INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE



Governing Body

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Working Party on the Social Dimension of Globalization

WP/SDG

FIRST ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Follow-up to the report of the World Commission on the Social Dimension of Globalization: Next steps

1. This paper provides an update on developments since the Working Party's last meeting in March 2004 regarding the follow-up to the report of the World Commission as well as an indication of future options. The first section describes the wide range of follow-up events that have taken place to make known and promote the analysis of the report outside the ILO. It also reports on the impact of these activities and records some salient reactions to the recommendations of the report. The second section reports on the follow-up within the ILO, notably the discussion of the report in the International Labour Conference and the influence this has had on the formulation of the Strategic Policy Framework. The third section focuses on a particularly important area for follow-up in the immediate future – that of strengthening partnerships within the multilateral system – and suggests some initial steps that may be taken by the ILO. The final section presents issues for discussion.

I. Promotion and debate on the report outside the ILO

- **2.** The report was released on 24 February 2004 and presented to the Working Party on 22-23 March by President Mkapa of the United Republic of Tanzania, Co-Chairperson of the Commission with President Halonen of Finland.
- **3.** Since then, a wide variety of activities has been undertaken by the Co-Chairpersons, the Director-General, members of the Commission and ILO staff to draw public attention to the report, to present it in a variety of forums and to different constituencies, and to promote debate and dialogue on its recommendations. ¹ These activities have aimed to engage the multilateral system, stimulate national political debates and dialogues, and explore key technical issues. They successfully generated a great deal of press attention

¹ See appendix for a complete list of activities.

and media coverage, as well as favourable comment and feedback from Heads of State, ministers and social partners around the world. ²

- **4.** Perhaps the highest profile event was the presentation by the Co-Chairpersons of the report on the eve of the United Nations General Assembly on 20 September. The Presidents of Brazil and France and the Co-Chairpersons, along with the President of the Assembly and the United Nations Secretary-General, gathered in the Economic and Social Council Chamber at United Nations headquarters to urge the United Nations to begin discussions on "A fair globalization: Implementing the United Nations Millennium Declaration". Around 20 other Heads of State and Government, as well as foreign ministers, the Officers of the Governing Body and members of the World Commission took part. The Director-General was moderator of this event.
- 5. Prior to this, the Director-General had presented the report and called for partnership in following up its recommendations in a series of presentations in the multilateral system. The first was a presentation to all heads of agencies in a regular meeting of the Chief Executives Board of the United Nations, chaired by the Secretary-General, held in Vienna in early April. In the month of June he gave a presidential lecture at the World Bank, a presentation to the High-Level Segment of the Economic and Social Council, and a briefing to a meeting of the G-77 and the European Union in New York. In all of these presentations he highlighted the urgent need for all multilateral organizations to work together towards the goal of a fair globalization. He subsequently brought the work of the Commission to the attention of the Bretton Woods institutions on the occasion of the annual meetings in early October, in written statements to the International Monetary and Financial Committee and to the Development Committee, and presenting the report to the Ministerial Meeting of the G-24 finance ministers, which welcomed the report in their statement to the annual meetings. Co-Chairperson President Halonen had previously presented the key findings of the report to the special high-level meeting of ECOSOC with the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization in April. Members of the Commission and ILO staff also presented the Commission's outcomes in a series of events organized by other international organizations, including UNCTAD XI in Sao Paulo in June and an OECD meeting on policy coherence in May. UNESCO and the International Social Science Council organized a one-day debate in Paris in July about how to take the recommendations of the World Commission forward and the research agenda that this implied.
- 6. There have also been many national and regional events. The Director-General called for dialogue around the findings of the Commission in the China Employment Forum in April, and in a regional event organized by the Government of Lithuania with the participation of tripartite delegations from the Baltic States, from the Scandinavian countries and from Poland. There has been a particular focus on the Commission's work in Africa, where the Co-Chairperson President Mkapa presented the report to the African Union. The African Union welcomed the report in a declaration in July, and then endorsed it as a framework for action at the Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government of the African Union on employment and poverty alleviation in Ouagadougou, Africa, in September. The Director-General also presented key conclusions of the report to a meeting of African finance ministers in August. Later that month, together with President Lula, he presented the report in the Economic and Social Development Council in Brasilia, a consultative body that brings together representatives from government, employers, workers, academia and civil society in Brazil. On that occasion, he also gave a presentation to a meeting of the Rio Group of Foreign Ministers of Latin American countries.

 $^{^2}$ For a selection of comments and reactions by Heads of State and Government and other personalities, see <code>http://www.ilo.org/public/english/fairglobalization/report/reference/htm</code> .

- **7.** An important dimension of the follow-up concerned the communication issued by the European Commission to the European Council and Parliament: "The social dimension of globalization: The European Union's policy contribution on extending the benefits to all". This addresses the World Commission's conclusions and recommendations and has paved the way for further European Union contributions towards their implementation. The European Union Commissioner for Employment and Social Affairs informed ministers of European Union countries of the communication in a European Council meeting in June; follow-up and debate is also foreseen in the newly elected European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee, and the Commission for Economic and Social Policy of the Committee of the Regions.
- **8.** Important national events have already been held in a number of countries, including Colombia, Germany, Russian Federation, Sri Lanka and United Republic of Tanzania, and presentations made in conferences and events in several more, including Bangladesh, Japan and South Africa. Tripartite participation has been important in most of these events. More such events at national and regional levels are in preparation, with the participation of members of the Commission, our constituents and/or ILO staff.
- **9.** There have also been a number of more technical meetings and consultations, including one to help explore the substantive content of a policy coherence initiative on growth, investment and employment, another hosted by a United Kingdom university on the creation of a globalization research network, and consultations and seminars with research bodies and think tanks in Washington, New York and elsewhere on policy development and research issues. The World Commission's report was also discussed in meetings of the International Council on Social Welfare in Helsinki and Kuala Lumpur. Several further events of this type are foreseen.
- 10. ILO constituents have also been engaged in this follow-up, both in many national and regional events and other forums. The report was discussed at the International Organisation of Employers (IOE) General Council in June and at various regional meetings, such as the IOE European members meeting in Warsaw in September. At the Global Unions Seminar with Civil Society held in May, the ICFTU highlighted the importance of the report for the WTO. In October, Global Unions organized a session in Washington to discuss the international financial institutions' role in implementing the conclusions of the Commission.
- 11. The table appended to this paper provides a summary of many of these follow-up activities it is not exhaustive because other follow-up is occurring without it necessarily being reported back to the ILO. It should be noted that many of these events are not organized by the ILO but by other interested organizations.
- **12.** These activities have meant that the impact of the World Commission has been truly global. Debate and discussion on its recommendations have not only served the purpose of

The European Union has already developed initiatives and policies to address the social dimension of globalization both in Europe and elsewhere. It is now important that the European Union, at the highest political level, expresses its commitment to taking action to strengthen this dimension in the light of the report of the World Commission on the Social Dimension of Globalization and the initial proposals made in this communication.

³ Overall the report delivers balanced, critical but positive messages that can be the basis for future action. It recognizes that some steps have already been taken at global, regional and national levels but it makes it very clear that much more should be done at all levels in a complementary and mutually reinforcing way to extend the benefits of globalization to all. This is a challenge to both the European Union and its Member States. The effective follow-up of the report, by all partners, will be of key importance.

making the report known, but have also helped to consider how best to implement some of the concrete activities proposed – for instance, national dialogues on globalization and policy coherence initiatives within the multilateral system.

II. The process within the ILO

- 13. After the Governing Body discussion of the report in March, in which many favourable comments were made, the Director-General prepared a Report to the International Labour Conference in June, entitled "A fair globalization: The role of the ILO", which drew on the work of the World Commission and on the discussion by the Governing Body, highlighting the importance of the World Commission's conclusions for the ILO and, in particular, the central notion that decent work should be made a global goal if the potential of globalization to bring benefits to all is to be adequately realized. Highlighting the key advantages of the ILO, which lie in its tripartite constitution, its system of international labour standards, and its capacity for social dialogue, he mapped out a series of ideas and actions where the ILO both the Office and the Organization could contribute.
- 14. The Director-General's Report gave rise to a wide-ranging and high-quality debate in the plenary of the International Labour Conference. Almost 300 speakers offered a multitude of ideas and reactions, and suggestions on how the ILO could take the recommendations of the Report forward. Five Heads of State and Government addressed the Conference, and all highlighted the importance of the Report in building a stronger social dimension to globalization. Many delegates expressed strong support for the Director-General's Report as a guideline for a strategic response by the ILO to the World Commission's report. There were of course some qualifications and warnings that the ILO should bear in mind its human and financial resources, and its mandate in developing these issues. But, there was much support for the idea that the ILO should work towards policy coherence and partnership. The tripartite speakers clearly recognized that this was a challenge and an opportunity for all the ILO's constituents.
- 15. Among the key ideas, the Conference clearly expected the ILO to build on its mandate to promote decent work as a global goal, particularly through global and national partnerships. Decent work was also at the heart of national policies to maximize the benefits and minimize the costs of participation in the global economy. There was support for further work on global production systems and for in-depth investigation of relevant issues such as corporate social responsibility. The challenge of policy coherence was highlighted, as was the importance of exploring further innovative proposals such as a global socio-economic floor. On one key issue, that of migrant workers, the Conference reached an important agreement to work towards a non-binding multilateral framework which could promote best practice on a wide range of issues concerning the rights of migrants and the role of migration in the global economy. And, many speakers stressed the importance of international labour standards as a key instrument for promoting a fair globalization.
- 16. The next step in this process has been to take account of the Commission's report in the Strategic Policy Framework of the ILO, and in the Programme and Budget for 2006-07, in the light of the discussions in the Governing Body and the Conference. The Strategic Policy Framework for 2006-09 takes as a theme for this period "Making decent work a global goal". ⁴ It makes a number of proposals in this regard, including the development of a concept of "mainstreamed goals" for ILO action to promote a fair globalization. Action on all of the six fields of work identified in the Director-General's Report to the

⁴ GB.291/PFA/9.

Conference is being integrated into the proposals for the next programme and budget – national policies to address globalization; decent work in global production systems; dialogue and global policy coherence around growth, investment and employment; a socioeconomic floor for the global economy; the cross-border movement of people; and strengthening the international labour standards system. In a number of these areas, new "InFocus initiatives" could permit the Office to invest in innovative approaches to key issues, in close interaction with the constituents and drawing on the expertise of external networks.

- 17. The Strategic Policy Framework will guide the development of the Office's Programme and Budget for 2006-07. All programmes under each of the strategic objectives will be expected to show how they contribute to the broader goal of a fair globalization, and it is proposed to bring action across the Office together in coordinated action at the international and national levels to promote decent work as a global goal. The operational objectives of each programme are explicitly linked to this overall objective, which will also be taken into account in the development of decent work country programmes.
- **18.** In the meantime, a process of reflection and preliminary work is under way within the Office. This includes the investment which has been made in the development of the Strategic Policy Framework and the Programme and Budget for 2006-07, as well as in the preparation of and participation in the various events referred to above. There is also preliminary work under way or foreseen during 2005 under existing programmes on a number of the specific areas of follow-up to the report. This includes policy coherence, where preliminary work is focusing on the employment impact of globalization and on the development of possible joint programmes with other multilateral organizations; national policy responses to globalization and social impact analysis, where exploratory work is beginning in a small number of pilot countries within the framework of integrated ILO action at the national level; conceptual work on global production systems, drawing on existing research through exchanges with think tanks and research institutions; work on the social dimension of regional integration, focusing on the building up of an adequate knowledge base; and action to follow up the Conference conclusions on migrant workers. An employers' meeting on a specific aspect of the follow-up to the World Commission is planned, and a second proposal for a meeting of ILO constituents to examine World Commission follow-up is currently under consideration. It is foreseen that the Office will also draw on the work of the Commission in its contributions to the series of high-level events in the United Nations system in 2005, including the Copenhagen +10 review and the review of progress towards the MDGs.
- **19.** Among ideas or suggestions contained in the Commission's report which clearly fall within the ILO's specific mandate, there are a few which may require specific treatment as they have implications going beyond programme and budget aspects.
- **20.** This is typically the case with the proposal to strengthen the capacity of the ILO to promote respect for core labour standards recommended by the Commission itself in paragraph 426 of its report, and the invitation in paragraph 513 to take "advantage of its wide-ranging Constitution and its constituency of workers' and employers' organizations to develop new instruments and methods which can promote coherence between economic and social goals". The Director-General's suggestion of further elaborating on the concept of decent work on page 46 of his Report to the ILC is in the same vein.
- 21. While the Conference discussions expressed global interest and support for the Commission and the Director-General's proposals, these broader implications obviously call for more detailed examination in the appropriate context. As regards the capacity of the ILO to further promote respect for core labour standards, and more generally the efficacy and transparency of the ILO supervisory procedures, the context would seem to be

in the first instance – and subject to any appropriate preliminary consultations and to the Governing Body's request – the LILS Committee. As regard possible institutional implications of the other abovementioned proposals, which broadly relate to the ILO's role in promoting integration between social and economic policy objectives in line with the Decent Work Agenda, it may involve a discussion by the Governing Body itself, as it may lead to examining the possibility of placing in due course a relevant item on the agenda of the Conference. ⁵

- 22. It would obviously be premature to engage in any detailed discussion of this possibility at this stage without the benefit of a preliminary study that the Office could provide at a future session if so requested. However, the Working Party, in keeping with its advisory role and with its tradition of free discussion, may wish to have a preliminary exchange on the subject which could then guide the Office in its work. The two following considerations may be relevant in this respect.
- **23.** First, the last occasion that the ILO had since the Declaration of Philadelphia to express authoritatively its "message" on the meaning and content of social policy objectives was in 1962. It is the Social Policy (Basic Aims and Standards) Convention, 1962 (No. 117), which came into force in 1964 and was ratified by 32 countries.
- 24. The LILS Working Party agreed in 1996 that this instrument, which was adopted on a very different context that of decolonization is still of interest for countries which have not ratified the specific Conventions relating to the many aspects of social policy it covers. However, it seems obvious at the same time that ILO constituents cannot turn to this instrument to obtain the type of guidance that they may now legitimately expect from the Organization about how to conduct their social policy in the new and widely different context of globalization to achieve its permanent objectives of social progress, as restated around the Decent Work Agenda.
- 25. The obvious question is thus whether the ILO now should make conveniently available such guidance and assistance on an authoritative tripartite basis to all its Members and constituents. This could help them meet the challenges of a fairer distribution of the benefits of the global economy for all countries and people and the eradication of poverty described in the World Commission's report and which are manifestly relevant to its ultimate objective of social justice.
- **26.** Should the answer to this question be in the affirmative, another aspect that might be considered is how such guidance could be provided so as to be of universal and optimal assistance to each and every ILO constituent, taking into account their specific circumstances as the very nature of the globalization phenomenon seems to call for. It should be clear from the outset that, without prejudice to its content, this result cannot be achieved unless the guidance is offered on a non-legally binding basis. Its authority should rest essentially on the consensus of the tripartite constituency on which it should be based, it being understood that the ILO should be in a position to provide any assistance and cooperation that its Members may wish to obtain to adjust it to their realities. The impact and success of this guidance and assistance could in that respect be the object of a review at appropriate intervals which could then offer to the tripartite constituency an occasion to examine the extent to which the various activities undertaken pursuant to the World Commission's report may have contributed or could further contribute to such impact and success.

⁵ See GB.291/2.

III. Partnerships within the multilateral system for a fair globalization ⁶

- **27.** A central thrust of the recommendations of the World Commission revolves around the need to build more and stronger partnerships within the multilateral system as a means of achieving a fair globalization. This section of the paper elaborates the rationale for this and suggests some initial steps that might be taken towards strengthening partnerships within the multilateral system.
- 28. The need for partnerships among international organizations is not new. The United Nations system established after the Second World War consisted of a central mechanism for dealing with political and security issues, supplemented by specialized agencies with functional mandates for specific technical and policy fields such as international finance, development assistance, health, agriculture and food, education and culture, labour and social policy, etc. Such a structure was inevitably open to the dangers of fragmentation and duplication of effort and, even worse, coordination failures that allowed efforts to be at cross-purposes.
- 29. Since then these dangers have in fact become more significant. Successive attempts to build effective policy coordination mechanisms among international organizations have failed to bear fruit. Yet the need for effective coordination has increased in the intervening years for a variety of reasons. First, the number of agencies, funds and programmes has increased substantially. This, in and of itself, increased the probability of coordination failures and its attendant costs. Second, and more importantly, increasing globalization has resulted in more complex forms of global governance. This is no longer the exclusive preserve of nation States and intergovernmental international organizations ⁷ and includes a growing number of non-state actors. The coordination problem is thus greatly magnified, extending beyond the intergovernmental (itself greatly expanded) to myriad state and non-state actors with influence on global decision making. In this respect the ILO's tripartite Constitution gives the Organization a unique advantage in being a bridge between the purely intergovernmental system and this new reality, while reinforcing its specific tripartite identity. Employers' organizations and trade unions have achieved a high level of global organization at the same time as playing a central role in societies all over the world. They are key global players.
- **30.** The stakes have also been raised by the pervasive nature of globalization. With greatly increased interdependence among nation States, the need for good and coherent global governance has also increased correspondingly. The consequences of absent or inadequate global governance for each nation and its people is now greater in both economic and social terms. In this context the multilateral system is sometimes also increasingly expanding the scope of its action to include "behind-the-border" issues, such as domestic policies and regulatory institutions relating to macroeconomics, finance and trade. International agreements increasingly circumscribe national policy space while the pressures at home for more autonomy and for deeper policy integration and convergence have grown. The multilateral system is thus now entrusted with a stronger responsibility to

⁶ See also GB.291/PFA/9.

⁷ The ILO has, since its inception, been the sole exception to this. Its tripartite constitutional structure adopted in 1919 was remarkably foresighted in recognizing the need to involve the social partners in the governance of the Organization

⁸ See the report of the World Commission for an elaboration of this point.

ensure that its increasingly intrusive actions are in the best interests of people across the world

- 31. The best way of dealing with the above problems is of course a thorough reform of the existing institutions of global governance. The report of the World Commission does indeed grasp this nettle. It made a wide range of recommendations for the reform of the multilateral system to make it better adapted to face the challenges of globalization and the increased complexity of the system of global governance as a whole. But the report also recognized that this ambitious task will not be achieved overnight and, accordingly, also recommended a number of steps that could bring about significant improvements in the current process of global governance in the near term.
- **32.** These latter recommendations are characterized by the emphasis placed on the need to build stronger partnerships both within the multilateral system itself as well as state and non-state actors as a means of achieving more democratic and fairer global governance. Such partnerships are seen as a means of overcoming the democratic deficit in current global governance where important stakeholders have little or no voice in shaping policies and institutions.
- **33.** In addition, partnerships among agencies within the multilateral system would also be an effective means for ensuring greater coherence in national and international policies. To this end, an important recommendation relates to the launching of policy coherence initiatives among agencies within the multilateral system as a means of achieving greater coherence in international policies and in the guidelines for national policies. Through these initiatives, different viewpoints and interests would be duly taken into account in the process of building consensus on important policy issues.
- **34.** The World Commission also proposed other innovative approaches to partnership and the Working Party may wish to explore this. For instance, the report suggests that policy development dialogues, extending beyond the agencies within the multilateral system to involve many actors and stakeholders, be organized to take forward the agenda on some of its central recommendations (paragraph 616). All of those mentioned in the report might concern the ILO to a greater or lesser extent: the cross-border movement of people, corporate social responsibility, a development framework for foreign direct investment, globalization and social protection, capacity building on information technology, regional integration and gender equality.
- **35.** The report also recommends that a globalization policy forum be established among interested international organizations and requests the ILO to take the lead in organizing it. The World Commission's report envisages a participation in such a forum of diverse constituencies and interest groups. If the ILO participates in its organization, it could provide a platform for dissemination of the views of ILO constituents, and a space for exchange between the ILO's tripartite constituents and other actors. It would be a natural space to promote decent work as a global goal.
- **36.** The World Commission also made other wide-ranging proposals for forging broad-based partnerships. These include better coordination between international organizations and global networks and partnerships engaged in exchange of information, advocacy and resource mobilization in the economic and social field; exploring ways of tapping more fully private voluntary contributions, including those of philanthropic organizations, for global solidarity; organizing wider social dialogue to promote decent work in global production systems; and convening a forum on the issue of enhancing the contribution of voluntary initiatives of national and transnational companies to the social dimension of globalization. These recommendations are in line with two major themes of the report, namely, the normative imperative of ensuring broad stakeholder participation in the

- process of global governance and the instrumental value, for achieving a fair globalization, of consensus achieved through dialogue among divergent interest groups.
- 37. The novelty of these recommendations does not of course lie in the notion of partnership as such. The ILO has long been engaged in partnerships with other international organizations and, of course, its Constitution is based on partnership between state and non-state actors. It also needs no conversion to the notion of policy coherence since, as long ago as 1944, the Declaration of Philadelphia had recognized that the ILO could not achieve its objectives without supportive international economic, financial and trade policies. But there is an important qualitative difference between all this and what is now being proposed on partnership.
- 38. In terms of partnerships with other international organizations the ILO has a number of bilateral agreements with other agencies. These are essentially mechanisms for preventing duplication of action and for reaping synergies from joint work in fields where the mandate of the ILO overlaps with that of other agencies, e.g. with UNESCO on vocational education and training and the employment conditions of teachers, with UNIDO on small enterprise development, with WHO on occupational safety and health, and with FAO on rural employment and cooperatives. The ILO also participates in a number of inter-agency programmes on key issues at both the international and national level, e.g. in UN/AIDS, Youth Employment Network, the attainment of the MDGs, the promotion of human rights, the strengthening of statistical capacities, and most recently in the PRSP process. In addition there is a wide range of partnerships with donor agencies and NGOs in the implementation of technical cooperation programmes. These are useful arrangements that should certainly continue and be reinforced. But the type of partnerships being called for by the World Commission go well beyond this.
- **39.** These should do more than routine coordination of inter-agency action and begin to address strategic governance issues relevant to achieving a fair globalization. These present major challenges such as the organization of multi-stakeholder policy development dialogues and a globalization policy forum. These initiatives will, in the first instance, require the full support and engagement of ILO constituents in order to succeed. It is also worth noting that the proposal for policy coherence initiatives has the bold vision of shifting cooperation upstream to the strategic realm of the policy formulation process of participating agencies.
- **40.** The report makes a persuasive case on the urgency of responding to these recommendations and on the benefits to be derived from doing so. The debate in the last International Labour Conference on the Director-General's Report on the follow-up to the Commission's recommendations confirmed that many speakers were indeed so persuaded. So it would appear that the issue is more one of how rather than whether to follow up on these recommendations on enhanced partnerships.
- **41.** A good starting point is to recognize that there are strong resource constraints to what can be done. Implementing some of the proposals will involve direct costs as well as opportunity cost of staff time. This implies that it will be necessary to:
 - establish a clear ranking of priorities among the proposals on the basis of their relative expected costs and benefits;
 - supplement these with assessments of the prospects for mobilizing extra-budgetary resources for each activity;
 - assess the degree of potential interest and support from intended partners.

- **42.** On this basis an initial shortlist of proposals for strengthening partnerships might be established. Proposals that are likely to make this list are those that involve flexible and cost-effective mechanisms rather than formal institutional arrangements. The prototype for this is the first policy coherence initiative on "growth, investment, and employment" on which work has already been initiated. The attractive feature of this project is that it involves a low overall cost that is spread out evenly among all participating agencies. The main requirement for success is thus a genuine commitment on the part of the participating agencies rather than money. The means of action is a series of meetings among policy analysts from the agencies to resolve differences and reach consensus on a set of coherent policies. The costs involved will be no more than some reallocation of research resources within each agency towards the common goal of designing a coherent set of policies to address the problem at hand. Similarly, a tightly, well-conceived globalization policy forum should be possible within reasonable costs.
- 43. An immediate challenge will therefore be to examine the extent to which these or similar low-cost modalities for partnership can be applied to other proposals. It will also be necessary to explore ways in which the ILO's capacity to promote and participate effectively in these new partnerships can be enhanced. This is likely to involve providing clear signals and incentives to staff to give higher priority to partnership activities. It will also be essential to provide training designed to impress on staff the importance of partnerships for attaining the ILO's objectives and to improve their skills for effective participation in partnership activities.

IV. Issues for discussion

- **44.** The Working Party is invited to examine and discuss the proposals and ideas for further follow-up contained in this paper and to identify promising areas of work and approaches. Its attention is drawn, in particular, to possible next steps with respect to policy development dialogues (paragraph 34), a globalization policy forum (paragraph 35) and new institutional options (paragraphs 19-27). With respect to the overall approach to the development of these and other proposals for strengthening partnerships within the multilateral system the Working Party is specifically invited to express its views on, inter alia:
 - (i) the suggestion that the ILO should give high priority to the Commission's recommendations on strengthening partnerships;
 - (ii) the key areas that should be targeted;
 - (iii) the proposed strategy for designing a new programme of partnerships;
 - (iv) the measures that need to be taken to strengthen the ILO's capacity to promote and participate effectively in efforts to achieve fair globalization.
- 45. The Working Party may wish to consider inviting the Office to prepare an indepth paper for discussion at its March 2005 session, which maps out options for dealing with one or two of the most important domains for future action.

Geneva, 19 October 2004.

Point for decision: Paragraph 45.

Appendix

Follow-up to the World Commission on the Social Dimension of Globalization

Events, presentations and debates, March to October 2004

Title/venue/date	Organized by	Activity	Level of involvement (ILO and/or commission)
Presentation to Helsinki Process, Track 2, Geneva, March	Helsinki Process, Helsinki	Meeting at working level	ILO
Briefing of UN Communications Group (UNCG) New York, 2 March	UNCG	Presentation to UN system communications officials	ILO-NY
Briefing of Rio Group Ambassadors, New York, 9 March	ILO	Presentation and dialogue	DG
Consultations with SECO (Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs), Geneva, 30 March	ILO/SECO	Presentation	ILO
Launch of report, Dar es Salaam, March	Tanzanian Government	National meeting	President Mkapa
Launch of report in China	China Development Research Foundation	National meeting	Commissioners Lu Mai and Nishimuro
Presentation to Norwegian parliamentarians, Geneva, 1 April	Norwegian Mission	Presentation	ILO
China Employment Forum, Beijing, 28 April	Government of China/ ILO	National High-level conference with strong international participation	Commissioner Lu Mai, DG
Bretton Woods – ECOSOC meeting, April	ILO, NY	Presentation	President Halonen
Meeting Chief Executive Board of UN, April	UN	Presentation of report and system with follow-up	DG
Meeting of Experts on International Social Policy, Helsinki, 3 April	International Council for Social Welfare	Conference to set up ICSW work plan for future action on social policy	ILO
Decent Work Pilot Programme, Bangladesh, 28-29 April	ILO	Presentation	ILO
Graduate course at Geneva University, 5 May	University of Geneva	Presentation	ILO
Consultations with West African Labour Ministers, Dakar, Senegal, 10 May	ILO	Presentation	ILO
Conference on Social Dimension of Globalization, Lithuania, 13-14 May	ILO, Government of Lithuania	Conference	DG

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Title/venue/date	Organized by	Activity	Level of involvement (ILO and/or commission)
Institutional approaches to policy coherence for development, Paris 18-19 May	OECD DAC, Paris	Conference	ILO
Seminar "Towards a Fair Globalization" Berlin, 25 May	FES, Berlin	National meeting	ILO, Commissioner von Weiszacker
Policy Coherence Initiative, Geneva, 26 May	ILO	Informal consultations with UN, WTO and Bretton Woods agencies	ILO
Public Symposium, Geneva, 27 May	WTO	Consultations with civil society	Commissioners Herfkens and Tauli Corpuz
International Labour Conference, Geneva, 7 June	ILO	Presidential event	Presidents Halonen and Mkapa, DG
Panel discussion "Globalization and Business Development Mobility", New York, 16 June	Institute of International Education and The Dragon Foundation Global Citizenship Programme for Future Leaders of Hong Kong	Presentation and panel discussion	ILO-NY
Course for policy advisers and analysts, Geneva, 16 June	CASIN (Centre for Applied Studies in International Negotiations), Geneva	Presentation	ILO
UNCTAD XI, side event, Sao Paolo, 13-18 June	UNCTAD	Side event, jointly with Helsinki Process	ILO, Commissioners Cardoso and Nayyar
Meeting, Italian Society of International Law, 17-18 June	Italian Society of Law/ILO	International meeting	ILO
Briefing of Ambassadors of G77 and China, New York, 22 June	ILO-NY and CABINET	Presentation and dialogue	DG
Briefing of EU Ambassadors, New York, 23 June	ILO-NY and CABINET	Presentation and dialogue	DG
World Bank Presidential Lecture, Washington, 25 June	World Bank	Lecture	DG
Statement to High-Level Segment "Resource mobilization and enabling environment for poverty eradication in the context of the implementation of the programme of action for the least- developed countries for the decade 2001-10", New York, 28 June	UN ECOSOC	Opening session ECOSOC High-Level Segment	DG
Ministerial Roundtable Breakfast "Globalization and the LDCs: The need for a fair and inclusive process" New York, 29 June	ILO-NY and CABINET	Discussion	DG
Working lunch on the Helsinki Process and Globalization and Democracy, New York 29 June	Mission of Finland	Presentation on complementary aspects of the WCSDG report and the Helsinki Process	DG
In pursuit of an inclusive global community: A fair globalization in a turbulent world, Japan, 28- 29 June	UNU, Tokyo	Presentation	ILO, Commissioner Nishimuro

Title/venue/date	Organized by	Activity	Level of involvement (ILO and/or commission)
17th Labour Law Conference, Johannesburg, 30 June-2 July	Universities of Witwatersrand, Cape Town and KwaZulu-Natal	Presentation	ILO
Global Order Conference, Warwick, 2 July	Warwick University		ILO
Special event, UNESCO, Paris, 7 July	International Social Science Council	Seminar	ILO, Commissioners Traoré and Cardoso
AU Ordinary Summit, Addis Ababa, 6-9 July		Participation	President Mkapa, ILO
Meeting of African Finance Ministers, 2-4 August	AU	Prepared for AU Heads of State meeting	DG
Economic and Social Council Meeting, Brasilia, August	ILO	Presentation	DG
CMM, Political Party Leaders, Dar es Salaam, August	Tanzanian National Party	Seminar	President Mkapa
NGO Forums, Tanzania, August	Tanzanian Government	Presentation	President Mkapa
ICSW Conference, Kuala Lumpur, 16-18 August	ICSW	Side event	ILO, Commissioner Nayyar
First meeting globalization studies network, Warwick, 16- 18 August 2004	Warwick University	International Research Conference	ILO, Commissioner Handoussa
Social Partners Forum, Ouagadougou, 3-5 September	AU	Preparation AU Heads of State meeting	ILO
Ministerial Meeting, Ouagadougou, 6-7 September	AU	Preparation AU Heads of State meeting	ILO
Extraordinary Summit, Ouagadougou, 8-9 September	AU		DG, President Mkapa, Commissioner Tou
Launch event, Colombo, 10 September	ILO	National dialogue	ILO
Roundtable, St. Petersburg, 13 September	ILO	National dialogue	ILO, Commissioners Brett and Matvienko
Colombia, September	UNESCO, Colombian Presidency	National guidelines	ILO
"A Fair Globalization: Implementing the UN Millennium Declaration" UNGA, New York, 20 September	Finland, Tanzania and ILO	Special event in context of 59th Session of the General Assembly	Presidents Halonen and Mkapa, Commissioners Herfkens, Sweeney, Stiglitz, GB Chairperson Séguin and Vice- Chairpersons Funes de Rioja and Trotman
"A Fair Globalization: Making it Happen", New York, 21 September	Friedrich Ebert Stiftung	Seminar	DG, Commissioner Herfkens, GB Vice- Chairpersons Funes de Rioja and Trotman
Informal exchange with Juan Somavia, New York, 23 September	NGLS	Discussion	DG

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Title/venue/date	Organized by	Activity	Level of involvement (ILO and/or commission)
Bretton Woods institutions annual meetings, Washington 2-3 October	Bretton Woods institutions	Finance and development committees	DG
Think Tanks on Global Production Systems, Washington 5-6 October	Carnegie Endowment for International Peace/ILO	Workshop	ILO
Poland, 19-20 October	DG visit	Tripartite meeting	ILO
Note: This list is not exhaustive.			