

General Affairs Committee

Date: 03 June 2022

► Proposed resolution on the inclusion of a safe and healthy working environment in the ILO's framework of fundamental principles and rights at work

Resolution on the inclusion of a safe and healthy working environment in the ILO's framework of fundamental principles and rights at work

The General Conference of the International Labour Organization, meeting at its 110th Session, 2022,

Recalling the adoption at its 86th Session (1998) of the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, which marked a defining moment for the realization of the Organization's objectives;

Recalling the ILO Centenary Declaration for the Future of Work, adopted in 2019 with a view to promoting a human-centred approach to the future of work and shaping a future of work that realizes the Organization's founding vision, in which the Conference declared that safe and healthy working conditions are fundamental to decent work;

Mindful of the vital importance of occupational safety and health, as compellingly demonstrated by the COVID-19 pandemic and its profound and transformative impact on the world of work;

Noting that a safe and healthy working environment requires the active participation of governments, employers and workers through a system of defined rights, responsibilities and duties, as well as through social dialogue and cooperation;

Desirous to include a safe and healthy working environment in the ILO's framework of fundamental principles and rights at work as a means of furthering the visibility and impact of the ILO's core values and Decent Work Agenda;

Considering that this should take the form of an amendment to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work,

1. Decides to amend paragraph 2 of the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work to include, after the words "the elimination of discrimination in respect of

employment and occupation”, the words “and (e) a safe and healthy working environment”, and to make the consequential amendments to the Annex to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work as well as to the ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization and to the Global Jobs Pact, as specified in the Annex to the present resolution;

2. Decides that the above-mentioned instruments should henceforth be referred to as the “ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, as amended”, the “ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization, as amended” and the “Global Jobs Pact, as amended”;
3. Declares that the Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 (No. 155) and the Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 2006 (No. 187) shall be considered as fundamental Conventions within the meaning of the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, as amended;
4. Invites the Governing Body to take all appropriate action with a view to introducing certain amendments consequential upon the adoption of the present resolution to all relevant international labour standards, the Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy, and the ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization, as appropriate; and
5. Declares that nothing in this resolution shall be construed as affecting in any unintended manner the rights and obligations of a Member arising from existing trade and investment agreements between States.

Annex

Consequential amendments to the Annex to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work

Part II

A. Purpose and scope

[...]

2. The follow-up will cover the ~~four~~ five categories of fundamental principles and rights specified in the Declaration.

Part III

A. Purpose and scope

1. The purpose of the Global Report is to provide a dynamic global picture relating to the ~~four~~ five categories of fundamental principles and rights at work noted during the preceding period, and to serve as a basis for assessing the effectiveness of the assistance provided by the Organization, and for determining priorities for the following period, including in the form of action plans for technical cooperation designed in particular to mobilize the internal and external resources necessary to carry them out.

Consequential amendment to the ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization

Fourth preambular paragraph

Convinced that the International Labour Organization has a key role to play in helping to promote and achieve progress and social justice in a constantly changing environment: [...]

- drawing on and reaffirming the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work ~~and its Follow-up (1998), as amended,~~ in which Members recognized, in the discharge of the Organization's mandate, the particular significance of the fundamental rights, namely: freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining, the elimination of all forms of forced or compulsory labour, the effective abolition of child labour, ~~and~~ the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation, and a safe and healthy working environment;

Consequential amendments to the Global Jobs Pact

Paragraph 9

9. Action must be guided by the Decent Work Agenda and commitments made by the ILO and its constituents in the ~~2008~~ ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization, as amended. [...]

Paragraph 14

14. International labour standards create a basis for and support rights at work and contribute to building a culture of social dialogue particularly useful in times of crisis. In order to prevent a downward spiral in labour conditions and build the recovery, it is especially important to recognize that:

- (1) Respect for fundamental principles and rights at work is critical for human dignity. It is also critical for recovery and development. Consequently, it is necessary to increase:
 - (i) vigilance to achieve the elimination and prevention of an increase in forms of forced labour, child labour and discrimination at work, as well as to achieve a safe and healthy working environment; and
 - (ii) respect for freedom of association, the right to organize and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining as enabling mechanisms to productive social dialogue in times of increased social tension, in both the formal and informal economies.

Paragraph 28

The ILO commits to allocating the necessary human and financial resources and working with other agencies to assist constituents who request such support to utilize the Global Jobs Pact. In doing so, the ILO will be guided by the ~~2008~~ ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization, as amended, and accompanying resolution.