



## **Report of the Chairperson of the Governing Body to the Conference for the year 2005-06**

This report on the work of the Governing Body is submitted to the Conference in accordance with article 14 of the Standing Orders of the Governing Body. It covers the period since the last general session of the Conference (June 2005), i.e. the 293rd (June 2005), 294th (November 2005) and 295th (March 2006) Sessions of the Governing Body. It focuses only on the highlights of the Governing Body's year, and does not cover matters that are otherwise before the Conference.

Those seeking more extensive and detailed information on the work of the Governing Body as a whole are referred to the notes at the end of the report. They may also consult the minutes of its 293rd, 294th and 295th Sessions (June and November 2005; March 2006) or the documents submitted to its committees and to the Governing Body itself. Other relevant material, as well as the reports and other Governing Body documents mentioned in the text and in the endnotes, are available on the Governing Body Internet site.<sup>1</sup>

### **I. ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work**

#### **Compilation of annual reports**

In the seventh annual review under the follow-up to the ILO Declaration, the Governing Body had a discussion on the basis of the compilation of reports prepared by the Office<sup>2</sup> and the Introduction of the ILO Declaration Expert-Advisers.<sup>3</sup> The Governing Body acted upon a number of observations made by the Expert-Advisers and engaged in a more in-depth discussion of certain aspects of the Introduction. It took note of the past recommendations of the Expert-Advisers, which remained valid. In particular, the Governing Body called upon the Office to step up its help to countries to assess and monitor their progress in moving towards fuller realization of fundamental principles and rights at work. The Governing Body welcomed the baseline studies that had been completed on most countries reporting under the Declaration, and urged those few countries that had not yet responded to the Office's request for verification of these studies to do so. The Governing Body also endorsed the recommendation for more in-depth case studies of selected volunteering countries to show different approaches and their impact in achieving respect, promotion and realization of fundamental principles and rights at work. It was important that such work be carried out in close collaboration between the Office and the country in question, with all three social partners running and owning the process.

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Finally, the Governing Body noted that the Expert-Advisers had begun a process of reflection on the future of their work and had held a first discussion on this subject.

## **Technical cooperation**

In November 2005, the Committee on Technical Cooperation examined and approved the “Priorities and plans for technical cooperation” under the Declaration, which focused on the elimination of all forms of forced or compulsory labour. This action plan, which was submitted by the Office as a follow-up to the second Global Report on the subject, *A global alliance against forced labour*, identified the technical cooperation that can be taken by the Office over the next four-year period, in order to build and consolidate the global alliance called for by the Director-General, backed by adequate resources and led by the ILO, with the aim of eliminating all forms of forced labour globally by 2015. This action plan covers, inter alia: surveys and data gathering; awareness raising and research needs; the development of policy guidance and training materials; operational projects; and capacity building for employers’ and workers’ organizations on forced labour and trafficking.

## **Discussion of the Global Report**

In March 2006, the Governing Body confirmed the decision taken at its 292nd Session (March 2005) on the provisional ad hoc arrangements concerning the discussion of the Global Report under the follow-up to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work.<sup>4</sup> The Global Report submitted to the present session of the International Labour Conference will be the second Global Report on child labour.<sup>5</sup>

## **II. Child labour**

### **IPEC action against child labour in 2004-05: Performance against targets**

In November 2005, the Governing Body examined operational aspects of the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) on the basis of the Implementation Report 2004-05. IPEC had been the subject of substantial scrutiny during the biennium through a global independent evaluation, various project evaluations and project audits to ensure the highest possible level of efficiency and quality. Data for the biennium showed that IPEC had exceeded the target of beneficiaries. Close to 2 million children were reached during the biennium, of whom about 400,000 were direct beneficiaries. As to ratifications, 157 countries ratified Convention No. 182 and 142 ratified Convention No. 138: an additional 20 ratifications for the biennium, although this was still below the target set for Convention No. 138 of 151 ratifications. Programme delivery in 2005 was projected at US\$60 million, but reached US\$70 million compared to US\$57 million in the previous year. The delivery rate rose to 68 per cent in 2005, up from 63 per cent in 2004. Twenty of the participating countries were in the process of implementing time-bound programmes (TBPs), while another 30 countries undertook two or more time-bound programme approach-related interventions. Figures on the participation of the social partners in IPEC activities were presented as a separate document. The Governing Body stressed the importance of continued efforts to include the social partners to a greater extent in IPEC’s operational activities. Members also stressed

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the importance of pursuing free basic education for all up to the minimum age for employment.

The second Global Report on child labour submitted under the follow-up to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work will be discussed at the present session of the International Labour Conference. The Governing Body stressed the importance of the Plan of Action as proposed in the Global Report, and insisted on the importance of ensuring coherence between the strategic discussion taking place in the International Labour Conference, the Governing Body's Committee on Technical Cooperation and the IPEC International Steering Committee.

### **III. International labour standards**

#### **Ratification and promotion of ILO fundamental Conventions**

The campaign for the ratification of the ILO's core Conventions has continued to stimulate member States to ratify these vital instruments. Since June 2005, there have been 13 ratifications of ILO fundamental Conventions by 11 countries. These ratifications have added four countries to the list of member States having ratified all the ILO's core Conventions.

There are now 119 States that have ratified all eight fundamental Conventions, and 20 that have ratified seven of them. The total number of ratifications obtained for these instruments amounts to 1,262, or 88.6 per cent of the possible 1,424 ratifications (all numbers as of 15 May 2006).

#### **Complaints under article 26 of the ILO Constitution**

##### ***Observance by the Government of Myanmar of the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29)***

In November 2005, the Governing Body had before it: (i) an update on further action that had been taken pursuant to the resolution adopted by the Conference in 2000,<sup>6</sup> and (ii) an update on the situation since June 2005.<sup>7</sup> This included information on the prosecution of two persons (Aye Myint and Su Su Nwe) who had lodged complaints of forced labour with the ILO and with the Myanmar authorities. Information was also provided on a series of death threats made against the Liaison Officer ad interim and subsequent indications from the Myanmar authorities that they intended to withdraw from the ILO.

The Governing Body expressed its grave concern about the degradation in the situation. It also firmly rejected what appeared to be attempts to influence the ILO's position through various forms of pressure and intimidation, in contradiction with the commitment that the authorities had consistently pledged to the eradication of forced labour in cooperation with the Organization. Members of the Governing Body were particularly concerned and critical about the threats that had been made against the Liaison Officer ad interim and against Mr. de Riedmatten (former acting Liaison Officer and Informal Facilitator). The Myanmar authorities were urgently requested to guarantee the full exercise of the Liaison Officer's functions, and were also earnestly warned about the responsibility they would have to bear under international law for any consequence that could result from their attitude.

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A number of members of the Governing Body were of the view that the only option left to the Organization was to enable the Conference itself to revisit the measures adopted in 2000 under article 33 of the Constitution, by placing a specific item for that purpose on its 2006 agenda. However, taking into account the willingness expressed by the Myanmar Ambassador to cooperate and the fact that any step relating to action by the Conference would in any case need to be reconfirmed by the Governing Body at its March 2006 session, the Governing Body: (i) requested the Government at various levels, including the senior leadership, to take advantage of the time available until March 2006 to resume an effective dialogue with the Office; (ii) understood, however, that to be meaningful any future dialogue should be based on the conclusions of the Conference Committee on the Application of Standards in 2005; (iii) indicated that the dialogue would also have to address the issues and cases raised in its own debate and in the Governing Body's conclusions; and (iv) indicated that the authorities should, in the meantime, cease prosecuting victims of forced labour or their representatives and should instead take action against the perpetrators.

In March 2006, the Governing Body had before it a report <sup>8</sup> detailing discussions that had been held with the Myanmar Ambassador in Geneva and with the authorities during an ILO mission to Yangon in early March 2006. Although the threats against the Liaison Officer had ceased and the Government stated its intention to cooperate with the ILO rather than withdraw from the Organization, no progress was made on the outstanding issues. In particular, no agreement could be reached as regards the establishment of a credible system for addressing complaints of forced labour, and the authorities reaffirmed their determination to prosecute anyone lodging what they considered to be a "false" complaint of forced labour.

The overwhelming reaction of the Governing Body was one of profound concern. In particular, the issue of prosecutions represented a further deterioration in the situation which seriously undermined any prospect of progress, and was in direct contradiction with the conclusions adopted at the International Labour Conference in 2005. The Myanmar authorities should cease prosecuting such individuals and should release those already imprisoned for such activities, including Su Su Nwe and Aye Myint. Under these circumstances, the Workers moved that, as previously envisaged in November 2005, an item should be placed on the agenda of the 95th Session (June 2006) of the International Labour Conference "to review what further action could be taken by the ILO in accordance with its Constitution in order: (i) to effectively secure Myanmar's compliance with the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry and (ii) to ensure that no action is taken against complainants or their representatives". This received the general support of the Employers and many Governments, and was thus adopted. For the purpose of the review, the Office was instructed to prepare an analysis of all relevant options which the Conference could consider taking to ensure compliance with the Convention or to draw in any other appropriate way the consequences of the situation, taking into consideration a number of specific proposals that had been made in the course of the discussion. Under the additional item placed on its agenda, the Conference will thus review at its present session further action to be taken.

***Observance by the Government of the Republic of Belarus of the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87), and the Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98)***

The follow-up given to the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry established to examine the observance by the Government of Belarus of the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87), and the

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Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98), has been reviewed by the Committee on Freedom of Association, in accordance with the decision taken by the Governing Body at its 291st Session (November 2004), in its 339th and 341st Reports approved by the Governing Body in November 2005 and March 2006. The report of the mission requested by the Conference Committee on the Application of Standards in June 2005 to assist in the drafting of the legislative amendments requested by the Commission of Inquiry and to evaluate the measures taken by the Government to implement fully the Commission's recommendations is appended to the 341st Report of the Committee on Freedom of Association, submitted to the Governing Body in March 2006. In its recommendations the Committee expressed its deep concern that, rather than making good faith efforts to implement the recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry, the Government was on a path to eliminating all remnants of an independent trade union movement in Belarus, apparently hoping that in this way there would in effect be no further sources of complaint. The Committee urged the Government to take concrete measures immediately so as to ensure that workers could form and join organizations freely and carry out their activities, without pressure or intimidation on the part of enterprise management or the public authorities.

***Observance by the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela of the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87), and the Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98)***

In November 2004, the Governing Body was informed of a complaint submitted under article 26 of the Constitution, concerning the non-observance by the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela of the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87), and the Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98). The complaint was transmitted to the Committee on Freedom of Association to enable the Governing Body to decide whether the complaint should be forwarded to a Commission of Inquiry. In November 2005, the Committee on Freedom of Association recommended a direct contacts mission to the country in order to obtain an objective assessment of the actual situation.

**Representations under article 24  
of the ILO Constitution**

In June 2005, the Governing Body confirmed the composition of a tripartite committee set up to examine the representation alleging non-observance by Chile of the Old-Age Insurance (Industry, etc.) Convention, 1933 (No. 35), and the Invalidity Insurance (Industry, etc.) Convention, 1933 (No. 37).

In November 2005, the Governing Body declared receivable a representation alleging non-observance by France of the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87), the Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98), the Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111), and the Termination of Employment Convention, 1982 (No. 158). A tripartite committee was appointed to examine the representation, and the matters relating to freedom of association were referred to the Committee on Freedom of Association. At the same session, the Governing Body declared receivable a representation alleging non-observance by Guatemala of the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) and set up a tripartite committee to examine it.

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In March 2006, the Governing Body declared receivable a representation alleging non-observance by Brazil of the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) and set up a tripartite committee to examine it.

## **Freedom of association**

During the past year, the Committee on Freedom of Association examined 196 cases, and in 104 cases followed up the measures taken by member States to give effect to its recommendations. The Committee in several cases noted positive developments in the matters before it. While it cannot be said that the submission of complaints against alleged violations of freedom of association has in any way subsided, the Committee has been pleased to be able to note in respect of certain of these cases important positive developments, such as the release of detained trade union leaders and members, the registration of trade unions, and the reinstatement of trade union leaders and members dismissed on anti-union grounds.

## **Improvements in the ILO's standards-related activities**

### ***Outlines of a future strategic orientation for standards and for implementing standards-related policies and procedures***

In November 2005, the Governing Body had before it a document relating to the outlines of a future strategic orientation for standards and for implementing standards-related policies and procedures.<sup>9</sup> The strategy comprises four interrelated components. The first component is directed towards a better promotion and application of up to date standards, including the development of new standards that can add value to the existing corpus of ILO standards; the second towards strengthening the supervisory system; the third towards achieving greater visibility of ILO standards; and the fourth towards technical assistance, technical cooperation and capacity building. The Governing Body approved the Office proposals in the light of the comments made during the discussion, and invited the Office to hold consultations with the tripartite constituents, also in the light of the discussion. The Governing Body also requested the Office to prepare a progress report for the period from November 2005 to March 2006.<sup>10</sup>

### ***Progress report***

In March 2006, the Office presented a report<sup>11</sup> to the Governing Body concerning the major activities and developments that had taken place during the period in question in connection with the new standards-related strategy, in particular with regard to the supervisory bodies, technical assistance and the promotion of standards, as well as recent standards-related activities such as the adoption of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006. It was not possible to begin the consultations planned for November 2005 until the March 2006 session. The Governing Body invited the Office to hold tripartite consultations based on the discussion during the 295th Session and on all issues before the Committee on Legal Issues and International Labour Standards, and at its November 2006 session, to submit a paper also based on the discussion and on all issues before the Committee, as reflected in the decision taken in November 2005.<sup>12</sup>

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## **General status report on ILO action concerning discrimination in employment and occupation**

In March 2006, the Governing Body had before it for debate and guidance a general status report on ILO action concerning discrimination in employment. The report focused on the wide range of ILO strategies implemented in 2005 to address discrimination and promote equality in employment, providing specific examples and highlighting challenges and opportunities.

### **Mapping out a strategy for possible future action on working time**

In November 2005, the Committee on Legal Issues and International Labour Standards had before it a document proposing the development of a strategy for possible future action on working time.<sup>13</sup> The document proposed in particular the holding of a tripartite Meeting of Experts to review and advise on modern working time arrangements. At the recommendation of the Committee on Legal Issues and International Labour Standards, the Governing Body approved the holding of that Meeting in November 2005. This Meeting was proposed to the Programme, Financial and Administrative Committee<sup>14</sup> in March 2006 but was not included among the meetings to be financed from the technical meetings reserve for 2006-07.<sup>15</sup>

### **Progress in the work to adapt the *Manual for drafting ILO instruments***

In March 2005, the Governing Body took note of the document entitled *Manual for drafting ILO instruments* prepared by the Office of the Legal Adviser and reviewed by a tripartite committee of experts. This Manual, which is not binding, is intended to facilitate the work of all those involved in preparing ILO instruments. Upon request by the Governing Body, the Office is adapting the full text version of the Manual in order to allow the different target audiences to use it easily. The interactive electronic version of the Manual is now available on the ILO web site and on CD-ROM in English, French and Spanish. Working with the International Training Centre, the Office is transforming the full text version into a user-friendly quick guide, and is consulting informally with the constituents with a view to making the quick guide available for use at the International Labour Conference in 2007.

## **IV. Working Party on the Social Dimension of Globalization**

### **Policy coherence: Growth, investment and employment**

Following encouraging remarks by the Governing Body at its previous sessions in 2004 and 2005, the Office had held several meetings on the policy coherence initiative (PCI). The Fourth Informal Meeting on the Policy Coherence Initiative on Growth, Investment and Employment brought together participants from the multilateral system and employers' and workers' specialists in December 2005 at the ILO. The ILO presented a paper on financial openness and employment, arguing that there was no strong correlation between financial openness and growth, but that financial liberalization had left many countries vulnerable to volatility and financial crises, which had adverse long-term effects for enterprises and workers alike. Those ILO concerns were shared. Some

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participants warned against drawing a simplistic conclusion that financial liberalization was necessarily bad for employment, but acknowledged that the ILO had avoided doing so. There was a general understanding that country-specific factors needed to be considered with financial liberalization.

The World Bank addressed the distributional impact of reforming labour market regulations. Labour was often the only asset the poor had, and employment was therefore central to poverty reduction. However, labour market regulation might increase access barriers for those outside the labour market. It was agreed that labour market regulation could have costs if inappropriately designed or excessively applied, but for several participants the presentation had not adequately discussed the benefits of labour market regulation. It was acknowledged that determining the appropriate level of labour market regulation was a difficult task, and there was agreement that the balance between flexibility and security required careful consideration and further research; this was a priority. UNCTAD focused on foreign direct investment (FDI) in Africa, which had increased considerably since 1989, but a large portion went to export-oriented zones in the primary sectors, with little linkage to the rest of the economy. FDI was therefore not tantamount to development and was not a surrogate for a dynamic investment process. A more balanced approach was needed. The view that FDI was not a panacea for development in Africa was generally shared during the subsequent debate.

A tripartite seminar on growth investment and jobs took place on 5-6 December 2005 in Johannesburg, South Africa. The lack of connection between growth and employment creation was a common experience in the southern Africa subregion and there was general consensus that this problem could not be solved through labour market instruments alone. Participants supported the idea that macroeconomic policies should not only aim at achieving growth, but also have employment creation as an explicit objective. Participants acknowledged that FDI could make an important contribution and generally agreed that political stability and the rule of law were prerequisites for attracting FDI. There was general agreement that more emphasis should be put on increasing investment from national sources, and public investment, particularly in infrastructure, was seen as an important complementary element, not only generating employment and growth on its own terms, but also attracting further private investment.

A conclusion shared by all Governing Body members was that the PCI was highly relevant in a period of globalization. All members found it legitimate that the ILO should seek a permanent dialogue with the Bretton Woods institutions. The ILO's Declaration of Philadelphia mandate was clear, even if some felt that the ILO did not necessarily have to lead the process. The point was to find ways to cooperate with other multilateral organizations. Policy coherence did not mean that States were subordinate to an international system. Countries needed space to develop national policies founded on the strength of the ILO's tripartite approach and formulated in the light of specific circumstances. The call for greater policy coherence made in the report of the World Commission on the Social Dimension of Globalization had found resonance with other agencies, both on their boards and among staff, recognizing the need for more coherent policies and strengthening informal contacts.

## **The 2005 World Summit Outcome document: Implications for the ILO**

The Director-General, in the discussion on the present issue at the March 2006 session of the Working Party, emphasized that the central policy message of the World Summit Outcome document was that concrete progress on the interlinked issues of development, security and human rights would be achieved better and more quickly if the United Nations system reformed itself by developing new approaches, institutions and



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operational tools. For the ILO, it marked an unprecedented leap in global recognition at the highest political level of the relevance and centrality of the ILO's Decent Work Agenda for the entire international community (as stated in paragraph 47 of the document). He drew four conclusions. Firstly, the document placed full and productive employment and decent work for all as a central objective of relevant national and international policies. Secondly, it explicitly spelt out the role of full and productive employment and decent work for all in development strategies and poverty reduction. By setting those as global goals, together with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), a glaring gap was filled – the World Summit Outcome document placed both full and productive employment and decent work as means to achieve the broader set of internationally agreed goals. Thirdly, it recognized the linkages between development and fundamental principles and rights at work, acknowledging the importance of the normative dimensions of the work of the ILO. Fourthly, it linked the goals of full and productive employment and decent work for all with fair globalization.

All this created opportunities to operationalize that commitment in a number of aspects of the ILO's current and future work, such as the ILO's decent work country programmes (DWCPs) as ILO's specific contribution to international development frameworks (the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs), Poverty Reduction Strategies (PRSs) and national MDG strategies), the invitation to the ILO by the High-Level Committee on Programmes of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board to work with other interested organizations on the development of an employment and decent work promotion tool. The decision of the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) that the theme of the forthcoming High-Level Segment would be "Creating an environment at the national and international levels conducive to generating full and productive employment and decent work for all, and its impact on sustainable development", the collaboration with multilateral, regional and individual development cooperation agencies to integrate systematically the objectives of productive employment and decent work into their policy dialogue and the ILO readiness to participate in the broader multilateral system policy reform process, for example, through its Policy Coherence Initiative (PCI) and its active involvement in discussions on the design of development assistance and the institutional and organizational set-up needed, such as the recently created High-Level Panel on United Nations System-wide Coherence in the areas of Development, Humanitarian Assistance and the Environment, were all welcomed.

There was general appreciation for the ILO's involvement in the ECOSOC High-level Segment on employment and decent work. Many delegations endorsed the dialogue of the Office with other agencies, including the Bretton Woods institutions and the World Trade Organization (WTO). The Government delegate of Honduras, on behalf of GRULAC, congratulated the Office on the progress of the PCI and underlined its great utility. While supporting the PCI, the Government delegate of India cautioned that no multilateral agency should override the policies of sovereign States. The Government delegate of China emphasized that the Office should, when engaging in dialogue, always proceed from the demands of the Organization's tripartite Members. The Government delegate of Japan, while welcoming the dialogue with the financial institutions, stressed that it was their role, not the ILO's, to deal with issues regarding growth and investment, and emphasized that DWCPs should be well coordinated with other programmes in the United Nations.

All members of the Governing Body gave general support to the active engagement of the ILO in the wider United Nations reform process. The World Summit Outcome document represented a significant breakthrough in the global effort to develop an effective, focused United Nations system to serve as a vehicle for development, peace and liberty and the ILO had to seize the opportunity the Outcome document represented and participate in the United Nations reform.

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## **Statement by His Excellency, Mr. Louis Michel, European Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid**

The European Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid, Mr. Louis Michel, addressed the Working Party in March 2006. Introducing him, the Director-General observed that the European Commission was a long-established partner of the ILO and that in recent times that relationship had been strengthened. The new lines of the European development policy offered many possibilities for greater cooperation between the ILO and the European Union. Mr. Michel observed that, contrary to the often heard argument that jobs had become scarce, there was not a lack of work, but financing work was in fact the real problem. Warning of the danger of high unemployment and poverty becoming an integral part of the global economy, he emphasized that both the ILO and the European Commission were grappling with similar issues. In that context, he also stressed the importance of the strategic partnership agreement signed in 2004 between the ILO and the Commission.

As a firm believer in the merits of globalization and the liberal market economy, the Commissioner nevertheless pointed out that the benefits of globalization were not being shared fairly. Underscoring democracy as the best means to ensure a fair distribution of the gains from globalization, Commissioner Michel stated that developed countries were not doing enough to attain fairer outcomes. Structured measures, not just charity, were needed. Achieving globalization with a human face, therefore, called for a frank and open discussion of the role of the State. The Commissioner argued for more effective use of fiscal policy to redistribute income by taxing capital more and productive labour less. Ultimately, the role of the State was to bring about social equity and social justice.

Referring to paragraph 47 of the World Summit Outcome document, the Commissioner stressed the significance of its political support for productive employment and decent work as the best and most effective ways of combating poverty and of strengthening sustainable development. He drew attention to the strong and dynamic social dimension of the process of European integration and commended the European economic and social model with its different aspects of employment-related measures, social dialogue and social protection. Developing countries could certainly use some aspects of that model in their policy design, although it might not be directly applicable. The European Union's development cooperation policy and its emphasis on poverty reduction as a strategy for equitable globalization accorded with the report of the World Commission on the Social Dimension of Globalization, to which the European Union had fully subscribed. Decent work for everyone had to be the long-term objective for all. The quality of national policies and the policies of institutions had a major impact on the capacity of a country to benefit from and to reduce the risks of globalization. The ILO and the European Commission could pool their experience and think collectively about social topics and could even implement pilot projects together on a country basis.

### **Follow-up to the November 2005 session of the Working Party: A proposed ILO forum**

At the November 2005 session of the Working Party on the Social Dimension of Globalization, I suggested that it was appropriate to invite the Director-General to prepare a paper for the March 2006 session of the Working Party on a possible globalization policy forum.<sup>16</sup> Such a paper would set out the modalities of a forum and be prepared in full consultation with the Officers of the Governing Body with a view to presenting a proposal that would reflect a broad consensus. I noted the growing acceptance of the ILO's central message – of making decent work a global goal and a national reality – among the

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international community at the highest political level. In discussing the idea of an ILO-hosted globalization policy forum, although the Workers' group and most Government members expressed support while offering a number of specific comments, the Employers' group was unable to back the proposal, citing concerns about cost, staff resources and governance, but expressed readiness to carry on discussing the idea of a forum.

The paper prepared following the November discussion<sup>17</sup> reflected a number of areas of agreement, including the fact that it would be important not to restart a discussion of the merits or not of globalization but rather to follow the World Commission approach which had moved the debate on to the much more constructive issue of how to shape a fair globalization with decent work as the major concern of people in all countries. A forum should support the ILO's work to that end. The possible programme, participation and timing of the proposed forum were examined and it was proposed that should it be decided to hold a forum, the Office would continue to consult the Officers on the detailed arrangements during its preparation. In discussion of those proposals at the Working Party meeting in March 2006, a large number of Government delegations lent their support to the proposal, as did the Workers' group, although the Employers' group and some Governments continued to question the idea. Nevertheless, following a further round of consultations, the Governing Body was able to accept my proposal to proceed with the organization of a two-day forum between March and April 2007 on decent work for a fair globalization. The Office would work closely with the chair on detailed arrangements for a forum which would aim to bring about a greater in-depth knowledge of the policies, programmes and activities carried out by the ILO, to produce a framework for multilateral organizations and the main parties interested in labour issues and to increase the degree of collaboration on the implementation of the Decent Work Agenda.

## **V. Employment and social policy**

### **Implementation of the Global Employment Agenda: An update**

In November 2005 and March 2006, the Committee on Employment and Social Policy discussed the implementation of the Global Employment Agenda (GEA) which was adopted by the Governing Body in March 2003 with strong tripartite consensus and whose principal aim was to help countries make employment central to their economic and social policies. Following the interest generated and the views expressed regarding learning from first-hand country experiences at the March 2005 session, when presentations were made on Argentina and Ghana, at the November 2005 session the Committee heard a very valuable presentation by the tripartite constituents of the Philippines, which had drawn on the concept of decent work to tackle its formidable employment challenges, on its experience in prioritizing employment in its development strategy. That led to a very interesting interactive debate on some of the major initiatives taken by the Philippines in its implementation of its employment strategy and the contribution made by the GEA to the formulation and implementation of that strategy.

At both its November 2005 and March 2006 sessions the Committee also discussed ILO support provided to the implementation of the Plan of Action adopted by the African Union Extraordinary Summit on Employment and Poverty Alleviation in Africa held in September 2004. While voicing support for some of the steps taken by the ILO, the Committee again emphasized the very high priority it placed on the follow-up to the Summit and the need to show concrete results in terms of improvements in employment and the labour market situation in Africa, especially as regards young people.

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In March 2006, the Committee also discussed the technical support provided by the ILO to China in the framing of a national employment promotion law and its support to Pakistan for revival of employment and livelihoods following the 8 October 2005 earthquake. The Committee also reviewed how discussions on the core elements of the GEA which had been held in the Committee during its previous sessions were being incorporated into the work of the ILO. While the Committee noted with interest how they were being translated into concrete steps in the work of the Office it expressed a strong desire to be kept up to date on that work as it was keen to see its discussions had resulted in concrete outputs.

At the same session, the Committee reviewed and endorsed a “Vision” document on operationalizing the employment component of decent work country programmes prepared by the new Executive Director of the Employment Sector at the request of the Committee made at its November 2005 session. That important paper, which marked the next step in the implementation of the GEA, after the completion of discussions on its ten core elements, was very favourably viewed by the Committee because of the concrete steps, approaches and tools it presented for implementing the GEA at the national level. The Committee found particularly useful the user-friendly operational policy framework presented in one page in the paper, identifying and categorizing the ILO’s basic principles, approaches and guidelines for employment policy. The Committee expressed its desire to be informed on a regular basis of the results of the use of the framework at the national level to help countries to identify and act on their employment priorities.

## **Promoting sustainable development for sustainable livelihoods**

In November 2005, the Committee on Employment and Social Policy discussed core element 3 of the Global Employment Agenda (GEA).<sup>18</sup> The Committee expressed strong support for the ILO’s involvement in this area of work. The Governing Body approved the Committee’s recommendations, requesting the Office to identify areas where employment strategies and sustainable development strategies could be made mutually reinforcing, with reference to specific projects and sectors. Such efforts could include: (a) the development of methodologies and approaches, such as impact assessments for integrated environmental and employment outcomes of investment plans and programmes; such tools could include ways to strengthen social dialogue to achieve integrated employment and environmental impacts; and (b) the formulation of operational programmes necessary to support sustainable development strategies that promoted job creation either at the national or sectoral levels, involving constituents and social partners.

## **Employability by improving knowledge and skills**

Employability by improving knowledge and skills constituted the sixth core element of the Global Employment Agenda. The Committee on Employment and Social Policy had reviewed that issue in March 2006.<sup>19</sup> The Office paper outlined the main elements of a skills and knowledge-based approach to employability, the major challenges and strategies in the areas of training policies and systems, technological change, public employment services, and improved access to training and employment. The Committee noted in particular the importance of skills issues for all constituents and welcomed the emphasis on social dialogue at all levels. The Committee expressed broad support for the future priorities proposed by the Office, namely the reform of training and employability policies and systems, skills and technology for economic change, skills for poverty reduction in the informal economy, and youth employability.

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## **ILO policy statement: Microfinance for decent work**

As a follow-up to the March 2005 discussion, the Committee on Employment and Social Policy discussed and decided on the ILO policy on microfinance for decent work at its November 2005 session.<sup>20</sup> That document had been the outcome of an intensive tripartite consultation process, which the Committee considered to be a very positive experience. The policy outlines the relation of the ILO mandate to financial sector development and the ILO principles and values relevant in the financial market, defining the underlying concepts and explaining the scope of financial sector issues relevant for decent work. It lays out the comparative advantage of the ILO in the area of microfinance and indicated instruments, priorities and beneficiaries of research and policy advice which translate the policy into services to the constituents. At the recommendation of the Committee, the Governing Body approved the ILO policy statement on the understanding that follow-up action would be taken within the framework of the approved programme and budget, together with any extra-budgetary funds that might be mobilized.

## **Social protection as a productive factor**

A report on social protection as a productive factor, core element 8 of the Global Employment Agenda, was before the Committee on Employment and Social Policy at its November 2005 session.<sup>21</sup> The Office paper provided an overview of the key determinants of economic performance, the debate about social protection as an input to economic growth, the relationship between social protection containment policies and economic growth, empirical evidence on productivity and social spending, and ILO action to date. While emphasizing the need for the ILO's work programme to be in line with the conclusions of the 89th Session of the International Labour Conference in 2001, the Committee expressed support for the areas for future action and research proposed by the Office.

## **The impact of the ILO's engagement with the Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) process**

The Committee on Employment and Social Policy reviewed the impact of the ILO's engagement with the Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs) process at its November 2005 session.<sup>22</sup> The Office paper contained an overview of the background and ILO approach to PRSPs, the impact of country-level experiences, and the lessons learned and challenges for the future. The Committee welcomed the three-pronged approach applied by the Office and encouraged it to intensify its efforts to strengthen the capacity of the tripartite constituents to participate effectively in PRSP processes. It also called for continued and expanded dialogue with relevant institutions such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

## **Occupational safety and health: Synergies between security and productivity**

A report<sup>23</sup> specifically addressing core element 9 of the Global Employment Agenda on synergies between occupational safety and health and productivity was presented to the Committee on Employment and Social Policy. The paper analysed the effects of safe and healthy working conditions on productivity and competitiveness and illustrated with successful experiences from public institutions, insurance companies and a wide range of small and large enterprises that "good safety and health is good business" in industrialized countries as well as in developing ones. The paper was received by constituents who

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jointly emphasized that occupational safety and health (OSH) was a fundamental element of enterprise management. The Employers considered OSH management systems to be important and approved related ILO guidelines. However, they were not in favour of international certification schemes. The Workers called for the promotion of a general OSH standard and emphasized that corporate social responsibility should not be promoted at the expense of standards, but should be a supporting component. They also expressed the need for a promotional campaign on OSH standards.

## **VI. Multinational enterprises**

### **Promotion of the Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy**

#### ***Eighth Survey on the effect given to the Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy***

In November 2005, the Subcommittee on Multinational Enterprises discussed the report on the Eighth Survey on the effect given to the Tripartite Declaration. The second part of the report, entitled “Summary of reports submitted by governments and by employers’ and workers’ organizations”,<sup>24</sup> was endorsed and published, while the first part had to be resubmitted in March 2006 because the conclusions and recommendations required further discussion among the Officers of the Subcommittee who compose the Working Group.

The “Analytical report of the Working Group on the reports submitted by governments and by employers’ and workers’ organizations”<sup>25</sup> was therefore discussed in March 2006. The Subcommittee recommended that the Governing Body endorse the report and the recommendations included therein and invite the Director-General to distribute, as broadly as possible, the results of the Eighth Survey.

#### ***Options for evaluating the effect given to the Tripartite Declaration***

In March 2006, the Subcommittee on Multinational Enterprises discussed a paper entitled “Options for evaluating the effect given to the Tripartite Declaration”,<sup>26</sup> which put forward four alternatives to the existing system of surveys to assess the effect given to the Tripartite Declaration by ILO constituents at the country level. The first option was to refine the current process of undertaking periodic global surveys; the second was to set up a web survey and database for constituents to submit responses at any time and to produce a report at periodic intervals; the third option was to undertake an in-depth survey in a number of countries, focusing on one area of the Tripartite Declaration; and the fourth option was to organize regional or subregional tripartite meetings on a cyclical basis, asking participants to prepare short papers on the effect given to the Tripartite Declaration, on the labour and social impacts of multinational enterprises in their respective countries, and on concrete proposals for follow-up activities. The papers and discussions of the meetings would serve as a basis for a general report on the effect given to the Tripartite Declaration.

The Subcommittee recommended to the Governing Body that it request the Office to prepare for the November 2006 meeting a more detailed paper outlining the preferred

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options identified by the Subcommittee for evaluating the effect given to the Tripartite Declaration, with a view to deciding at that time on any revisions to be made.

### ***Strategic priorities for 2006-07***

In March 2006, the Subcommittee on Multinational Enterprises discussed the paper “Follow-up to and promotion of the Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy: Strategic priorities for 2006-07”,<sup>27</sup> which outlined the workplan of the multinational enterprises team (MULTI) for this biennium. The paper identified several broad areas as strategic priorities. These included follow-up to the Eighth Survey, the InFocus Initiative on Corporate Social Responsibility, the development of practical guidelines for the implementation of the Tripartite Declaration, knowledge development on multinational enterprises and industrial relations, the upgrading of the BASI database and cooperation with other international organizations.

The Subcommittee welcomed the proposed workplan and recommended that the Governing Body endorse the strategic priorities of MULTI for 2006-07.

### ***Update of the Tripartite Declaration***

In November 2005, the Subcommittee on Multinational Enterprises discussed a proposal to update the Tripartite Declaration in order to include references to new instruments of relevance that had been adopted by the International Labour Conference and the Governing Body after the last update in 2000.<sup>28</sup> The members of the Subcommittee identified some aspects that required further consultations. Accordingly, the Subcommittee recommended that the Governing Body postpone the decision on the update of the Tripartite Declaration until March 2006.

In March 2006, the paper submitted to the Subcommittee<sup>29</sup> contained an updated text of the Tripartite Declaration that had been prepared in close consultation with the relevant departments of the Office as well as the Officers of the Subcommittee. The Subcommittee endorsed the update and recommended that the Governing Body adopt the proposed amendments to the Tripartite Declaration.

### ***Impact and lessons learned from the three subregional tripartite symposia and possible follow-up action***

In March 2006, the Subcommittee on Multinational Enterprises discussed a paper concerning “Impact and lessons learned from the three subregional tripartite symposia and possible follow-up action”,<sup>30</sup> which reported on the symposia that the Office had organized in 2005 for the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the Southern Common Market (MERCOSUR) countries. The members of the Subcommittee regretted the low participation rate and expressed the hope that the lessons learnt in these symposia would be applied to future events. They stressed in particular the need to involve constituents closely in similar activities in the future and the importance of follow-up activities such as developing a training package on the Tripartite Declaration.

The Subcommittee recommended that the Governing Body request the Office to include in its plan of work for 2006-07, within the framework of the approved Programme and Budget for 2006-07, activities to follow up the symposia, taking into account the priorities identified.

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## ***Proposals for an event to mark the 30th anniversary of the Tripartite Declaration***

In March 2006, the Subcommittee on Multinational Enterprises discussed a proposal to organize an event to mark the 30th anniversary of the Tripartite Declaration in 2007.<sup>31</sup> The goal of the proposed event would be to promote a better use of the Tripartite Declaration in the world of work and to stimulate an innovative discussion among senior-level participants with insight and knowledge of issues involving multinational enterprises. The overall strategy of giving prominence to the Tripartite Declaration would be to combine a communication strategy with a high-level forum. The communication strategy could include a media campaign and the dissemination of information and training materials promoting the use of the Tripartite Declaration. The forum would provide an opportunity for enterprises and workers' organizations to share effective practices that illustrate aspects of the Tripartite Declaration and to discuss concrete strategies to promote a better use of the Tripartite Declaration in the world of work. Prior to the forum the Office would prepare a background paper that would highlight emerging issues and examples of good practices in the areas covered by the Tripartite Declaration. The output of the forum could be a written report reflecting the major insights presented and a set of recommendations for concrete follow-up work that the ILO could pursue in this area.

The Subcommittee recommended that the Governing Body, taking into account the discussion in the Subcommittee, endorse the proposal for an event to mark the 30th anniversary of the Tripartite Declaration, financed through the technical meetings reserve,<sup>32</sup> subject to the approval of the Programme, Financial and Administrative Committee.

## ***InFocus Initiative on corporate social responsibility (CSR)***

In March 2006, the Subcommittee on Multinational Enterprises discussed the strategic orientations<sup>33</sup> for the InFocus Initiative on Corporate Social Responsibility that the Office would be implementing during 2006-07. The InFocus Initiative on CSR would be aimed at generating new and valuable products for constituents, promoting the principles of the Tripartite Declaration as a guide to good policy and practice, and complementing the ILO's role in supporting member States and social dialogue. Delivery on work items would require a coordinated Office-wide effort and additional extra-budgetary resources.

The Subcommittee found that the InFocus Initiative on CSR provided a good basis to develop the ILO's work in that area and recommended that the Governing Body endorse the strategic orientations of the InFocus Initiative on CSR.

## ***Updates regarding CSR-related activities***

In November 2005, the Executive Directors of the four sectors of the ILO and the International Training Centre reported to the Subcommittee on Multinational Enterprises on the activities that their respective departments had been carrying out in relation to CSR. The Subcommittee had greatly appreciated the information received and had recommended that the Governing Body request the Office to provide written updates of all CSR-related activities within and outside the Office to the Subcommittee at its March and November sessions on an ongoing basis. The Subcommittee had further recommended that the Governing Body request the Office to prepare a paper for the March 2006 session outlining any training programmes on CSR that the ILO International Training Centre planned to develop in the next biennium.



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Accordingly, in March 2006, the Subcommittee discussed the following papers: “Corporate social responsibility training offered by the International Training Centre of the ILO”,<sup>34</sup> “Updates regarding CSR-related activities: (a) Office activities<sup>35</sup> and (b) Activities conducted outside the Office”.<sup>36</sup> The first paper described training activities related to CSR that the International Training Centre had been undertaking or was planning to carry out. In this regard, the Subcommittee recommended that the Governing Body request that the work of the International Training Centre on CSR be done within the strategic orientations of the InFocus Initiative, and in close consultation with the Multinational Enterprises Programme (MULTI), the Bureau for Workers’ Activities (ACTRAV) and the Bureau for Employers’ Activities (ACT/EMP).

The other two papers outlined CSR-related activities that had been conducted by different ILO departments and by other international organizations. Time constraints did not allow the Subcommittee to discuss extensively those papers. However, the Officers of the Subcommittee reiterated their interest in continuing to receive such information and asked for further clarification on some specific activities to be provided at the November 2006 meeting.

## **VII. Sectoral activities**

### **Report on sectoral activities in 2004-05**

In March 2006, the Committee on Sectoral and Technical Meetings and Related Issues took note of the report on sectoral activities in 2004-05.<sup>37</sup> It examined the overview of sectoral activities, which listed the meetings, research, publications and other activities (including action programmes) carried out in 2004-05 and took note of the information provided. Several members welcomed the importance given to the Decent Work Agenda on a sectoral level.<sup>38</sup> Support was also expressed for the reorganization of the Sectoral Activities Department and the Social Dialogue, Labour Law and Labour Administration Department. Finally, the Committee took note of the broad outline of sectoral activities planned for 2006-07 and sections containing in-depth information on the 22 sectors addressed by the programme, which it considered to be very useful.

### **Purpose, duration and composition of sectoral meetings to be held in 2006-07**

In November 2005, the Governing Body decided on the length, duration, size and the governments to be invited to nominate experts to attend the Tripartite Meeting of Experts to adopt a revised code of practice on safety and health in underground coal mines (Geneva, 8-13 May 2006).<sup>39</sup> In March 2006, the Governing Body adopted the recommendations made by its Committee on Sectoral and Technical Meetings and Related Issues on the length, composition, purpose, output and the appointment of a chairperson for each of the meetings to be held in the second half of 2006 (on the social and labour implications of the increased use of advanced retail technologies and on labour and social issues arising from problems of crossborder mobility of international drivers in the Road Transport Sector) and in April 2007 (production of electronic components for the IT industries: changing labour force requirements in a global economy).<sup>40</sup>

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## Sectoral action programmes and evaluation in 2006-07

In November 2005, the Committee on Sectoral and Technical Meetings and Related Issues took note of the progress in sectoral action programmes and endorsed the Global Steering Group's recommendations for continuation in 2006-07 (agriculture, construction, education, hotels and tourism, and textiles and clothing, as well as in the education, health, mining and transport components of the cross-sectoral HIV/AIDS programme).<sup>41</sup> The Office was instructed to evaluate those action programmes in accordance with an evaluation framework document, recommending that action programmes should highlight positive experiences as well as point out areas for improvement so as to assist all parties concerned in drawing conclusions and lessons learned.

It further discussed that the 2004-05 action programmes in agriculture, construction, education, hotels and tourism, textiles and clothing; and HIV/AIDS in the workplace were to continue in 2006-07 with reduced funding. Three new action programmes were added for 2006-07, to be implemented in the following sectors: health, postal and other communications services, and public service.

In March 2006, it took note of the sectoral action programme evaluation framework proposed.<sup>42</sup> It noted that consultations and activities concerning the action programmes were under way in the first quarter of 2006. The Global Steering Group would next meet in the second half of 2006 (prior sessions took place in September and October 2005).

### Effect to be given to recommendations of sectoral and technical meetings

In June 2005 and March 2006, the Governing Body took note of the reports of various sectoral and technical meetings and endorsed the recommendations adopted by them.<sup>43</sup> The Committee on Sectoral and Technical Meetings and Related Issues gave particular attention to the outcome of the Tripartite Meeting on Promoting Fair Globalization in Textiles and Clothing in a Post-MFA Environment.<sup>44</sup>

In March 2006, the Governing Body took note of the proposals of the 30th Session of the Joint Maritime Commission (Geneva, 23 February 2006) for the Office's future programme of work,<sup>45</sup> considered the report of the Subcommittee on Wages of Seafarers of the Joint Maritime Commission (Geneva, 24-25 February 2006) and authorized the distribution of the resolution concerning the ILO minimum basic wage for able seafarers to member States.<sup>46</sup>

### Sectoral activities in specific sectors or subsectors

In November 2005, the Governing Body took note of the information provided on the revision of the ILO/IMO/WHO *International Medical Guide for Ships*.<sup>47</sup> It also took note of the report of the 19th Ordinary Session of the Intergovernmental Committee of the International Convention for the Protection of Performers, Producers of Phonograms and Broadcasting Organizations (Rome Convention, 1961) (Paris, 27-28 June 2005).<sup>48</sup>

In March 2006, the Governing Body took note of the report of two Working Groups jointly convened with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and the Basel Convention Secretariat, respectively.<sup>49</sup> It also considered the invitation by the IMO for the ILO to participate in the development of safety standards for small fishing vessels.<sup>50</sup>

At the same session, the Governing Body examined the report of the Meeting of Experts on Updating the List of Occupational Diseases<sup>51</sup> (Geneva, 13-20 December 2005).

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Considering that no consensus was reached on an updated list, the Governing Body supported further consultations and convening of another meeting of experts at a later stage.<sup>52</sup>

## **VIII. Technical cooperation**

### **The ILO's technical cooperation programme for 2004-05**

During its November 2005 session, the Committee on Technical Cooperation was provided with information and analyses of the ILO's technical cooperation activities for the period 2004-05. A quantitative overview of the programme revealed that total expenditure in 2004 stood at US\$138 million, compared to US\$117 million for 2002. Corresponding expenditure for 2005 was estimated at US\$150 million. Earlier declines in funding from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) continued. UNDP funds constituted US\$2.2 million, representing 1.6 per cent of the total; the UNFPA's absence in terms of financial contribution to ILO technical cooperation was noted. Expenditure of multi-bilateral and trust funds, on the other hand, continued to increase from US\$110.2 million in 2003 to US\$122.7 million in 2004. In 2002, the expenditure from those two sources had been US\$93.7 million. An analysis of the substantive work in technical cooperation was presented for each of the regions; concrete results, lessons learned, and new developments and outlooks for the future were highlighted, and deliberated upon. In response to a 2004 request of the Committee on Technical Cooperation, a status report was provided on the implementation of the ILO resource mobilization strategy for technical cooperation. Finally, the Committee considered recent developments in the United Nations system vis-à-vis implications on technical cooperation for the ILO.

As recommended by the Committee on Technical Cooperation, the Governing Body subsequently requested the Director-General to: (a) actively encourage donors to increase their extra-budgetary funding to complement the regular budget in support of the implementation of the Decent Work Agenda, and in particular to strengthen decent work country programmes (DWCPs) in all regions through technical cooperation; (b) further encourage the participation of tripartite constituents in technical cooperation programmes and activities; and (c) request the Office to continue its efforts to enhance the coordination, efficiency and effectiveness of operational programmes by linking ILO DWCPs to the United Nations system and other multilateral development frameworks at the country level (the ILO's specific contribution to international development frameworks, such as the United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks (UNDAFs), Common Country Assessment (CCA), Poverty Reduction Strategy Papers (PRSPs), Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), etc.).

### **Technical cooperation and decent work country programmes**

In March 2006, the Committee on Technical Cooperation examined the role of technical cooperation in the unfolding process of implementing the ILO's DWCPs. It was observed that DWCPs were an integral part of international cooperation frameworks supporting national development strategies. The role of DWCPs, starting from promoting decent work as a key component of national development strategies, to being a programming tool, and its place in achieving the internationally agreed goals, including the

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Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), in each country was taken up. On the methodology used in DWCPs, a six-step process was outlined.

Initial indications and issues for technical cooperation showed, among other things, that: DWCPs provided a picture of real “demand for decent work” in countries that the ILO could supply; new extra-budgetary resources would in most cases be indispensable for complementing modest regular budget resources and to ensure the significant impact of DWCPs according to countries’ expectations and demands; the Office would need to adapt its resource mobilization strategies locally and centrally, and systematically involve constituents in order to access/influence resource flows in favour of DWCPs.

The Committee concluded with a point for decision requesting that it be provided, during its November session, with a progress report on the implementation of DWCPs and the role and impact of technical cooperation in such programmes; that could be part of the annual report on technical cooperation usually submitted to the Committee.

### **Thematic evaluation: HIV/AIDS and the world of work**

The Committee on Technical Cooperation considered a synthesis report based on mid-term evaluations of seven projects funded by the United States Department of Labor (USDOL) and a final evaluation of a multi-country project in sub-Saharan Africa funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA).

The Committee was informed that the objective of all the projects was HIV prevention through implementation of the ILO code of practice on HIV/AIDS and the world of work. The strategy comprised three approaches: consultations with national stakeholders to establish the policy framework; advisory services and training of social partners; and collaboration with enterprise management and labour representatives to design workplace policies. Together those initiatives had reached 400,000 workers in 300 enterprises in 30 countries. The evaluations had highlighted: that the use of national expertise was fundamental to achieving results and sustainability; the value of workplace education in reducing discrimination; the important role of baseline data to measure change; the need for the integration of HIV/AIDS into existing structures for sustainability; and the value added of knowledge sharing and networking.

Discussions in the Committee reiterated the need for both further analysis on outcomes, and for tripartite involvement in design and implementation. Proposals for future work in HIV/AIDS included: the assessment of the impact of technical cooperation at the grass-roots level; the collection and replication of good practices in the informal economy; the development of quantitative and qualitative methodologies to evaluate the use of existing tools and their impacts; and strengthening trade union capacity to guide the application of the ILO code of practice. The Committee concluded with a point for decision requesting the Director-General to: continue supporting the ILO programme on HIV/AIDS; recognize the important contribution the social partners could make in combating the pandemic; and report regularly to the Committee on the progress made in the implementation of the ILO programme on HIV/AIDS.

### **Discussion on thematic evaluation and the overall evaluation strategy**

It was recalled that, during its November 2005 session, the Committee had initiated a discussion on whether, given the new developments related to evaluation in the ILO, the practice should continue. As there was insufficient time to discuss it at length, it was

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decided at that meeting that the broader question of thematic evaluation in the overall evaluation strategy would be considered in March 2006.

Starting with the premises that the Committee usually reviewed thematic evaluation of technical cooperation projects during its March sessions, it was reiterated that the Committee on Technical Cooperation was supposed to review the ILO's technical cooperation activities and that thematic evaluations were useful in that regard. Such reports informed the Committee about what had and had not worked and the lessons learned. In fact, the Committee had been providing policy guidance for technical cooperation activities based on such thematic evaluations. It was therefore stressed that thematic evaluation of technical cooperation should remain within the jurisdiction and domain of the Committee on Technical Cooperation, and that it wished to continue receiving thematic evaluation reports. The Committee consequently discussed and adopted a point for decision requesting the Director-General to ensure that the submission of thematic evaluation reports to the Committee on Technical Cooperation be continued at the March session of the Governing Body.

### **Enhanced programme of technical cooperation for the occupied Arab territories**

The ILO had continued its efforts to contributing to socio-economic development in the occupied Arab territories under a very difficult and volatile security situation on the ground, marked by strict movement restrictions, extended closures and curfews, a situation which had aggravated the social and economic condition of Palestinian workers and their families. The technical cooperation programme implemented throughout the course of 2005-06 mainly centred around strengthening the institutional capacity of employers' and workers' organizations and the Ministry of Labour, promoting social dialogue as a requirement to peace, and establishing the Palestinian Fund for Employment and Social Protection as an umbrella for the coordination of all financial and technical assistance for employment creation and income-generating activities and programmes.

The establishment of the Fund had been given particular importance as a most effective tool to face the rising problems of poverty and unemployment. To that end and with financing from the 2000-01 cash surplus for the launching of start-up activities, the Fund was implementing three core programmes, namely the Community Infrastructure Development Programme, the Enterprise Development Programme, and the Human Resource Development Programme. It is expected to contribute to the promotion of opportunities for women and men to obtain decent and productive work, in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity within the framework of a coherent employment strategy. Recently, the Fund had launched three projects: Support for Palestinian Small and Medium Enterprise Development; Emergency Assistance to EMPRETEC Palestine, Vocational Graduates Job Placement, and Emergency Assistance to Employment Generation and Job Placement Programme. The activities are expected to be completed by December 2006.

ILO technical assistance had also included technical advisory services and strengthening the capacities of employers' and workers' organizations, and of officials at the Ministry of Labour, to better address the prevailing challenges faced by the Palestinian people. The ILO had also provided technical assistance in legal advice services to Palestinian workers employed in Israel, and made an assessment of the social security needs with a view to establishing the Palestinian Social Security Institute in the occupied Arab territories. A technical advisory mission was also undertaken by the ILO to the Palestinian Ministry of Labour in October 2005 to review the organization, role, scope, and functions of the labour administration system at the Ministry. Based on the analysis and within the framework of the Italian-funded project on "An integrated approach to promote

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good governance”, a comprehensive programme was undertaken throughout the course of 2005-06 on capacity building, social dialogue, and conciliation and mediation.

The ILO continued to implement the technical cooperation project on the Establishment of the Sheikha Fatima Vocational Rehabilitation Centre in Hebron (with additional funding of US\$166,000 received from the donor), as well as the capacity-building project on social and civil dialogue for reconstruction and reconciliation currently under implementation by the Turin Centre. The ILO was also in the process of developing a programme with Young Entrepreneurs Palestine, a Palestinian non-governmental organization, to promote decent work through micro and small enterprise development by young women and men in the West Bank and Gaza. In addition, and as a result of the prevailing situation which had led to an emerging pattern of trade localization and an increase in the number of micro and small enterprises attributed mainly to import substitution activities, where people strived to ensure self-reliance to adapt to existing closures, the ILO had started preparatory work to use remaining funds available on a technical cooperation project funded by Kuwait to promote income-generating activities targeting women and men in remote closed-off villages as an emergency response to rising poverty and unemployment.

## **Special technical cooperation programme for Colombia**

The trend observed in 2004 in relation to the number of assaults against trade union leaders and organized workers continued. The measures adopted by the State to combat impunity met with little success. The new Attorney-General of the Nation announced the creation of a special investigation unit within the Office of the Attorney-General which will be dedicated to the investigation and elucidation of criminal acts against workers and trade union leaders and members. This is one of the achievements of the joint action undertaken by the Attorney-General’s Office and the ILO.

Organized workers have continued to complain of the failure to respect the rights of association and collective bargaining arising from actions by the Government and by employers. Following discussions in the Conference Committee on the Application of Standards (June 2005), a high-level mission, comprising the Chairperson of the Committee on Freedom of Association and the Employer and Worker Vice-Chairpersons of the ILC Committee on the Application of Standards, visited Colombia from 24 to 29 October 2005. The preliminary recommendations of this mission state, among other things, that “in order to combat the current situation of impunity, full commitment is required in the following areas: continual tripartite dialogue on fundamental rights, a clear and wide-reaching political will, and the necessary resources”. The Committee on Freedom of Association included this recommendation in its most recent report to the Governing Body (March 2006). In the discussion on the report, this recommendation was endorsed by the Workers’ group but not by the Employers’ group nor some Government representatives.

The Office accordingly continues to support the activities of the Government and of employers’ and workers’ organizations to combat impunity, improve labour relations and promote social dialogue.

In the field of social dialogue, the Standing Consultation Committee on Wage and Labour Policies, a tripartite body, in December 2005 adopted an agreement fixing an increase in the minimum wage which goes beyond that issue and deals with important topics relating to social protection and protection of the fundamental rights at work. The agreement also provides for measures to give renewed impetus to the Standing Consultation Committee. For example, agreement was reached on setting up a bilateral committee for discussing issues of interest to the public sector, including those related to

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the implementation of ILO Conventions Nos. 87, 98, 151 and 154. The Committee held its first meeting in January 2006.

In order to strengthen promotion of fundamental rights at work, and as a follow-up to the activities that have been under way since 2003, seminars and workshops were organized with the Government, the Attorney-General's Office, the School for the Judiciary and a number of central union organizations and universities. Continued support was given to the Minister of Social Protection to hold regional forums to disseminate the fundamental rights at work (seven during the course of 2005). Along the same lines, and with a view to publicizing the principles and rights relating to freedom of association and collective bargaining, as well as dispute settlement procedures, workshops and seminars continued to be held for government officials and representatives of employers and workers. Activities with the ANDI continue in connection with the programme to disseminate corporate social responsibility.

At the same time, the many activities undertaken as part of the IPEC/ILO programme in Colombia included the adoption of the National Plan for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour. The ILO took part in celebrations for the tenth anniversary of the Interinstitutional Committee on the Elimination of Child Labour and Protection of Young Workers in Colombia, which were also dedicated to the ratification and deposition of the instrument of ratification relating to Convention No. 182.

As part of the ILO/USDOL project, more than 20 seminars were held between March and September 2005 (when the project closed) on the prevention and settlement of labour disputes.

As envisaged in the last report on the implementation of the Special Technical Cooperation Programme for Colombia, the funding allocated to the Programme (US\$905,000) had been used up by the end of 2005. In accordance with the decision of the Governing Body, and in consultation with the Government and the organizations of employers and workers of Colombia, four proposals were drawn up by the Subregional Office for the Andean Countries. The Director-General decided to allocate US\$118,000 from the remaining surplus in order to allow a six-month extension of special technical cooperation for Colombia. That assistance is due to end in June 2006.

## **IX. Financial questions**

### **Programme implementation in 2004-05**

In March 2006, the Governing Body considered the programme implementation report for 2004-05. While welcoming continuing improvements in the format and contents of the report, the Governing Body stressed the need for better indicators, better integration of financial information and more details on difficulties encountered and lessons learned in achieving strategic objectives.

### **Evaluations**

In November 2005, the Governing Body considered a new policy and strategic framework for evaluation at the ILO and discussed summary independent evaluations of the two remaining InFocus programmes: the InFocus Programme on Social Dialogue, Labour Law and Labour Administration (IFP/DIALOGUE) and the InFocus Programme on Socio-Economic Security (IFP/SES). As a result of its discussion in November 2005 of the review by the Joint Inspection Unit of the ILO's implementation of strategic budgeting

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within a results-based management framework, in March 2006 the Governing Body considered proposals for future work on results based-management, in particular for the preparation of 2008-09 programme and budget proposals.

## **Audits**

In March 2006, the Governing Body noted the report of the Chief Internal Auditor for 2005, and the report on follow-up action taken by the Office on the report of the Chief Internal Auditor for 2004.

## **Human resource management**

The Governing Body endorsed in November 2005 a revised Human Resource Strategy aligned to the Strategic Policy Framework for 2006-09 around the following three components: sound and effective policies and procedures for recruitment, placement and career progression; integrated, motivating and rigorous staff performance management and development systems; and essential staff welfare and security arrangements. The revised Strategy is built on improved targets and indicators and a better monitoring of its implementation.

## **Technical meetings reserve for 2006-07**

In November 2005 and March 2006, the Governing Body agreed that the following four meetings be financed from the technical meetings reserve for 2006-07: an International Symposium on the Role of Trade Unions in Workers' Education: The Key to Trade Union Capacity Building; a Symposium on Managing Labour and Social Issues in Supply Chains: Challenges for Business; an Interregional Symposium on the Informal Economy: Enabling Transition to Formalization; and an International Forum on the Occasion of the 30th Anniversary of the Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy.

## **Future development of the International Training Centre and its relations with the ILO**

The Governing Body considered the future development of the Turin Centre and its relations with the ILO in March 2006. It agreed that while keeping the autonomy of the two institutions, efforts should be pursued in achieving a better alignment of strategies and priorities, enhanced cooperation between the programmes of the Centre and the Sectors and regions of the ILO, improved coordination in fund raising and relations with donors and a better mutual use of their respective facilities. The Governing Body paid a special tribute to the work of the Mr. François Trémeaud as Director of the Centre between 1989 and his retirement in 2006.

## **ILO accommodation**

The Building Subcommittee of the Programme, Finance and Administrative Committee met in November 2005 and March 2006 to review prevailing accommodation arrangements for ILO offices, progress with the construction projects in Santiago and Dar es Salaam and approved urgent repairs and upgrades at headquarters pending the completion of a technical study on headquarters renovation needs.



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## Information technology

The Information and Communications Technology Subcommittee of the Programme, Finance and Administrative Committee, set up by the Governing Body in June 2005, held its first meeting in November 2005. It considered progress with the implementation of IRIS (the ILO Integrated Resource Information System) as well as the three projects under the Information Technologies System Fund: the Wide Area Network, the Electronic Document Management System and the Electronic Voting System.

In March 2005, the Programme, Finance and Administration Committee noted with satisfaction the progress made in the format of the report on programme implementation which, according to one speaker, gave life to the work of the ILO. Several members requested more detailed financial information, as well as greater analysis of the impact of ILO interventions.

## X. Decision-making bodies of the ILO

### The International Labour Conference

#### ***Follow-up to the resolutions adopted by the 93rd Session (2005) of the International Labour Conference***

##### Resolution concerning youth employment

In November 2005, the Governing Body discussed the different approaches being explored by the Office to give effect to the resolution concerning youth employment adopted by the International Labour Conference in June 2005. The orientation of the Office work was thus set up around the three pillars (building knowledge, advocacy and technical assistance) of the ILO plan of action to promote pathways to decent work for youth, as endorsed in the ILC resolution.

Research is under way to gather information on the patterns of young people's transition to the world of work, their aspirations in relation to labour market needs, as well as their sectoral distribution, working conditions, earnings and participation in training. School-to-work transition surveys are being implemented in 13 developing and transition countries. Participation in the inter-agency work to develop a set of youth development indicators for the implementation of the United Nations World Programme of Action for Youth has resulted in the definition of a set of indicators that will allow for capturing a richer picture of the youth labour market.

As part of the promotional and advocacy work, the contribution to the round table on "promoting productive employment and decent work for women and young people" at the ECOSOC preparatory meeting held in New York in April 2006 has provided an opportunity to mainstream the approach set out in the 2005 ILC resolution into the international policy debate. Tripartite meetings are being organized at the regional and subregional levels. A subregional tripartite conference, held in Zimbabwe in October 2005, enabled representatives of constituents from nine countries of the southern African region to exchange knowledge and experience on policies and programmes for youth employment.

Advisory services are being provided for governments, employers' and workers' organizations. These activities focus on technical assistance to develop and implement national action plans on youth employment, including in lead countries of the Youth

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Employment Network. In this regard, support is being provided to Senegal and Sri Lanka. Technical guidelines are also being developed to assist countries in formulating these national action plans. Further work to promote policies and programmes for youth employment and to build the capacity of constituents has been supported through the use of regular and extra-budgetary funds in areas such as education and training, labour market information and career guidance, entrepreneurship and the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, including cooperatives, as well as employment-intensive approaches in infrastructure.

### ***Matters arising from the 94th (Maritime) Session (2006) of the International Labour Conference***

On 23 February 2006, the International Labour Conference, at its 94th (Maritime) Session, adopted the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, by 314 votes in favour, none against, and four abstentions. This Convention consolidates and updates 68 existing ILO maritime Conventions and Recommendations adopted since 1920. It is the result of five years of extensive preparatory work carried out under the guidance of the High-Level Tripartite Working Group and its Subgroup. The new Convention will enter into force 12 months after its ratification by 30 Members representing at least 33 per cent of the world gross tonnage of ships.

The Convention essentially codifies an agreement between shipowners, seafarers and governments on all the elements necessary to achieve “decent work” for seafarers. It sets minimum requirements for seafarers’ working conditions on a ship and combines rights and principles with specific standards and guidance as to how to implement these standards. The Convention establishes a comprehensive enforcement and compliance system based on cooperation among all ratifying States that will ensure that decent working conditions, once certified by a flag State, are continuously maintained, no matter where the ship travels. In accordance with the Convention, the Governing Body will, in due course, be requested to establish a special tripartite committee to keep the working of the new Convention under continuous review.

The Conference adopted 17 resolutions,<sup>53</sup> most of which ask the Governing Body to consider specific actions. Regarding the resolution concerning the promotion of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, in March 2006 the Governing Body requested the Director-General to begin the preparatory work for the promotion of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, in accordance with this resolution.

Many of the resolutions relate to cooperation with the IMO, including the resolution concerning the Joint IMO/ILO Ad Hoc Expert Working Group on Liability and Compensation regarding Claims for Death, Personal Injury and Abandonment of Seafarers and the resolution concerning addressing the human element through international cooperation between United Nations specialized agencies. At the same session, the Governing Body also requested the Director-General to discuss, with the Secretary-General of the IMO, the continuation of cooperation with respect to the above Ad Hoc Expert Working Group, as well as the establishment of a Joint IMO/ILO Working Group on the Human Element.

Finally, the Governing Body examined the follow-up to the Conference and requested the Director-General to make concrete proposals to the Governing Body, as and when appropriate, with regard to the implementation of the abovementioned resolutions, as well as of the other resolutions adopted by the Conference.

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## ***Agenda of the 96th Session (2007)***

In November 2005, the Governing Body decided to place the following items on the agenda of the 96th Session (2007) of the International Labour Conference, in addition to the standing items: Work in the fishing sector (with a view to the adoption of a Convention and a Recommendation) – it was specified that the Conference should use as a basis for discussion the report of the Committee on the Fishing Sector from the 93rd Session of the Conference and the outcomes of tripartite consultations to be held; strengthening the ILO's capacity to assist its Members' efforts to reach its objectives in the context of globalization<sup>54</sup> (general discussion); and the promotion of sustainable enterprises (general discussion).<sup>55</sup>

As regards the item on strengthening the ILO's capacity, it was understood that the Office would prepare, in the light of consultations, a document providing clarifications in reply to questions that had been raised. In March 2006, following preliminary consultations, the Office submitted the document requested to the Governing Body for information.<sup>56</sup> The discussion to which the document gave rise will provide the Office with the guidance needed to prepare its report for submission to the Conference. It is also envisaged that further consultations will be held before the report is finalized.

In March 2006 also the Office submitted to the Governing Body a paper on procedural aspects relating to preparation of the discussion of the item concerning work in the fishing sector on the agenda of the 96th Session (2007) of the International Labour Conference.<sup>57</sup> The Governing Body decided that the item on work in the fishing sector on the agenda of the 96th Session of the Conference should be governed by a single-discussion procedure, and approved a programme of reduced intervals for reports to be submitted to governments. The programme would entail two reports to be prepared by the Office. The first report would include the report of the Committee on the Fishing Sector of the 93rd Session of the Conference, accompanied by a short questionnaire, with replies requested no later than September 2006. The second report, based on the replies received, would serve as the basis for the Conference discussion and should reach governments by February 2007. In accordance with the decision adopted by the Governing Body in November 2005, informal tripartite consultations have been held and will be pursued.

## ***Date, place and agenda of the 97th Session (2008)***

In November 2005, the Governing Body requested that the five proposed agenda items submitted to it for inclusion on the agenda of the 97th Session of the Conference be presented again at its subsequent session for more in-depth examination.<sup>58</sup> In March 2006, the Governing Body decided to include on the agenda of the 2008 session, in addition to the standing items, the following two items:<sup>59</sup> skills for improved productivity, employment growth and development (general discussion); and promotion of rural employment for poverty reduction (general discussion based on an integrated approach). In order to enable the Office to explore other topics that might be considered to meet current needs, including topics that might arise from consultations involving constituents in an appropriate way, the Governing Body also decided to postpone the choice of the third item required to complete the agenda of the session in question until one of its subsequent sessions.

At the same session, the Governing Body also decided that the 97th Session of the Conference would be held in Geneva. With regard to the dates of the Conference, the Governing Body had been informed that a specific proposal would be put to it as soon as possible.

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## ***Proposals to improve its functioning***

The Governing Body further discussed possible improvements in the functioning of the International Labour Conference, at its June 2005 session which took place immediately after the conclusion of the 93rd Session of the International Labour Conference, and took note of the comments regarding the functioning of the International Labour Conference made by the Employer and Worker Vice-Chairpersons, as well as several Governments and by the Director-General. In that discussion the need for further debate was underlined.

A paper<sup>60</sup> submitted to the Governing Body in November 2005 recalled the main functions of the International Labour Conference. It also reported on the content of statements made at the last Conference regarding the reform of the International Labour Conference and the discussions that were held in an informal consultation with the representatives of the Employers', Workers' and Government groups of the Governing Body in September 2005. In those consultations it was confirmed that continued consideration of this matter was based on the desire to ensure that the Conference remains relevant to the times, fulfils its constitutional obligations, attracts high-level participation, promotes the objectives of the Organization, and does so in an effective and efficient manner.

Noting the discussions that had taken place over a number of years, the Governing Body decided to establish a small working group, composed of eight representatives from each of the three groups of the Governing Body, to meet during the committee week of the March 2006 session of the Governing Body, with the objective of developing recommendations on possible improvements to the structure and functioning of the International Labour Conference, to be presented to the Governing Body in November 2006.

The Working Group met twice in March 2006 during the 295th Session of the Governing Body. Various governmental groups, as well as the Worker and Employer participants, informed the Working Group of their concerns and proposals regarding possible improvements in the structure of the ILC. Some of those proposals involved more substantial reforms, while others dealt with better organization of Conference functions within the time available to the Conference. The Chairperson of the Working Group continued his consultations between the two meetings to ensure that all the groups shared the same objectives and vision about the reform process. Consultations will continue in order to enable the Working Group to fulfil its task and to report in November 2006.

## **The Governing Body**

### ***Proposals to improve its functioning***

This subject has been discussed by the Governing Body on several occasions and continues to draw a lot of attention from all groups. An oral report was given to the November 2005 session of the Governing Body on the state of discussions on improvements in the functioning and structure of the Governing Body. It was emphasized that the Governing Body should cover all the strategic objectives of the Organization. On the possibility of extending the mandate of the Committee on Sectoral and Technical Meetings and Related Issues (STM) to address the issues of social dialogue, informal consultations were held and their conclusions appeared to suggest that the current mandate of the STM should be maintained. There was nothing to prevent the STM from examining other matters, such as labour administration. However, should the need arise to hold discussions on policy issues related to social dialogue, those discussions would take place

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in the Governing Body itself, given that the Governing Body had already decided that documents on policy issues could, as appropriate, be submitted directly to the Governing Body.

A voluntary trial of an electronic notification distribution system for the Governing Body documents has been undertaken and will be further discussed at the November 2006 session of the Governing Body.

## **Compendium of rules applicable to the Governing Body**

In November 2005, the Governing Body approved the *Compendium of rules applicable to the Governing Body*, a consolidation in a single document of the existing rules applicable to the Governing Body, encouraging the Office to prepare a table of contents and index and to publish the *Compendium* without delay. The *Compendium* was published, with a table of contents and index, in February 2006, and is currently available in the three working languages in print and online.

## **XI. Regional meetings**

The Sixteenth American Regional Meeting took place in Brasilia, Brazil, from 2 to 5 May 2006 and adopted conclusions which will be reported to the Governing Body in November 2006.

In November 2005,<sup>61</sup> the Governing Body decided that the new dates for the Fourteenth Asian Regional Meeting to be held in Busan, Republic of Korea, would be from 29 August to 1 September 2006.

## **XII. Relations with other international organizations**

### **Developments in the United Nations system**

The major developments in the United Nations and multilateral system were reported to the Governing Body, together with information on the ILO's involvement in the most significant events.<sup>62</sup> These included in particular the United Nations General Assembly World Summit of September 2005.<sup>63</sup> The Summit Outcome document represents a framework of commitments to renew international engagement and to strengthen multilateral solutions in the areas of development, peace and collective security, human rights and the rule of law, as well as a range of measures to strengthen and reform the United Nations system. In particular, paragraph 47 of the Outcome document, subtitled "Employment", states:

We strongly support fair globalization and resolve to make the goals of full and productive employment and decent work for all, including for women and young people, a central objective of our relevant national and international policies as well as our national development strategies, including poverty reduction strategies, as part of our efforts to achieve the MDGs. These measures should also encompass the elimination of the worst forms of child labour, as defined in International Labour Organization Convention No. 182, and forced labour.

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This text sets decent work on an equal footing with other agreed international development goals, including the Millennium Development Goals. The Governing Body drew attention to the significance of this text.

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## Notes

<sup>1</sup> <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/reim/gb/index.htm>.

<sup>2</sup> The compilation of annual reports by the International Labour Office, March 2006, can be consulted on the Declaration Programme's public web site <http://www.ilo.org/declaration>.

<sup>3</sup> GB.295/5.

<sup>4</sup> *The end of child labour: Within reach*, Global Report under the follow-up to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, Report I(B), International Labour Conference, 95th Session, Geneva, 2006.

<sup>5</sup> The first Global Report on child labour, entitled *A future without child labour*, was discussed at the 90th Session (June 2002) of the ILC.

<sup>6</sup> GB.294/6/1 and GB.294/6/1(Add.).

<sup>7</sup> GB.294/6/2 and GB.294/6/2(Add.).

<sup>8</sup> GB.295/7.

<sup>9</sup> GB.294/LILS/4.

<sup>10</sup> GB.294/9.

<sup>11</sup> GB.295/LILS/5.

<sup>12</sup> GB.295/10.

<sup>13</sup> GB.294/LILS/7/1.

<sup>14</sup> GB.295/PFA/3.

<sup>15</sup> See section IX below.

<sup>16</sup> See also section IV in the report of the Chairperson of the Governing Body to the Conference for the year 2004-05.

<sup>17</sup> GB.295/WP/SDG/2.

<sup>18</sup> GB.294/ESP/2.

<sup>19</sup> GB.295/ESP/2(Rev.).

<sup>20</sup> GB.294/ESP/3.

<sup>21</sup> GB.294/ESP/4.

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<sup>22</sup> GB.294/ESP/5.

<sup>23</sup> GB.295/ESP/3.

<sup>24</sup> GB.294/MNE/1/2.

<sup>25</sup> GB.295/MNE/1/1.

<sup>26</sup> GB.295/MNE/1/2.

<sup>27</sup> GB.295/MNE/4/1.

<sup>28</sup> GB.294/MNE/2.

<sup>29</sup> GB.295/MNE/1/3.

<sup>30</sup> GB.295/MNE/1/4.

<sup>31</sup> GB.295/MNE/1/5.

<sup>32</sup> See section IX below.

<sup>33</sup> GB.295/MNE/2/1.

<sup>34</sup> GB.295/MNE/2/2.

<sup>35</sup> GB.295/MNE/3/1.

<sup>36</sup> GB.295/MNE/3/2.

<sup>37</sup> GB.295/STM/1.

<sup>38</sup> GB.295/13.

<sup>39</sup> GB.294/STM/1.

<sup>40</sup> GB.295/STM/2.

<sup>41</sup> GB.294/STM/2 and GB.294/STM/2/Inf.

<sup>42</sup> GB.295/STM/2.

<sup>43</sup> These include: the Tripartite Meeting of Experts to Develop Joint ILO/WHO Guidelines on Health Services and HIV/AIDS, Geneva, 19-21 April 2005 (GB.293/6); the Tripartite Meeting on Promoting Fair Globalization in Textiles and Clothing in a Post-MFA Environment, Geneva, 24-26 October 2005 (GB.295/STM/3/1); the Tripartite Meeting of Experts on the ILO Multilateral Framework on Labour Migration, Geneva, 31 October-2 November 2005 (GB.295/STM/3/2).

<sup>44</sup> GB.294/12 and GB.295/13.

<sup>45</sup> GB.295/STM/3/4/1.

<sup>46</sup> GB.295/13.

<sup>47</sup> GB.294/STM/7/2.

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<sup>48</sup> GB.294/STM/4.

<sup>49</sup> The report of the Sixth Session of the Joint IMO/ILO Ad Hoc Expert Working Group on Liability and Compensation regarding Claims for Death, Personal Injury and Abandonment of Seafarers (London, 19-21 September 2005) (GB.295/STM/5) and the report of the Second Session of the Joint ILO/IMO/Basel Convention Working Group on Ship Scrapping, Geneva, 12-14 December 2005 (GB.295/STM/6/1).

<sup>50</sup> GB.295/STM/6/2.

<sup>51</sup> GB.295/STM/3/3.

<sup>52</sup> GB.295/13.

<sup>53</sup> GB.295/4.

<sup>54</sup> Question reworded as follows: “Strengthening the ILO’s capacity to discharge its core missions and promote decent work for all at the outset of the twenty-first century” (document GB.294/2/1(Add.)).

<sup>55</sup> GB.294/2/1 and GB.294/2/1(Add.).

<sup>56</sup> GB.295/16/5.

<sup>57</sup> GB.295/16/3.

<sup>58</sup> GB.294/2/2.

<sup>59</sup> GB.295/2.

<sup>60</sup> GB.294/4/1.

<sup>61</sup> GB.294/16/4.

<sup>62</sup> GB.295/6.

<sup>63</sup> See section IV above.



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