



Preparations for the 97th Session (June 2008) of the International Labour Conference

1. Further to the recommendation of its Working Group on the International Labour Conference, the Governing Body decided, at its 300th Session (November 2007), that the structure put in place for the 96th Session of the Conference in June 2007 should be used again for the next session of the Conference in June 2008, as reflected in the tentative plan of work reproduced in the appendix. It also endorsed a number of amendments proposed by the Working Group for the 97th Session (June 2008) concerning:
 - (i) the opportunity to bring forward the discussion on candidates for the Credentials Committee to a date before the beginning of the Conference, and to enable the Conference to establish the Credentials Committee immediately after the opening of the Conference;
 - (ii) the establishment of a Standing Orders Committee, which would be responsible for examining the *Interim provisions*,¹ in addition to other changes to the Standing Orders likely to facilitate the introduction of the proposed changes to the planning and organization of the Conference.²
2. In November 2007, the Working Group stressed again the need to improve time management in plenary sittings of the Conference. It also underlined the desirability of improving the discussion of the Global Report under the follow-up to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, possibly with the contribution of a moderator who could make the debate more interactive.

¹ *Interim provisions of the Standing Orders of the International Labour Conference concerning verification of credentials.*

² The amendments to the Standing Orders of the Conference implied by the changes already adopted by the Working Group are described in document GB.301/LILS/3(Rev.).

3. The Governing Body decided that, at its March session, the Working Group would hold a brief meeting to have a last look at the details of preparations for the Conference, taking into account the following elements:
 - (i) in the light of the relevant provisions of the Standing Orders,³ the 302nd Session of the Governing Body could be held immediately after the closure of the 97th Session of the International Labour Conference, on Friday, 13 June;
 - (ii) in the absence of a Resolutions Committee, the emergency procedure, which consists of referring to the Selection Committee any draft resolution not related to an item on the agenda, could continue to apply.
4. The Office is currently examining the issue of the production of the *Provisional Records* in English, French and Spanish in order to find a suitable solution.

Geneva, 7 March 2008.

Submitted for guidance.

³ See GB.301/LILS/3(Rev.).

Appendix

Tentative plan of work 97th Session (28 May–13 June 2008) of the International Labour Conference

	T 27	W 28	Th 29	F 30	S 31	M 2	T 3	W 4	Th 5	F 6	S 7	M 9	T 10	W 11	Th 12	F 13
Group meetings	■										■					
Plenary sittings		■								■ ²		■ ³	■ ³	■ ³	■ ³	■
GB elections						■										
Selection Committee		■ ¹														
Finance Committee							■	■		A				PI		
Committee on the Application of Standards		■ ¹	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■		A			PI
Committee on Strengthening the ILO's Capacity		■ ¹	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	□	A		PI		
Committee on Rural Employment for Poverty Reduction		■ ¹	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■		A		PI		
Committee on Skills Development		■ ¹	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■		A		PI		
Standing Orders Committee				■				A					PI			
Governing Body		■ ⁵									□					■ ⁴

¹ From 11 a.m.

² Discussion of the Global Report under the follow-up to the ILO Declaration.

³ Extended sitting if necessary.

⁴ On completion of the Conference.

⁵ Programme, Financial and Administrative Committee.

A Adoption by the Committee of its report.

PI Adoption of the report by the Conference in plenary sitting.

■ Half-day sitting.

■ All-day sitting.

□ Sitting if necessary.

