



EIGHTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Technical meetings reserve for 2004-05

1. At its 288th (November 2003) Session,¹ 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 (US\$223,440);
 - International Symposium on Trade Unions and Poverty Eradication (US\$349,840);
 - Youth Employment: The way forward (US\$242,520);
 - Three tripartite symposia on promoting the MNE Declaration in SADC, MERCOSUR and ASEAN countries (US\$333,120);
2. At the same session, the Governing Body decided to defer its decision on the use of the remaining balance, some US\$640,000, until a later session.
3. At its 289th (March 2004) Session,² the Governing Body decided to defer the decision on this matter until its 291st (November 2004) Session.
4. In March 2004, there was a discussion on possibilities of reducing the cost of certain meetings. The Committee requested additional information on the cost breakdown for meetings including interpretation.
5. The technical meetings reserve covers the full cost of participation and a contribution to the cost of technical preparatory work and technical serving of the meeting. The cost of participation varies depending on the number of days the participants are present, the number of participants, and where the participants travel from. The average participant costs some US\$4,400 in travel and subsistence allowance. Technical preparation and servicing cost varies depending on the work already done by the Office on the topic, but does not exceed US\$105,000.

¹ GB.288/PFA/9.

² GB.289/PFA/8.

6. The interpretation cost is covered by the regular budget of the Department of Relations, Meetings and Document Services. It is placed there to avoid design or selection of meetings based on the languages of participants. The cost depends on the number of days, the number of languages, and whether the interpretation is two-way or one-way. For the meetings approved, the total estimated cost for interpretation amounts to some US\$208,000. It is approximately US\$9,000 per day for the three official languages and could be more than US\$20,000 per day with additional languages.
7. Detailed information on cost of meetings is included in Appendix I.
8. At its 290th (June 2004) Session,³ the Governing Body expressed its intention to hold a tripartite meeting of experts on the fishing sector which could be held in December 2004, and could be financed from the technical meetings reserve 2004-05. The estimated cost of this meeting amounts to some US\$113,000. Should the Committee decide to recommend the financing of a tripartite meeting of experts on the fishing sector from the technical meetings reserve, a balance of some US\$527,000 would remain available under the earlier indicated financing.
9. The meetings that were proposed in November 2003 but not selected are listed in Appendix II. In the March discussion, some Governments agreed to the proposal that Employers' and Workers' groups presented. Some Governments had different priorities or preferred that resources be reserved for a meeting to follow up the report of the World Commission on the Social Dimension of Globalization, and the issue may be raised again in the discussion in November 2004. Also some Governments considered that the selection process should more directly include governments.
10. Two meetings could be selected within the resource level indicated in paragraph 8 above. However, in some cases this would require measures to reduce their cost. These measures could include reduction in participation or in the contribution to technical preparation and servicing.
11. ***The Committee may wish to recommend to the Governing Body a selection of meetings that could be financed by the use of the remaining technical meetings reserve for 2004-05.***

Geneva, 27 September 2004.

Point for decision: Paragraph 11.

³ Record of Decisions of GB.290.

Appendix 1

Cost of technical meetings

Title	Technical preparatory work and serving	Participation	Total to be covered by technical meetings reserve	Interpretation	Grand total
<i>Meetings already approved</i>					
Youth Employment: The Way Forward	57 120	185 400	242 520	25 939	268 459
Tripartite Symposium on Promoting the MNE Declaration in SADC countries	64 240	76 300	140 540	26 300	166 840
Tripartite Symposium on Promoting the MNE Declaration in MERCOSUR countries	64 240	12 100	76 340	4 600	80 940
Tripartite Symposium on Promoting the MNE Declaration in ASEAN countries	64 240	52 000	116 240	–	116 240
The Social Dimension of Globalization: From Debate to Action	104 240	119 200	223 440	37 467	260 907
International Symposium on Trade Unions and Poverty Eradication	104 240	245 600	349 840	70 985	420 825
Tripartite Meeting of Experts on the Fishing Sector	15 500	97 500	113 000	43 284	156 284
Total	473 820	788 100	1 261 920	208 575	1 470 495
<i>Proposed for possible selection</i>					
(a) Tripartite Meeting of Experts on Harassment and Violence at Work	104 240	153 300	257 540	69 170	326 710
(b) Meeting of Experts on Hazardous Child Labour	80 680	194 400	275 080	191 963	467 043
(c) Symposium on Decent Work and Local Development: An Integrated Response to the Challenges of Globalization	104 240	166 000	270 240	64 054	334 294
(d) Meeting of Experts on Updating the List of Occupational Diseases	80 680	194 400	275 080	191 963	467 043
(e) Meeting of Experts: Gaining Influence in Policy-Making: Challenges for Labour Ministries	94 240	119 200	213 440	25 939	239 379
(f) Meeting of Experts: Development of Social Dialogue Indicators	84 240	133 900	218 140	43 231	261 371
(g) Promoting Integrated Country Strategies on Decent Work	104 240	261 500	365 740	26 119	391 859
(h) Tripartite Meeting of Experts: ILO Non-Binding Multilateral Framework for a Rights-Based Approach to Migration	104 240	194 000	298 240	43 300	341 540
Total	756 800	1 416 700	2 173 500	655 740	2 829 240

Appendix II

ILO technical meetings in 2004-05: Meetings listed in GB.288/PFA/9 that were not selected ¹

(a) *Tripartite Meeting of Experts on Harassment and Violence at Work*
(US\$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 Child Labour*
(US\$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.

¹ The list reflects modification of the text.

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) *Symposium on Decent Work and Local Development: An Integrated ILO Response to the Challenges of Globalization*
(US\$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. Other participants include the Governing Body delegates and ILO field office staff.

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 recommendations related to local development, extension of social protection, social dialogue and rights that 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 four Sectors.

**(d) Meeting of Experts on Updating the
List of Occupational Diseases**
(US\$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**
(US\$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**
(US\$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
(US\$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.