

**FOR DECISION**

## NINETEENTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

**Report of the Director-General****Seventh Supplementary Report:  
Application for general consultative  
status by the International Trade Union  
Confederation**

1. By a letter dated 7 November 2006, reproduced in Appendix I, Mr. Guy Ryder, the newly elected General Secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), informed the Director-General that the International Trade Union Confederation had been founded in Vienna, Austria, on 1 November 2006. He indicated that the ITUC membership included affiliates of the former International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) and the World Confederation of Labour (WCL), which were both dissolved on 31 October 2006 at their respective congresses also held in Vienna. It also includes a number of national trade union centres which were not affiliated to either of the former international organizations. In the same letter, Mr. Ryder formally requested that the ITUC be granted the same general consultative status with the ILO as that previously accorded to the WCL and ICFTU, pursuant to article 12, paragraph 3, of the ILO Constitution. All information required under the rules applicable to international non-governmental organizations enjoying general consultative status<sup>1</sup> in order for such status to be granted to the ITUC has been supplied to the Director-General.
2. It may be recalled that, when the Governing Body originally decided at its 105th (June 1948) Session to define the arrangements governing relationships between the ILO and international non-governmental organizations, it drew a distinction between international non-governmental organizations “with an important interest in a wide range of ILO activities with which it has decided to establish consultative relationships”, with which standing arrangements for their representation at ILO meetings were made, and other international non-governmental organizations “which have a special interest in some particular sector of the work of the ILO”. Eight international non-governmental organizations have been granted full consultative status with the ILO. The current list of these eight organizations includes the former ICFTU and the WCL, and is reproduced in Appendix II.

<sup>1</sup> See paragraph 4 of the resolution adopted by the Governing Body at its 105th (June 1948) Session, *Compendium of rules applicable to the Governing Body of the International Labour Office*, February 2006, p. 65.

- 3. The Governing Body may wish to decide, in the light of the above considerations, that general consultative status be granted to the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) and request the Office that the abovementioned list of organizations with general consultative status be adjusted accordingly.***

Geneva, 10 November 2006.

*Point for decision:* Paragraph 3.

## Appendix I

### **Letter of 7 November 2006 from Mr. Guy Ryder, General Secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation, to the Director-General of the ILO**

Dear Mr. Somavia,

The International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), founded in Vienna, Austria, on 1 November 2006, has 306 national affiliates in 154 countries and territories, representing 168 million workers. The ITUC membership includes the affiliates of the former International Confederation of Free Trade Unions and the World Confederation of Labour, along with a number of national trade union centres previously affiliated to neither international. Both the WCL and the ICFTU dissolved themselves at congresses on 31 October, also in Vienna.

I am therefore writing to formally request that the ITUC be granted the same status at the ILO as that previously held by the WCL and the ICFTU. We will forward to you the necessary supplementary information, including the new organization's statutes, composition and officers, in the immediate future.

Please accept our thanks for your attention to this request.

*(Signed)* Guy Ryder,  
ITUC General Secretary.

## Appendix II

### **Non-governmental international organizations having general consultative status with the ILO**

International Co-operative Alliance (ICA)  
International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU)  
World Confederation of Labour (WCL)  
International Federation of Agricultural Producers (IFAP)  
World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU)  
International Organisation of Employers (IOE)  
Organization of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU)  
Pan-African Employers' Confederation