

# Tripartite working group on full, equal and democratic participation in the ILO's tripartite governance

## ▶ Questionnaire

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At the first meeting of the Tripartite working group on full, equal and democratic participation in the ILO's tripartite governance (TWGD), which was held on 11 December 2020, it was agreed that the members of the working group would be invited to express their views on the understanding and scope of the notion of democratization of the ILO's governance for the purpose of informing the discussions of the second meeting of the working group to be held in January 2021 and developing a possible programme of future work.

Accordingly, the Office has prepared the following questionnaire, bearing in mind that the Centenary Declaration and its accompanying Resolution are the framework within which the TWGD should carry out its work. The Office would be grateful if the replies could be sent by Wednesday 6 January 2021 to [JUR@ilo.org](mailto:JUR@ilo.org).

1. Do you consider that the notion of democratization refers to aspirations of Member States regarding specific aspects of the functioning of governance organs, such as composition, decision-making, voting power, organization and access to meetings? Please elaborate and provide concrete examples.

The notion of democratization refers to aspiration of Member States in all functioning of governance organs relating to the issues highlighted above. It is a well known fact that African Group wishes to have permanent status in the ILO Governing Body.

2. Do you consider that 'democratization of tripartite governance' concerns the ILO Governing Body only or should also cover the International Labour Conference and other aspects of ILO governance?

It concerns all the governance structures. There would be no point in limiting democratization of tripartite governance to the ILO Governing Body only when the International Labour Conference is the highest governance structure and the other aspects of ILO Governance as well. Since all the structures complement each other in their different mandates it stands to reason that they should all operate under the principle.

3. Based on the above, which aspects of democratization – in addition to those addressed in the 1986 constitutional amendment – would you consider the TWGD should examine in priority? Please specify.

The appointment of the Director General by the ILC since this is the highest decision making body of the ILO as well as appointment of Committee of Experts on Application

of Conventions and Recommendations(CEACR) given that their work contributes to the work of the committee which is regarded as the backbone of the ILC.

4. In your view, which are the core principles that should be guiding ILO's action towards democratization of its governance? Please specify.

The equality of member states. In order for all member states to fully own the ILO and the principles that it stands for no member state should enjoy continuous membership of the ILO while others take turns. Understandably the membership contributions to the organization cannot be ignored. It would therefore be critical that this aspect be considered in earnest. For example, for purposes of considering member states' contribution towards ILO's BUDGET, the total contributions of a group could be considered as opposed to those of individual member states.

5. Do you have any concrete proposals for the second meeting of the TWGD and/or its future programme of work?

Identifying bottle necks within the ILO Governance system starting with the ILC, followed by the Governing Body. Propose possible solutions.