



Governing Body

312th Session, Geneva, November 2011

GB.312/LILS/1

Legal Issues and International Labour Standards Section
Legal Issues Segment

LILS

FIRST ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Promotion of the ratification of the 1986 Instrument of Amendment of the Constitution of the International Labour Organisation

Overview

Summary

This document contains up-to-date information on the follow-up by the Office to the request made by the Governing Body in November 2010 to relaunch the campaign to promote the ratification of the 1986 Instrument of Amendment.

Policy implications

None.

Legal implications

None until the entry into force of the Instrument of Amendment.

Financial implications

None.

Decision required

Paragraph 10.

Follow-up action required

Further actions for the promotion of the Amendment.

Author unit

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References to other Governing Body documents and ILO instruments

GB.309/PV.

1. The present document is a periodic report requested by the Governing Body at its 309th Session (November 2010)¹ on the action undertaken by the Office with regard to promoting ratification of the 1986 Instrument of Amendment of the Constitution of the International Labour Organisation.

Dedicated page on the ILO's website

2. During the first half of 2011, the Office of the Legal Adviser, in close collaboration with the Department of Communication and Public Information, enhanced significantly the electronic presentation of the promotional documents. A web page dedicated to the promotion of the ratification of the 1986 Instrument of Amendment² now contains the following elements:
 - (a) the full text of the 1986 Instrument of Amendment;
 - (b) a revised and more accessible version of "Questions and answers about the 1986 Instrument of Amendment to the ILO Constitution";
 - (c) a Record of Proceedings of the 72nd Session of the Conference (1986) consisting of the final record vote on the Instrument and the corresponding discussion in the plenary of the Conference;
 - (d) a complete list of member States that have ratified the 1986 Instrument, as well as those who have not yet ratified it;
 - (e) a sample format for an instrument of ratification or acceptance of the 1986 Instrument of Amendment.
3. The visibility and accessibility to this comprehensive information has been significantly improved by providing a direct link from the homepage of the ILO's public website.³

Explanatory brochure

4. A new explanatory brochure has been produced with questions and answers about the 1986 Instrument of Amendment to the ILO Constitution. Its content and layout have been prepared in close collaboration with the Department of Communication and Public Information. The brochure is available in English, French, Spanish, Russian, Arabic and Portuguese. The printed version can be requested from both ILO regular distribution of documents and the Office of the Legal Adviser. The electronic version can be downloaded from the abovementioned web page.

¹ GB.309/PV, para. 357.

² <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/bureau/leg/amend/qna1986.htm>.

³ See the section Quick Links on the ILO's homepage at <http://www.ilo.org/global/lang-en/index.htm#a2>.

Activities during the 100th Session of the Conference

5. The Office distributed the brochure to all Government delegations attending the Conference and engaged in discussions with various delegations with a view to promoting the ratification of the Instrument of Amendment.

A written communication to all permanent missions in Geneva

6. In August and early September 2011 the Office sent a *Note verbale* to all permanent missions of ILO member States in Geneva. It recalled the invitation addressed by the Governing Body to member States to ratify the Instrument of Amendment, brought to the attention of the permanent missions the new dedicated web page, and was accompanied by a copy of the brochure.

Promotion during the Regional Meetings

7. The Office will use the opportunity of the 12th African Regional Meeting and the 15th Asia and the Pacific Regional Meeting to further promote the ratification of the Instrument of Amendment. An oral update will be provided to the Governing Body during the current session.

Status of ratifications

8. To enter into force, the 1986 Instrument of Amendment must be ratified or accepted by two-thirds of ILO member States, including at least five of the ten Members of chief industrial importance. As there are currently 183 member States, the 1986 Amendment needs to be ratified by 122 of them. As of 18 August 2011, 95 ratifications or acceptances were registered of which two were from Members of chief industrial importance.
9. A further 27 ratifications are therefore required for the 1986 Amendment to enter into force. This must include at least three more ratifications from Members of chief industrial importance.
10. *The Governing Body may wish to take note of the progress report and to provide further guidance in respect of action aimed at the promotion of the ratification of the 1986 Instrument of Amendment of the Constitution of the International Labour Organisation.*

Geneva, 24 August 2011

Point for decision: Paragraph 10