Mr. Sanguinetti was elected as President of the Republic of Uruguay for two terms, from 1985 to 1990, and 1990 to 1995. Mr. Sanguinetti has had a long and distinguished career in politics, culture and journalism. His many accomplishments were recognized in the awarding of the UNESCO Simon Bolivar prize in 2000, and by the awarding of several honorary degrees from universities around the world.

Hernando de Soto (Peru): President of the Institute for Liberty and Democracy. An influential author of best-selling books on economic policy, Mr. de Soto heads an important think-tank on development issues. Regarded as one of the most influential thinkers on the informal sector, he has worked as an adviser to the Peruvian Government, notably on the development and implementation of strategies for bringing informal enterprises and property ownership into the economic mainstream. His most recent book is *The mystery of capital: Why capitalism succeeds in the West and fails everywhere else*.

Joseph Stiglitz (United States): Professor of Economics, Business and International Affairs, at Columbia University. A renowned scholar and teacher, Professor Stiglitz is one of the founders of modern development economics. He has held professorships at Yale, Princeton, Oxford and Stanford and was Chief Economist of the World Bank. He was Chairperson of the US Council of Economic Advisors from 1993 to 1997. Joseph Stiglitz received the Nobel Prize for Economics in 2001.

John J. Sweeney (United States): President of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO). A native of Bronx, New York, Mr. Sweeney has been President of the AFL-CIO since 1995. His trade union career began as a research assistant with the Ladies Garment Workers. In 1960, he joined the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) as a contract director for New York City, and went on to become President of the International Union in 1980, an office which he held for four terms before being elected as the President of the AFL-CIO.

Victoria Tauli-Corpuz (Philippines): Executive Director of Tebtebba Foundation (Indigenous Peoples' International Centre for Policy Research and Education). An indigenous activist from the Cordillera region in the Philippines, Ms. Tauli-Corpuz founded and managed various NGOs involved in social awareness raising, community organizing, research and development work. She has been a member and the chairperson-rapporteur of the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations since 1994. She was recently appointed a commissioner of the National Commission on the Role of Filipino Women, representing indigenous peoples.

Aminata D. Traoré (Mali): Author and coordinator of the African Social Forum. Dr. Traoré previously served as Minister of Culture and Tourism and has been active in a number of important development issues, including North-South relations, bilateral and multilateral cooperation, water, health, gender issues and community development. She has been active in a number of non-governmental organizations concerned with promoting local knowledge and values, and was among the co-organizers of the first African Social Forum, held in Bamako in January 2002.

Zwelinzima Vavi (South Africa): General Secretary of Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU). Mr. Vavi worked in a gold-mining territory of Klerksdrop and Orkney, and joined the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) as an organizer in 1987. In 1988, he became COSATU's regional secretary for the Western Transvaal. Four years later, he took up the position of National Organizing Secretary. Before taking his current position as General Secretary, he served as COSATU's Deputy General Secretary from 1993 to 1999.

Ernst Ulrich von Weizsaecker (Germany): Scientist and Parliamentarian. A member of the German Bundestag since 1998, Dr. von Weizsaecker is currently Chairperson of a Bundestag commission on "Globalization of the world economy: Challenges and answers". A distinguished scientist in the fields of biology and physics, Dr. von Weizsaecker has served as Director of the United Nations Centre on Science and Technology and of the Institute for European Environmental

Policy. He has been a member of the Club of Rome since 1991 and has written and published widely on public policy, environmental and energy-related topics.