

# PARTNERSHIPS FOR DECENT WORK



International  
Labour  
Organization

# Newsletter

May 2010 No.15

## Key Resources

### Conference agenda

**Conference Guide** (pdf 530 kB) **FR**  
(pdf 605 kB) **SP** (pdf 438 kB)

**Report of the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations: Report III(A)** (pdf 9632 kB) **FR** (pdf 11628 kB)  
**SP** (pdf 10368 kB)

**General survey concerning employment instruments in light of the 2008 Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization: Report III(1B)** (pdf 3735 kB) **FR**  
(pdf 3311 kb) **SP** (pdf 2777 kB)

**Information document on ratifications and standards-related activities: Report III(2)** (pdf 2055 kB) **FR** (pdf 1483 kB) **SP** (pdf 1756 kB)

**Decent work for domestic workers: Report IV(1)** (pdf 766 kB) **FR** (pdf 836 kB) **SP** (pdf 922 kB);  
**Report IV (2)** (pdf 3498 kB) **FR** (pdf 3 kB) **SP** (pdf kB)

**HIV/AIDS and the world of work: Report V(1)** (pdf 215 kB) **FR** (pdf 309 kB) **SP** (pdf 203 kB); **Report V(2A)** (pdf 504 kB) **FR** (pdf 505 kB) **SP** (pdf 446 kB); **Report V(2B)** (pdf 174 kB) **FR** (pdf 174 kB) **SP** (pdf 201 kB)

**Accelerating action against child labour. Report of the Director General** (pdf 4.25 MB) **FR** (pdf 4.35 MB) **SP** (pdf 3.28 MB)

### ***International Labour Conference: 2010***

The 99<sup>th</sup> International Labour Conference will be held at the Palais des Nations and ILO headquarters in Geneva from 2 to 18 June. The agenda includes the quadrennial global report on child labour, international labour standards, and four technical items: a discussion on decent work for domestic workers; an autonomous recommendation on HIV/AIDS in the world of work; a discussion on the strategic objectives of employment; and a review of follow-up to the 1998 Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work.

#### **Items on the agenda**

##### **Monitoring the application of Conventions and Recommendations**

The Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations and the Conference Committee on the Application of Standards are the two pillars of the ILO supervisory system. The Committee of Experts, an independent body composed of 20 high-level legal experts, examines the extent to which each Member State's legislation and practice conform to ratified Conventions and conducts a General Survey on a specific topic. It meets in an annual three-week session from November to December. Its report enables the Conference Committee on the Application of Standards, a standing committee of the Conference comprised of representatives of governments, employers and workers, to review how States are fulfilling their standards-related obligations.

The main task of the Conference Committee is to discuss 25 individual cases selected on the basis of the comments made by the Committee of Experts. In accordance with a resolution adopted by the Conference in 2000, the Conference Committee holds a special sitting on Myanmar's application of the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29). The Conference Committee invites the governments concerned to provide information to the Committee when it discusses individual cases.

The Conference Committee also discusses the General Survey by the Committee of Experts. For the first time, this year the General Survey concerns follow-up on the 2008 Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization, focusing on employment instruments.

##### **HIV/AIDS and the world of work – Standard setting, second discussion**

A proposed Recommendation on HIV/AIDS and the world of work will enter a second and final round of discussions at this year's Conference. Following the first discussion at last year's ILC, a draft Recommendation was produced, which highlights the unique position of ILO constituents to respond to HIV/AIDS in the world of work. This year's discussion will finalize the form and content of the proposed Recommendation. The draft text reaffirms the goals of the 2001 ILO *Code of Practice on HIV/AIDS and the World of Work* and builds on the Code's ten key principles. It calls on constituents to develop national HIV workplace policies and programmes. HIV is a particularly pressing issue in the world of work – workers constitute the age group most affected by HIV.

The draft was circulated to Member States, which were asked to consult with employers' and workers' organizations and provide the Office with comments. In March 2010 the Office issued Reports V(2A), a summary of those comments, and V(2B), a French and English parallel text version of the Recommendation, modified on the basis of the comments received. These reports, in particular (2B), will be the focus of the Committee's second discussion.



World AIDS Day at the ILO

## Decent work for domestic workers – *First discussion*



Domestic workers in Egypt

The first round of discussions on domestic work will begin this year with a view to the setting of labour standards. The report prepared for the Conference highlights that domestic work is one of the most important forms of employment for women around the world. Furthermore, care work at home is vital for a functioning economy, and global demand for such work has risen over the past two decades. Yet it is undervalued and poorly regulated, and many domestic workers are overworked, underpaid and unprotected. In many countries it remains a virtually invisible form of employment.

Improving the conditions of domestic workers has long been an ILO concern. In 1948 the International Labour Conference adopted a resolution concerning the conditions of employment of domestic workers. In 1965 it adopted a resolution calling for normative action in this area, and in 1970 the first ever survey on the status of domestic workers worldwide was published.

The two-part discussion could lead to the adoption of a Convention supplemented by a Recommendation in 2011. This standard-setting process will allow the ILO to address the well-documented decent work deficits faced by domestic workers globally.

Two reports have been prepared: the preliminary report, *Decent work for domestic workers* Report IV(1), which was accompanied by a questionnaire to which ILO members were asked to give reasoned replies. These have been summarized in the second report (IV(2)), which also includes a number of points for the Conference to consider in its discussion.

## Accelerating action against child labour – *Report of the Director-General*

In 2006, the ILO set the ambitious target of bringing the worst forms of child labour to an end by 2016. There have been clear signs of progress, but troubling gaps in global response remain. The third Global Report on child labour under the follow-up to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work updates on global trends introduced in the 2006 report, reviews the progress made in the implementation of the Global Action Plan, examines key challenges and gaps and sets out an agenda to accelerate progress toward 2016.

The report indicates that improvements have been made in reducing numbers of working girls even as there have been increases in child labour among boys. Progress has been made in the ratification of standards, with now near universal ratification of Convention No.182. Perhaps the most important step forward has been global consensus in support of Education for All, showing increasing and convergent understanding of the need for at least universal basic education.

Analysis of the 2008 interim targets show that the world is still not on track for achieving the worst forms of child labour target for 2016 – to do so will include renewing national ownership and ambition supported by employers' and workers' organizations, focusing on programming gaps – especially where rural areas are concerned and increasing South-South cooperation.

## Information for delegates

Delegates can register and collect their badges at the **ILO Pavilion**, at the entrance to the ILO headquarters building, provided that the Office has received their credentials. The registration desk will be open on **Monday 1 June and Tuesday 2 June, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and as Wednesday 3 June, daily from 8 a.m. to 6.30 p.m.**, on Saturdays as necessary and excluding Sundays. While attending the Conference all participants must be in possession of a personalized badge issued by the ILO, and of an appropriate identity document, containing a photograph, to gain access to the *Palais des Nations* complex. Badges must be worn visibly at all times.

Visitors to the ILC may be provided with special visitors' badges on presentation of a national identity document. These badges may be collected from the ILO Pavilion.

A complete programme and practical information is published daily as the *Daily Bulletin*, available at 8 a.m. daily from Distribution Services.

Click [here](#) for more practical information for delegates.

### *In brief In brief In brief*

During the ILC, four new South-South cooperation agreements will be signed including one Triangular Cooperation Agreement between Brazil-Haiti-ILO-US.

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