Resolution III

Resolution concerning the development of measures of labour underutilization

The 18th International Conference of Labour Statisticians,

Aware of the limitations of the unemployment rate as the main labour market indicator for many countries,

Considering that the unemployment rate may not adequately reflect the labour market situation, especially of women,

Recognizing the need to develop, at the international level and as part of the measurement of decent work, measures of labour underutilization complementary to the unemployment rate,

Having reviewed the methodological work already undertaken by the ILO in this area;

Recommends that:

- the ILO, in cooperation with interested countries and organizations, continue work on the development of a methodology for the measurement in particular of labour slack, low earnings and skills mismatch;
- (ii) the methodology developed build on relevant existing international concepts, definitions and classifications;
- (iii) efforts be undertaken by the ILO to promote understanding of these measures relative to the unemployment rate;
- (iv) the topic be considered for inclusion on the agenda of the 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians with a view to adopting an international standard.