



Governing Body

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Working Party on the Functioning of the Governing Body
and the International Labour Conference

WP/GBC

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THIRD ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Review of the role and functioning of the Regional Meetings

1. At its 329th Session (March 2017), the Working Party on the Functioning of the Governing Body and the International Labour Conference (ILC) considered a document¹ which provided ideas for possible improvements relating to the role and functioning of Regional Meetings. On the recommendation of the Working Party, the Governing Body decided: (a) to pursue its review of the role and functioning of Regional Meetings; and (b) to request the Office to prepare further proposals for consideration at this session of the Governing Body, taking into account the views expressed and the guidance provided during the discussion.²
2. The discussion so far has shown that constituents are generally satisfied with the current format and functioning of Regional Meetings as they have developed in recent years. The Rules for Regional Meetings provide the necessary flexibility, which constituents generally wish to maintain. Accordingly, this document, which follows the structure of the document discussed in March 2017, proposes only a limited number of amendments to the texts governing Regional Meetings, mostly to the non-binding Introductory Note to the *Rules for Regional Meetings* rather than to the Rules themselves. On the question of the representation of non-metropolitan territories at Regional Meetings, the document offers additional considerations to facilitate further discussions.
3. Once there is agreement on the substantive amendments required to the Rules for Regional Meetings and the Introductory Note, the Office could prepare a consolidated version of the texts with additional amendments that may be considered useful to enhance their clarity and consistency.

I. Role and mandate of Regional Meetings

4. There appears to be agreement that Regional Meetings should limit discussion to a single agenda item related to the programming and implementation of ILO activities in the region concerned. As has been seen in recent years, the scope of this single agenda item is wide

¹ [GB.329/WP/GBC/4\(Rev.\)](#).

² [GB.329/INS/18](#), para. 13.

enough to allow the discussions to focus on a limited number of themes identified in the Report of the Director-General and to accommodate specific mandates conferred upon Regional Meetings by the Governing Body, such as the promotion and implementation of the Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy (MNE Declaration) at the regional level and discussion on action taken to implement the Transition from the Informal to the Formal Economy Recommendation, 2015 (No. 204), requested by the Conference resolution accompanying the Recommendation. Regional Meetings could also be an appropriate forum to discuss ways and means for achieving the full potential of the ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization (Social Justice Declaration).

5. To clarify that there is no contradiction between having a single agenda item and discussing specific questions referred to Regional Meetings, it may be useful to reflect these possibilities in section 1 of the Introductory Note to the Rules for Regional Meetings as follows:

1. Purpose and length of Regional Meetings

Regional Meetings support the global governance of the ILO. They serve to adapt the global strategies decided by the International Labour Conference and the Governing Body at the regional level thus enhancing the ILO capacity, pursuant to the Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization, 2008, to achieve the strategic objectives by bringing it closer to regional and national realities. In this context, Regional Meetings offer the opportunity for tripartite delegations to express their views on the programming and implementation of the ILO's regional activities. Discussions may be structured around themes identified in the Report of the Director-General and may also address a limited number of topical questions as may be determined by the Governing Body. Group meetings are held before the start of the discussion in plenary of the single agenda item related to ILO activities in the region concerned. Groups may meet at any other time at their request. The Meeting lasts four days unless the Governing Body decides otherwise.

II. Form and nature of the outcome document

6. The formulation of the outcome document as a short and action-oriented set of conclusions reflecting the meeting's consensus on regional priorities appears to enjoy broad support. It is proposed to slightly revise article 3 of the Rules and section 6 of the Introductory Note while not limiting the discretion of Regional Meetings to deviate from this model, when appropriate and justified by circumstances.

ARTICLE 3

Form of decisions of Regional Meetings

3. Subject to any specific indication by the Governing Body to the contrary, the decisions of Regional Meetings shall take the form of ~~resolutions~~ conclusions on matters relating to the item(s) on the agenda, ~~conclusions or resolutions or~~ reports addressed to the Governing Body.

6. Form, nature and evaluation of results

The decisions of Regional Meetings normally take the form of conclusions, reports or resolutions relating to the item on the agenda (article 3). Conclusions are prepared by a drafting group which consists of an equal number of Government, Employer and Worker delegates. Decisions ~~will be~~ are taken by consensus whenever practicable or, if not possible, by a simple

majority vote, normally by show of hands (article 12, paragraphs 3 and 4). While there is no provision for a record vote or secret ballot, the Rules do not exclude voting by such means.

...

III. Composition of Regional Meetings

7. At the last session of the Governing Body, the Working Party discussed four possible options concerning the participation in a Regional Meeting of member States from another region responsible for the external relations of territories located in the region covered by the Regional Meeting: (a) maintaining the current arrangements whereby each member State is invited as full member to one Regional Meeting, except in the case of member States responsible for the external relations of territories located in a different region, or whose territory spreads over more than one geographical region, who would be invited as full members to any Regional Meeting in which they held such territorial interests; (b) drawing a list of States and territories to be invited as full members of each region, having regard to the specificity of each of the four regions and of the territories located in those regions; (c) adopting the principle that a member State can participate as a full member of one Regional Meeting only, with the right to attend as observer States being afforded to member States responsible for the external relations of territories located in a different region, or whose territory spreads over more than one geographical region, to any Regional Meeting in which they hold such territorial interests; and (d) adopting the principle that each member State would be invited as full member to only one Regional Meeting, with the Governing Body having the discretion of inviting on a case-by-case basis any member State and territory, as either a full member or observer to any Regional Meeting.
8. It has been clarified that option (b), which did not receive any support, is not an independent option in that it does not specify according to which principles the lists would be established. The other three options were supported by different governments, except that option (d) was supported in a modified form, where the discretion of the Governing Body would be limited to inviting additional States as observers only and not as full members of the Meeting. To facilitate the Governing Body's further consideration of this matter, it might be helpful to provide some additional clarifications.
9. First, constitutional changes in certain countries would require a careful review of the situation of those Members whose territory spreads over more than one geographical region or those which are responsible for the external relations of territories located in a different region. For instance, under the practice based on a Governing Body decision of March 2001, France is invited to the African Regional Meeting as a Member responsible for the external relations of non-metropolitan territories situated in the African region. By non-metropolitan territories, reference is made to Mayotte and La Réunion which today are, however, both overseas departments, and are therefore an integral part of the territory of the French Republic (and also part of the European Union).³ The Netherlands is invited to the Regional Meeting of the Americas as Member responsible for the foreign relations of non-metropolitan territories situated in that region; however, the Netherlands Antilles have been replaced by Aruba, Curaçao and Saint Maarten, which are three autonomous countries constituent parts of the Kingdom of the Netherlands – a unique constitutional arrangement which carries the characteristics of a federal state or a confederation. In both cases, it would be more accurate to refer to those member States as Members whose territory spreads over

³ Similarly, in the Americas, French Guyana, Guadeloupe and Martinique now enjoy the status of overseas departments and are thus considered as integral parts of France.

more than one geographical region rather than Members responsible for external relations of non-metropolitan territories located in a different region.

10. Secondly, the term “non-metropolitan territory”, foreseen in article 35 of the ILO Constitution, reflects today the constitutional status of a very limited number of territorial entities. In the early days of the Organization, as many as 124 territories were classified as non-metropolitan territories, including 67 territories that have since acceded to independence. Presently, nine member States are responsible for the international relations of a total of 33 non-metropolitan territories.⁴
11. Thirdly, the possibility foreseen in the Rules for Regional Meetings for non-metropolitan territories to be represented at the Meeting through a separate tripartite delegation has been used in recent years only by China with respect to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and Macau Special Administrative Region.⁵
12. Fourthly, the nature of Regional Meetings has itself evolved. Originally convened as regional conferences, they have been shortened and transformed to meetings with a limited agenda and involving practically no decision-making except the adoption of final conclusions.
13. Having regard in particular to the evolving nature of Regional Meetings, the decreasing representation of non-metropolitan territories in Regional Meetings, and the infrequent participation of Members whose territory spreads over more than one region, or of Members responsible for the external relations of non-metropolitan territories located in a different region, in more than one Regional Meeting, the Working Party on the Functioning of the Governing Body and the ILC might wish to examine the possibility of further simplifying the rules on the composition of Regional Meetings. To this end, it could confirm that: (i) the coverage of the ILO regional offices remains the basic criterion; and (ii) all Members would be invited as full members to one Regional Meeting and could attend any other Regional Meeting in an observer capacity. For those Members whose territory extends to more than one continent, this arrangement should not be deemed to affect in any manner the territorial or constitutional status of their constituent entities.
14. This approach would imply the following amendments to section 3 of the Introductory Note and article 1 of the Rules:

3. Composition

Subject to the discretion of the Governing Body, the composition of each Regional Meeting is determined on the basis of States ~~and territories (or States responsible for the territories)~~ which are served by the following four ILO regional offices: Regional Office for

⁴ In one of the most recent developments, Australia announced its intention to cease to consider Norfolk Island as a non-metropolitan territory.

⁵ At the 14th (2006) and 15th (2011) Asia and the Pacific Regional Meetings, both Hong Kong, China and Macau, were represented by separate delegations while at the 16th (2016) Regional Meeting only Hong Kong, China, participated with a separate delegation. It should be noted, in this connection, that at the time of transfer of sovereignty over Hong Kong and Macau, the Government of China declared that the Special Administrative Regions (SARs) of Hong Kong and Macau should not be deemed to be non-metropolitan territories but that with respect to participation in ILO activities and application of international labour Conventions, the relevant articles of the ILO Constitution would be applied by analogy to the two SARs. Furthermore, a similar possibility allowing non-metropolitan territories to be represented at the Conference through separate delegations – based on a Governing Body decision taken in 1954 – has been last used in 2003 by the United Kingdom with respect to Bermuda.

Asia and the Pacific (including the States covered by the Regional Office for Arab States); Regional Office for the Americas; Regional Office for Africa; and Regional Office for Europe. Each Member may participate in the Regional Meeting of one region and may attend in an observer capacity the Regional Meetings of any other region.

Article 1 of the Rules provides for the composition of the delegations of States ~~or territories~~ invited to the Meeting. As regards advisers, account should be taken of the fact that there is only one item on the agenda. ~~Additional advisers may be appointed in the delegation of a State responsible for a territory that has not sent a separate tripartite delegation to the Meeting.~~

~~Member States from a different region, non-member States which are not Members of the International Labour Organization and~~ official international organizations or non-governmental international organizations of universal or regional character may also be represented at Regional Meetings on the basis of individual or standing invitations of the Governing Body. ...

ARTICLE 1

Composition of Regional Meetings

1. Regional Meetings shall be convened from time to time in each of the following regions: Asia and the Pacific including Arab States, the Americas, Africa and Europe.

~~2.~~ Each Regional Meeting shall be composed of two Government delegates, one Employers' delegate, and one Workers' delegate for each ~~State or territory~~ Member of the region invited by the Governing Body of the International Labour Office to be represented at it. Acceptance by a ~~State or territory~~ Member of an invitation to be represented at a Regional Meeting implies that it assumes responsibility for the travel and subsistence expenses of its tripartite delegation.

...

6. The composition of each Regional Meeting shall be determined on the basis of the coverage of the four ILO regional offices. Each Member shall participate in the Regional Meetings of one region only and may be represented at all other Regional Meetings by an observer delegation.

~~7.~~ Any ~~Member of the International Labour Organization from a different region and any~~ State which is not a Member of the International Labour Organization which has been invited by the Governing Body of the International Labour Office may be represented at the Meeting by an observer delegation.

...

IV. Participation rights

15. The proposed revision of article 10 of the Rules to allow the flexibility needed to permit interventions of invited external participants, such as experts or panel moderators who are not members of national delegations or entities invited as observers, received some support. A new paragraph 8 to be inserted at the end of article 10 could read as follows:

8. When the meeting conducts discussions in the form of interactive debates, invited persons not belonging to one of the categories of persons listed in paragraph 3 shall be allowed to participate in the discussion and the Chairperson may delegate to such persons the authority to direct the debates. Article 10, paragraph 7, does not apply to such debates.

16. It was suggested that a revision of the Rules could also clarify the rights of advisers to speak in plenary. It is therefore proposed to insert a new subparagraph 4(2) in article 1 of the Rules, which would be a simplified version of article 3(6) of the Constitution, applicable to advisers at the ILC:

(2) Advisers may speak only on a request made by the delegate whom they accompany and may not vote.

V. Duration, frequency and venue

17. There was no support for dropping the four-day default duration of Regional Meetings from section 1 of the Introductory Note. For some, four days were considered to be the maximum a Regional Meeting should last, while for others it was the acceptable minimum. Nor was there support for including provisions on the timing and periodicity of the Meetings in the Rules.
18. As regards the host country of a Regional Meeting, the proposal that the Rules could provide for a standard agreement for hosting a Regional Meeting whose conclusion would be mandatory for any State wishing to host a Regional Meeting has received considerable support. Rather than imposing a model agreement whose text would be mandatory in its entirety, it is proposed to leave some flexibility to host States and to require only a limited number of standard clauses that the agreement for hosting a Regional Meeting – to be finalized prior to the Governing Body deciding on the venue – would have to contain. This requirement could be included in article 2(2) of the Rules:

2. The Governing Body shall decide upon the date and the venue of a Regional Meeting. A member State which offers to host a Regional Meeting shall guarantee – prior to the Governing Body deciding on the venue – at least the level of protection afforded under the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies, 1947, including its Annex I concerning the International Labour Organization. It shall conclude an agreement with the International Labour Office incorporating the standard clauses set out in the annex to these Rules.

19. The proposed annex to the Rules appears in the appendix to this document.
20. In addition, section 2 of the Introductory Note could be amended, firstly, to better reflect the reality that most Regional Meetings are not held in the State hosting the Regional Office and, secondly, to convey the expectation that the State hosting the Regional Meeting should contribute financially and in-kind to the organization of the Regional Meeting:

2. Date, frequency and place of Regional Meetings

Normally, a Regional Meeting is held each year in one of the four regions in the following order: Asia and the Pacific, the Americas, Africa and Europe. Regional Meetings are ~~in principle~~ held in the country where the relevant ILO regional office is located, unless the Governing Body accepts the offer of another member State of the region to host a Meeting. Any member State hosting a Regional Meeting shall guarantee at least the level of protection afforded under the 1947 Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies and its Annex I concerning the ILO by concluding a specific agreement for the purposes of the Regional Meeting that includes at a minimum the clauses set out in the annex to the Rules. The agreement shall also detail the financial and in-kind contribution required from the member State for the conduct of the Meeting.

VI. Credentials

21. The proposals in relation to the verification of credentials were received positively by the Working Party, except the proposal to prepare the Credentials Committee's report in one language only. Two of those proposals require amendments to the Introductory Note, namely to advance the deadline for the deposit of credentials from 15 to 21 days before the opening

of the meeting, aligning it with that of the ILC, and to bring forward the publication of the preliminary list of participants, and to set an absolute time limit of 24 hours for the reception of government explanations and ensuring that all communications are made by electronic means. With the proposed amendments, section 5 of the Introductory Note would read as follows:

5. *Credentials*

In view of the short duration of the Meetings, the credentials of delegates and their advisers must be submitted ~~15-21~~ days before the opening date of the Meeting (article 1, paragraph 3). A preliminary list of participants is published electronically ~~a two~~ weeks before the opening of the Meeting. Two additional lists are made available at the Meeting: a provisional list of credentials of delegations by the scheduled time for the opening of the Meeting, and a final list of accredited delegations on the morning of the last day of the Meeting. The Office will also publish electronically on the last day a list of persons who actually registered at the Meeting.

Under article 9, the Credentials Committee is competent to receive and examine objections alleging non-observance of article 1, paragraph 2 (designations made in agreement with the most representative organizations of employers and workers in the State or territory concerned); time permitting, complaints alleging the non-payment of travel and subsistence expenses (article 1, paragraph 1); and communications.

Objections are to be submitted within two hours after the scheduled time for the opening of the Meeting, although the Committee may find valid reason to accept a late objection (article 9, paragraph 3(a)). In order to facilitate the work of the Credentials Committee under time constraints, objections (and complaints) should be submitted as soon as possible, even before the publication of the name of the delegate or adviser whose credentials are impugned.

Any receivable objection or complaint is communicated by the Credentials Committee to the Government concerned requesting it to provide comments within a set time-limit that is normally of 24 hours or less. The Committee may reject comments provided after the expiry of the time-limit.

The Credentials Committee submits a report to the Meeting under article 9, paragraph 4 which shall be brought to the attention of the Governing Body. There is no discussion of the report at the plenary of the Meeting.

22. In addition, article 1, paragraph 3, of the Rules would require the following amendment:

3. The credentials of delegates and their advisers at Regional Meetings shall be deposited with the International Labour Office at least ~~fifteen (15)~~ 21 days before the date fixed for the opening of the Meeting.

23. At a recent Regional Meeting, it was noted that article 9 of the Rules did not contain a provision corresponding to article 26bis, paragraph 1(c) of the Standing Orders of the Conference according to which an objection is irreceivable if the author of the objection is serving as adviser to the delegate to whose nomination objection is taken. It appears that this provision was inserted in the Conference Standing Orders in 1959 and was never replicated in the Rules for Regional Meetings, whose first version (for Regional Conferences) dates back to 1948. There seems to be no justification for this discrepancy since the rationale of the provision applies equally to Regional Meetings, that is, preventing a person who has accepted to serve as adviser to a delegate from contesting the validity of that delegate's appointment, as this would be contradictory conduct warranting estoppel. It is therefore proposed to insert a new subparagraph 3(c) of article 9 of the Rules worded as follows:

(c) the author of the objection is not serving as adviser to the delegate to whose nomination objection is taken;

VII. Format and working methods of Regional Meetings

Format

24. It is proposed to reflect in the Introductory Note the importance attached by constituents to the flexibility and adaptation of the format of Regional Meetings to the specific circumstances and needs of each region or the examination of topical issues as may be identified by the Conference or the Governing Body, as well as the constituents' wish to be involved at an early stage in the preparatory process and ensure an efficient use of ILO resources. An additional paragraph could therefore be added in section 1 to read:

1. Purpose and length of Regional Meetings

...

Flexibility and tripartite ownership are two key aspects of the functioning of Regional Meetings. Timely tripartite preparatory consultations on the format and working methods of Regional Meetings are necessary to promote constituents' engagement at an early stage, and to ensure that the discussions take place in a practical and interactive format making an efficient use of ILO resources and aiming at an action-oriented and effective outcome.

Gender balance in representation

25. The proposals made under this heading at the last session of the Governing Body were largely supported, except the proposal involving the publication of data and performance rankings of Members according to the gender parity of their delegations. Those proposals do not require amendments to the Rules. However, considering that the principle of gender parity in delegations does not appear in the Rules or the Introductory Note, it is proposed to include a specific provision in article 1 of the Rules and section 3 of the Introductory Note to read as follows:

ARTICLE 1

Composition of Regional Meetings

...

3. Members shall include men and women delegates and advisers in their delegation and shall strive to ensure their equal representation.

...

3. Composition

Pursuant to the Conference resolutions concerning the participation of women in ILO meetings and the United Nations Economic and Social Council Resolution 1990/15 of 24 May 1990, the ILO is committed to promoting gender equality. At Regional Meetings, Members should seek to include men and women delegates and advisers in their delegations and should strive to ensure their equal representation. Tripartite constituents should continue to increase the representation of women in their respective delegations placing a particular focus on women in leadership positions.

Languages

26. The working languages of Regional Meetings vary from two to five depending on the region. Due to the short duration, the timely translation of all documents prepared during the Meeting in all working languages represents a serious challenge. It is proposed that a new section be added in the Introductory Note to clarify recent practice, as follows:

7. Languages

The Governing Body determines the working languages of the Meeting (article 13). The working languages by region are: Arabic, English and French for the African Regional Meeting; English and Spanish for the American Regional Meeting; Arabic, Chinese and English for the Asia and the Pacific Regional Meeting; and English, French, German, Russian and Spanish for the European Regional Meeting. With the exception of the outcome document(s) of the Meeting, documents prepared during the Meeting such as the Credential Committee's report are, for reasons of time and cost efficiency, produced in-session in English, French and/or Spanish, as applicable to the particular meeting, and translated into the other working languages of the meeting and official languages of the ILO after the close of the Meeting. A draft report of the meeting is made available after the closure of the meeting in English, French and/or Spanish as applicable to the particular meeting, and is finalized in the other working languages of the meeting after any period decided for the submission of corrections.

Draft decision

27. *The Working Party recommends to the Governing Body that it:*

- (a) *take note of the proposed amendments to the Rules for Regional Meetings and the Introductory Note in paragraphs 5, 6, 14–16, 18 and 20–26;*
- (b) *request the Office to prepare for its consideration at the 332nd Session (March 2018) a consolidated version of the Rules for Regional Meetings and the Introductory Note with any additional proposed amendments based on the guidance provided during the discussion for referral to a future session of the Conference for confirmation.*

Appendix

Standard clauses of agreement for hosting a Regional Meeting

Organization

1. The venue of the Meeting will be considered as premises of the ILO for the purpose of Article III, section 5, of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies.
2. Except as specifically provided herein, the ILO shall have the full responsibility for organizing and conducting the Meeting in accordance with the ILO Rules for Regional Meetings and other applicable ILO regulations, rules and practices.
3. Without limitation to the preceding paragraph, the ILO shall in particular be solely responsible for:
 - (i) granting accreditation to participants in the Meeting under the applicable rules and practices of the ILO;
 - (ii) governing the preparation for, and conduct of, the Meeting in accordance with the ILO's Rules for Regional Meetings; and
 - (iii) preparing the Meeting programme.
4. The Government shall provide support to the ILO in protocol and security matters, including as regards the reception and due treatment of Heads of State, Heads of Government and Government Ministers attending the Meeting.

Privileges, immunities and facilities

1. The Government shall apply to the ILO, its property, funds and assets, to its officials and experts, and to all representatives of member States, observers and eminent public figures invited to the Meeting, the provisions of the Convention on the Privileges and Immunities of the Specialized Agencies and Annex I relating to the ILO.
2. The Government shall ensure expeditious procedures to facilitate the travel to and from, and stay in [name of host country], for all persons enumerated in the preceding paragraph, as well as members of their families, throughout the duration of their functions, mission(s) or stay(s) in connection with, or incidental to, the Meeting.
3. All persons enumerated in paragraph [x] shall have the right to entry into and exit from [name of host country] and no impediment shall be imposed on their transit to and from the Meeting venue.
4. Government consular representatives abroad shall be given instruction to grant visas to ILO officials and representatives of member States invited to the Meeting without delay or waiting period, without requiring the personal attendance of the applicant or the payment of charges. The ILO shall make the names of the ILO officials and eminent public figures available to the Government, as well as the official list of delegations published by the ILO which can serve as the basis for verification of delegations of member States. All other persons enumerated in paragraph [x] shall be issued visas in an expeditious procedure.
5. The Government shall take every necessary and appropriate measure towards providing adequate security throughout the Meeting in close cooperation with the ILO and, in particular, in full respect of the privileges and immunities of the ILO.

6. The Government shall make appropriate administrative arrangements for the remission or return of the amount of consumption tax or other tax or duty which may be chargeable on the purchase by the ILO of goods or services for official use in connection with the Meeting.

Logo and name

1. The Parties agree that the sole logo of the Meeting shall be the logo created by the ILO. The ILO owns all intellectual property rights contained in the logo.
2. The ILO grants to the Government, and the Government accepts, an exclusive worldwide non-transferable licence to use the Meeting logo only for purposes relating to the hosting and successful accomplishment of the Meeting.
3. Except as expressly provided in this Agreement, neither the Government, nor any other entity acting on its behalf, shall use the name or the emblem of the ILO, in any form or for any purpose, without the prior written authorization of the ILO.
4. Except as expressly provided herein, neither the Government, nor any other entity acting on its behalf, shall use the title of the Meeting, namely "...” or any acronym thereof, without the prior written approval of the ILO.

Liability

The Government shall indemnify and hold harmless the ILO in respect of any action, claim or demand for any injury or damage that might occur to the persons or facilities provided by the Government except where such injury or damage is caused by the gross negligence or wilful misconduct of the ILO or its officials.

Amendment

The Parties may modify any of the terms of this Agreement, except the provisions concerning the privileges and immunities of the ILO and its intellectual property, by mutual written agreement signed by their authorized representatives.

Settlement of disputes

The Parties shall use their best efforts to settle amicably all disputes, controversies or claims arising out of, or in connection with, this Agreement or the interpretation thereof. Any disputes, controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this Agreement shall be resolved through direct negotiations between the Parties.

Cancellation, postponement or termination

1. The ILO, as an intergovernmental organization, may be called upon by its Governing Body to postpone, cancel or move the Meeting. In such an event, the ILO will accordingly inform the Government of such a decision. The Agreement shall immediately terminate and each Party shall be responsible for its own costs.
2. If the Meeting is cancelled or postponed by mutual decision of the Government and the ILO, including in the event of force majeure, this Agreement shall immediately terminate and each Party shall be responsible for its own costs.
3. In the event of cancellation, interruption, postponement or change of venue of the Meeting by either Party, the other Party shall have the right to terminate this Agreement. The Parties shall consult each other at least thirty (30) days prior to such termination. In case of any such termination, each Party shall be responsible for its own costs.