



SEVENTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Flag of the International Labour Organization

1. The “flag” of the International Labour Organization, designed in 1969 for the ILO’s 50th anniversary ceremonies, is not a flag in the strict legal sense. It is used for ceremonial purposes and bears the emblem¹ of the ILO. Having not been officially recognized, it is a de facto flag, the use of which is subject to restrictive conditions which do not allow the Organization to be given the visibility it might need.
2. In particular, the flag cannot be displayed outside buildings occupied by the ILO, nor can it be flown with national flags at official gatherings. During the Pope’s visit in 1971, the ILO flag was not amongst the flags of the other international organizations.
3. In order for the ILO emblem to become a flag, it must be formally adopted by the International Labour Conference, which is the supreme body of the Organization.
4. *The Committee may wish to recommend to the Governing Body that it authorize the Office to draw up a draft resolution for the adoption of an ILO flag, along with draft regulations for its use, to be examined by the Committee on Legal Issues and International Labour Standards at the 292nd Session of the Governing Body (March 2005), in view of their report to the International Labour Conference.*

Geneva, 20 October 2004.

Point for decision: Paragraph 4.

¹ The emblem was approved by the Director-General, David A. Morse, in Instruction No. 325 of 1 September 1967.