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2nd UPDATE - Ratification campaign 1997 Instrument of Amendment to the ILO Constitution

Mozambique, Mongolia, Poland and South Africa are among the countries that have taken concrete steps recently towards ratification or acceptance of the 1997 Instrument of Amendment to the ILO Constitution.

Please check the list (overleaf) to see whether your country could be another one to bring the ILO closer to the goal of entry into force by the end of 2007. At the current ILO membership of 180, only 25 more ratifications are needed for the amendment to become part of the Constitution (the threshold of at least 5 of the 10 States of chief industrial importance has already been reached).

What is the Amendment all about?

The Amendment is part of an overall thrust to enhance the relevance, impact and coherence of the body of ILO standards. It would make it possible for the Conference to abrogate (or “terminate” in the ILO) a Convention that it has declared obsolete.

The text would simply add a new paragraph 9 to article 19 of the Constitution, to read as follows:

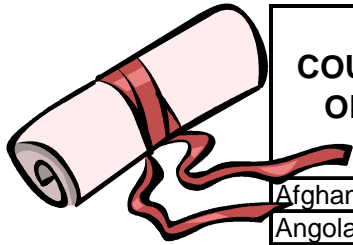
“By a majority of two-thirds of the votes of delegates present,

the Conference, acting on a proposal of the Governing Body, may abrogate any Convention adopted in accordance with the provisions of this article if it appears that the Convention has lost its purpose or that it no longer makes a useful contribution to attaining the objectives of the Organization.”

Guarantees for employers and workers are built into this initiative. These include the two-thirds majority by the tripartite Conference, and consultation of the social partners at the national level prior to the Conference. And even when a Convention is abrogated, countries can keep in place legislation or other measures related to it.

How to do it?

A Q-and-A brochure and more information about the simple ratification formalities is available from the Office of the Legal Adviser (Palais, C-310, tel. 76959) or its website: www.ilo.org/public/english/bureau/leg/. If your country has already ratified, please encourage those on the list to do the same.



COUNTRIES THAT HAVE NOT YET RATIFIED/ACCEPTED THE 1997 INSTRUMENT OF AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION

Afghanistan	Georgia	Papua New Guinea
Angola	Germany	Paraguay
Armenia	Ghana	Poland
Bahamas	Greece	Russian Federation
Belarus	Grenada	Rwanda
Belize	Guatemala	Saint Lucia
Bolivia	Haiti	Samoa
Bosnia and Herzgovina	Honduras	Sao Tome and Principe
Brazil	Indonesia	Senegal
Brunei Darussalam	Iran, Islamic Republic of	Serbia
Burkina Faso	Iraq	Sierra Leone
Burundi	Israel	Slovenia
Cameroon	Jamaica	Solomon Islands
Cape Verde	Kazakhstan	Somalia
Central African Republic	Kenya	South Africa
Chad	Kiribati	Sudan
Colombia	Kyrgyztan	Swaziland
Costa Rica	Latvia	Tanzania, United Republic of
Côte d'Ivoire	Lesotho	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Croatia	Liberia	Timor-Leste
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Madagascar	Tunisia
Djibouti	Mali	Turkmenistan
El Salvador	Mongolia	Uganda
Equatorial Guinea	Montenegro	Ukraine
Eritrea	Mozambique	United States
Fiji	Myanmar	Uruguay
Gabon	Niger	Uzbekistan
Gambia	Oman	Vanuatu
		Venezuela, Bolivarian Republic of

