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Mthunzi Mdwaba written comments on items INS 21 and POL 4

INS 21:

Consistent with the decision point d) of GB.340/POL/4(Rev.1), it needs to be clarified that the decision to have or not an “Additional sectoral meetings listed in the appendix to GB.340/POL/4”, as listed in Appendix, has not been taken yet. The decision to include a 9th meeting in the programme of sectoral work should be considered by tripartite constituents in the framework of the consultations outlined in the present document.

POL 4:

Employers support the new terminology used in Para c) as it ensures that a coherent and coordinated approach is taken by the ILO to tackle the effects of Covid-19. Thus, SECTOR’s work should be fully in line and reflect ILO’s overall strategic plan as discussed and adopted by the GB. Employers would therefore not support the development of a myriad of strategies per sectors or topics. As mentioned during the consultations on this item, Employers also request that SECTOR’s ongoing programme is brought to the attention of the Sectoral Advisory Bodies so that Constituents can make inputs to it at its next session.

Consistent with previous GB discussions, para d) reflects the fact that the GB has not yet decided whether to have or not an additional meeting in the 2020-2021 sectoral programme of work: previous discussions did not mandate an additional meeting but only required that resources be kept in reserve to allow for one additional meeting if and when required. The decision to include a 9th meeting in the programme of work should be considered by tripartite constituents during the consultations outlined in GB340/INS/21. To prepare these consultations, we request that the Office prepares a detailed document outlining how virtual and hybrid sectoral meetings can take place in practice so that constituents can take an informed decision. This paper should also include information on the consequences of postponing meetings to 2022 and the consequences for the following biennium (2022-2023).