



## EIGHTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

**Technical meetings reserve for 2004-05**

1. At its 288th (November 2003) Session,<sup>1</sup> the Governing Body approved the financing of the following meetings from the technical meetings reserve for 2004-05, at a total estimated cost of US\$1,148,920:
  - The social dimension of globalization: From debate to action (\$223,440);
  - International Symposium on Trade Unions and Poverty Eradication (\$349,840);
  - Youth employment: The way forward (\$242,520);
  - three tripartite symposia on promoting the MNE Declaration in SADC, MERCOSUR and ASEAN countries (\$333,120).
2. The Governing Body decided to defer its decision on the use of the remaining balance, some \$640,000, until a later session. The balance is sufficient for two additional meetings, including if necessary modest additional preparatory work.
3. The meetings that were proposed in November 2003 but not selected are listed in the appendix. The Office has no additional meetings to propose at this time, but notes that the discussion of the report of the World Commission on the Social Dimension of Globalization (WCSDG) may lead to additional proposals.
4. The Governing Body may reconsider any of the meetings listed in the appendix, defer a decision until a later session, or select new topics of its own choosing.
5. *The Committee may wish to recommend to the Governing Body the topics for up to two additional technical meetings, or to recommend that a decision be deferred.*

Geneva, 27 January, 2004.

*Point for decision:* Paragraph 5.

<sup>1</sup> GB.288/PFA/9.

## Appendix

### ILO technical meetings in 2004-05: Meetings listed in GB.288/PFA/9 that were not selected

**(a) *Tripartite Meeting of Experts on Harassment and Violence at Work***  
(\$257,540)

#### Operational objectives

##### Gender equality

ILO constituents take positive action to increase gender equality in the world of work.

##### 1c: Normative action

International labour standards and the standards supervisory process influence legislation and policies of member States for achieving decent work and international development goals.

##### 3b: Labour protection

ILO constituents target and take effective action to improve safety and health and conditions of employment, with special attention to the most hazardous conditions at the workplace.

*Proposed participation:* Eight Government, eight Employer and eight Worker participants.

**Output:** Adoption of a code of practice on harassment and violence at work including specific treatment of the problem of sexual harassment, and recommendations for action by constituents and the Office to strengthen the development at national and regional levels of policies and practical programmes to combat workplace harassment and violence.

An ILO code of practice would provide the first international guidance of general application on sexual harassment at work. It would complement and reinforce the increased attention paid by the Committee of Experts to the issue of sexual harassment, most recently in a general observation under Convention No. 111 adopted in 2002. The Meeting would also build upon the development of a proposed sectoral code of practice on stress and violence in the services sector, which will be discussed by a Meeting of Experts in October 2003.

**(b) *Meeting of Experts on Hazardous Work and Working Children***  
(\$275,080)

#### Operational objectives

##### 1b: Child labour

Child labour is progressively eliminated through capacity building and strengthening of the worldwide movement against child labour, with priority given to the urgent elimination of child labour in its worst forms and the provision of alternatives for children and families.

##### 3b: Labour protection

ILO constituents target and take effective action to improve safety and health and conditions of employment, with special attention to the most hazardous conditions at the workplace.

*Proposed participation:* Ten Government, ten Employer and ten Worker participants.

**Output:** Adoption of guidelines on determination of hazardous child labour, including an internationally recognized list of forms of hazardous child labour.

Country reporting has revealed notable gaps in terms of identifying and determining hazardous child labour. The Meeting will provide crucial guidance for the countries ratifying the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182), which delegates to the national level the responsibility for determining hazardous child labour and prioritizing it for action. The Meeting will provide a platform for the social partners to exchange experiences and information on children working in the most hazardous occupations and conditions and to elaborate international criteria and documents for preventive measures.

**(c) Decent work and local development: An integrated ILO response to the challenges of globalization**  
(\$270,240)

Operational objectives

An integrated approach to decent work

Constituents in member States adopt and apply integrated economic and social policies that promote decent work.

Poverty reduction and social inclusion

Member States include decent work goals in national poverty reduction policies and programmes.

International partnerships

Tripartite constituents and ILO partners at the international and regional levels support integrated economic and social policies that promote decent work.

*Proposed participation:* Six Government, six Employer and six Worker participants.

**Output:** Contribution to the implementation of the conclusions of the general discussions on social security (2001) and the informal economy (2002), and to the promotion of several ILO instruments such as Conventions Nos. 87, 98, 141 and 155 or Recommendations Nos. 169, 189 and 193. The symposium is likely to contribute to the operationalization of some of the recommendations that are expected to feature in the final report of the World Commission on the Social Dimension of Globalization.

The symposium will provide a platform for the exchange of information and experience among the world's leading local development actors, stakeholders and researchers, to enrich the local development work of the ILO and its constituents and partners, with particular emphasis on the informal and rural economies. The symposium will be organized jointly by the Employment Sector, the Social Protection Sector and the Social Dialogue Sector.

**(d) Updating the list of occupational diseases**  
(\$275,080)

Operational objective

3b: Labour protection

ILO constituents target and take effective action to improve safety and health and conditions of employment, with special attention to the most hazardous conditions at the workplace.

*Proposed participation:* Ten Government, ten Employer and ten Worker participants.

**Output:** An updated list of occupational diseases based on a simplified mechanism authorized by the List of Occupational Diseases Recommendation, 2002 (No. 194).

The procedure foreseen for updating the list of occupational diseases is outlined in Paragraph 3 of the List of Occupational Diseases Recommendation, 2002 (No. 194): “The list as annexed to this Recommendation should be regularly reviewed and updated through tripartite meetings of experts convened by the Governing Body of the International Labour Office. Any new list so established shall be submitted to the Governing Body for its approval, and upon approval shall replace the preceding list and shall be communicated to the Members of the International Labour Organization.”

**(e) Meeting of Experts: Gaining influence in policy-making: Challenges for labour ministries**  
(\$213,440)

Operational objective

4b: Governments and institutions of social dialogue

The legal frameworks, institutions, machinery and processes for social dialogue are strengthened and used.

*Proposed participation:* Eight Government, eight Employer and eight Worker participants.

**Output:** Agreed set of conclusions on good practices to improve the position of labour and employment ministries in the formulation of economic and social policy.

The Meeting is part of the research project set up within the InFocus Programme on Social Dialogue, Labour Law and Labour Administration (IFP/DIALOGUE) with the aim of finding out which institutional arrangements best ensure that labour and employment concerns are given proper due in the formulation of government policy.

**(f) Meeting of Experts: Development of social dialogue indicators**  
(\$218,140)

Operational objective

Knowledge

Policies to promote and realize decent work are based on sound information and gender-disaggregated statistics.

*Proposed participation:* Eight Government, eight Employer and eight Worker participants.

**Output:** A plan for improved ILO capacity to collect statistics of social dialogue and draft international guidelines for statistics on trade union membership and collective bargaining coverage.

IFP/DIALOGUE with the Bureau of Statistics (STAT) support and the cooperation of other units initiated a programme in 2001 to assess internal and external end-user needs in the regions and within countries. In accordance with the Strategic Policy Framework this database could eventually be sourced through STAT’s regular data collection activities.

**(g) Promoting integrated country strategies  
on decent work  
(\$365,740)**

Operational objectives

An integrated approach to decent work

Constituents in member States adopt and apply integrated economic and social policies that promote decent work.

Poverty reduction and social inclusion

Member States include decent work goals in national poverty reduction policies and programmes.

International partnerships

Tripartite constituents and ILO partners at the international and regional levels support integrated economic and social policies that promote decent work.

*Proposed participation:* 26 Government, 13 Employer and 13 Worker participants.

**Output:** An international exchange of views and experience on the operationalization of the Decent Work Agenda at the national level to support further actions by ILO constituents for advancing on integrated country strategies on decent work.

The adoption and implementation of decent work as a policy goal requires an integrated approach to economic and social policy-making that engages major national stakeholders in a manner that strengthens ILO constituents.