

Governing Body Geneva, March 2002

Committee on Sectoral and Technical Meetings and Related Issues **STM**
THIRD ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Follow-up to sectoral meetings held in 2000-01

Transport equipment manufacture

41. In response to one of the conclusions of the *Tripartite Meeting on the Social and Labour Impact of Globalization in the Manufacture of Transport Equipment*, held in May 2000, requesting the ILO to prepare a compendium of best practice on safety in ship-breaking, the Office produced a video *The Shipbreakers* and an *issues paper*, which directly led to a series of technical advisory missions (together with SafeWork) to ship-breaking facilities in Chittagong, Bangladesh (March 2001); Gadanni Estate, Baluchistan, Pakistan (March 2001); Mumbai, India (May 2001); Metro Machine, Philadelphia, United States (September 2001); and China (four yards in different parts of the country, October 2001).

In addition, tripartite national workshops on ship-breaking were held in Beijing, Chittagong and Mumbai, as well as an informal exchange of views with the constituents in Baluchistan. The workshop in Chittagong also benefited from the presence of the Chairperson of the Technical Working Group (TWG) of the Basel Convention (UNEP) and the Chairperson of the IMO Correspondence Group (CG) on Ship Dismantling. As a result of the video, the ILO was invited to speak at the World Bank, at two international conferences in Rotterdam and Philadelphia, as well as at the International Chamber of Shipping (ICS) in London. An excerpt of the video was also aired on CNN. A project document was prepared which is in the process of being submitted to multi- and bilateral donors. The first draft of a technical guide on safety in ship breaking was likewise produced which will be tested and revised in the course of 2002. Once the technical guide is finalized, it will complement the work of the TWG of the Basel Convention (Geneva) and of the Marine Environment Pollution Committee of the IMO (London). A web site is also maintained (www.ilo.org/safework/shipbreaking).