



SECOND ITEM ON THE AGENDA

**Composition and purpose of
the meeting concerning health
services to be held in 2002**

1. At its meeting in March 2001, the Committee considered a paper on the composition and purpose of the sectoral meetings to be held in 2002 and made recommendations about five of them, which were adopted by the Governing Body on the same occasion.¹ Since there was no agreement in the Committee concerning the composition of the meeting scheduled for the health services, it was decided to postpone the decision concerning the composition and purpose of this meeting until the Committee's meeting in November 2001. The agenda of the meeting had already been decided in November 2000: "Social dialogue in the health services: Institutions, capacity and effectiveness".²
2. In its paper for the March 2001 meeting,³ the Office, in accordance with past practice and taking into account the characteristics of the sector, had proposed to have a joint meeting with significant private sector employer participation and composed of 50 participants: 18 Government representatives, seven Employer representatives from the private sector and 25 Worker representatives. This proposal was supported by the Workers' group in the Committee, whereas the Employers' group and some Government representatives were in favour of having a tripartite meeting for the health services. The representative of the Government of Germany proposed, as a possible compromise, to raise somewhat the number of Employer representatives from the private sector.
3. Consequently, the Office submits to the Committee the three options below from among which it may wish to choose. In submitting these options the Office took account of the overall resource constraints concerning the costs to be borne by the Office for the attendance of the Employer and Worker participants at sectoral meetings. The three options for the composition of the meeting concerning health services are:

¹ GB.280/15.

² GB.279/14.

³ GB.280/STM/2.

- (a) a joint meeting composed of 50 participants: 18 Government representatives, seven Employer representatives from the private sector and 25 Worker representatives. The Government representatives to be invited would come from the following countries: Barbados, Cameroon, Denmark, Ecuador, Estonia, Germany, Lebanon, Mali, Mauritius, Morocco, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Russian Federation, Spain, Thailand and the United States. The reserve list for Government participation would be as follows: Argentina, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Canada, Colombia, El Salvador, Finland, France, Greece, Hungary, Israel, Kiribati, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mozambique, Namibia, New Zealand, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Togo, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Venezuela, Yugoslavia and Zimbabwe. The Employer and Worker representatives would be appointed on the basis of nominations made by the respective groups of the Governing Body;
 - (b) a joint meeting composed of 54 participants: 18 Government representatives, nine Employer representatives from the private sector and 27 Worker representatives. The Government representatives to be invited would come from the same countries as under (a). The same would apply to the reserve list for Government representatives. The Employer and Worker representatives would be appointed on the basis of nominations made by the respective groups of the Governing Body;
 - (c) a tripartite meeting composed of 60 participants: 20 Government representatives, 20 Employer representatives and 20 Worker representatives. The Government representatives to be invited would come from the same list of countries as under (a). In addition, taking account of an appropriate regional distribution and the inclusion of some countries in other sectoral meetings to be held in 2002, it is proposed to move the following two countries from the reserve list to the titular Government list: Bangladesh and Madagascar. The Employer and Worker representatives would be appointed on the basis of nominations made by the respective groups of the Governing Body.
4. As to the purpose of the meeting, the Committee may wish to recommend the following text: “to exchange views on new structures and approaches in health services and how they affect the capacity and effectiveness of the social partners in social dialogue and to identify a framework for how social dialogue could be strengthened, using a report prepared by the Office as a basis for its discussions; to adopt conclusions that include practical guidance for the strengthening of social dialogue and proposals for action by governments, by employers’ and workers’ organizations at the national level and by the ILO; and to adopt a report on its discussion”. In addition, the Committee may wish to recommend that the meeting also adopt resolutions.
5. ***The Committee may wish to make recommendations to the Governing Body in respect of the meeting concerning health services to be held in 2002 as regards:***
- (a) ***the type of meeting and the number of delegations on the basis of the options given in paragraph 3;***
 - (b) ***the purpose of the meeting, as proposed in paragraph 4.***

Geneva, 21 September 2001.

Point for decision: Paragraph 5.