

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE

REPORT FORM

FOR THE

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING CONVENTION, 1981 (No. 154)

The present report form is for the use of countries which have ratified the Convention. It has been approved by the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, in accordance with article 22 of the ILO Constitution, which reads as follows: "Each of the Members agrees to make an annual report to the International Labour Office on the measures which it has taken to give effect to the provisions of Conventions to which it is a party. These reports shall be made in such form and shall contain such particulars as the Governing Body may request."

Annexed to this report form will be found the text of a Recommendation whose provisions supplement those of the present Convention. The sole object of appending the text of this Recommendation to the report form is to contribute to a better understanding of the requirements laid down in the Convention and to facilitate its application.

The Government is under no obligation to supply in its report on the application of the Convention information on the measures which may have been taken to give effect to the Recommendation as such; however, if the Government deems it useful to supply such information in its report, by way of information on practical application, this would make it possible to assess more precisely the extent to which the Convention is applied and the problems which may have arisen in its application.

REPORT

for the period to , made by the Government of
. , in accordance with article 22 of the
Constitution of the International Labour Organisation, on the measures taken to give
effect to the provisions of the

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING CONVENTION, 1981 (No. 154)

ratification of which was registered on

I. Please indicate if the Articles of the Convention are given effect:

- by legislation;
- by other means (e.g. collective agreements, arbitral decisions, policies or plans for action adopted by employers' and workers' organisations and/or by public authorities in order to promote collective bargaining).

If by legislation, please list the constitutional, legislative, administrative or other provisions implementing the Articles of the Convention. Please attach copies of the various provisions to the report, unless these have already been communicated to the International Labour Office.

If by other means, please indicate how the Articles of the Convention are implemented. Please attach to the report copies of the main national agreements designed to regulate collective labour relations, the main documents setting out policies adopted (e.g. codes of conduct), etc., unless these have already been communicated to the International Labour Office.

Please give any available information concerning the extent to which these laws and administrative regulations, etc., and the other means mentioned above have been adopted or modified to permit of, or as a result of, ratification.

II. Please indicate in detail for each of the following Articles of the Convention the provisions of the above-mentioned legislation and administrative regulations, etc., or other measures, under which each Article is applied. Please also give the information specifically requested below under each Article.

If in your country ratification of the Convention gives the force of national law to its terms please indicate by virtue of what constitutional provisions the ratification has had this effect. Please also specify what action has been taken to make effective those provisions of the Convention which require a national authority to take certain specific steps for its implementation, such as measures to define its exact scope and measures to promote collective bargaining.

If the Committee of Experts or the Conference Committee on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations have requested additional information or made an observation on the measures adopted to apply the Convention, please supply the information asked for or indicate the action taken by your Government to settle the points in question.

Article 1

1. This Convention applies to all branches of economic activity.
2. The extent to which the guarantees provided for in this Convention apply to the armed forces and the police may be determined by national laws or regulations or national practice.
3. As regards the public service, special modalities of application of this Convention may be fixed by national laws or regulations or national practice.

Please indicate to what extent the guarantees laid down in the Convention apply to the armed forces and the police.

Please indicate whether special modalities of application of the Convention have been fixed for all or part of the public service. If so, please indicate what modalities and to whom they apply.

Article 2

For the purpose of this Convention the term "collective bargaining" extends to all negotiations which take place between an employer, a group of employers or one or more employers' organisations, on the one hand, and one or more workers' organisations, on the other, for—

- (a) determining working conditions and terms of employment; and/or
- (b) regulating relations between employers and workers; and/or
- (c) regulating relations between employers or their organisations and a workers' organisation or workers' organisations.

Article 3

1. Where national law or practice recognises the existence of workers' representatives as defined in Article 3, subparagraph (b), of the Workers' Representatives Convention, 1971, national law or practice may determine the extent to which the term "collective bargaining" shall also extend, for the purpose of this Convention, to negotiations with these representatives.

2. Where, in pursuance of paragraph 1 of this Article, the term "collective bargaining" also includes negotiations with the workers' representatives referred to in that paragraph, appropriate measures shall be taken, wherever necessary, to ensure that the existence of these representatives is not used to undermine the position of the workers' organisations concerned.

Please indicate to what extent the Convention applies to bargaining with workers' representatives as defined in Article 3, subparagraph (b), of the Workers' Representatives Convention, 1971.

Please indicate any measures taken to ensure that the existence of these representatives is not used to undermine the position of the workers' organisations concerned.

Article 4

The provisions of this Convention shall, in so far as they are not otherwise made effective by means of collective agreements, arbitration awards or in such other manner as may be consistent with national practice, be given effect by national laws or regulations.

Article 5

1. Measures adapted to national conditions shall be taken to promote collective bargaining.

2. The aims of the measures referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall be the following:

- (a) collective bargaining should be made possible for all employers and all groups of workers in the branches of activity covered by this Convention;
- (b) collective bargaining should be progressively extended to all matters covered by subparagraphs (a), (b) and (c) of Article 2 of this Convention;
- (c) the establishment of rules of procedure agreed between employers' and workers' organisations should be encouraged;
- (d) collective bargaining should not be hampered by the absence of rules governing the procedure to be used or by the inadequacy or inappropriateness of such rules;
- (e) bodies and procedures for the settlement of labour disputes should be so conceived as to contribute to the promotion of collective bargaining.

Please indicate what measures have been taken to promote collective bargaining.

Please indicate the principal areas in which the aims set out in paragraph 2 have not yet been fully achieved; the measures taken better to achieve these aims and the progress made towards this end.

Article 6

The provisions of this Convention do not preclude the operation of industrial relations systems in which collective bargaining takes place within the framework of conciliation and/or arbitration machinery or institutions, in which machinery or institutions the parties to the collective bargaining process voluntarily participate.

Article 7

Measures taken by public authorities to encourage and promote the development of collective bargaining shall be the subject of prior consultation and, whenever possible, agreement between public authorities and employers' and workers' organisations.

Please indicate in what manner prior consultations between the public authorities and employers' and workers' organisations on the measures taken by the public authorities to encourage and promote the development of collective bargaining are carried out. Are these measures the subject of agreements between the public authorities and employers' and workers' organisations?

Article 8

The measures taken with a view to promoting collective bargaining shall not be so conceived or applied as to hamper the freedom of collective bargaining.

- III. Please state whether courts of law or other tribunals have given decisions involving questions of principle relating to the application of the Convention. If so, please supply the text of these decisions.**
- IV. Please give a general appreciation of the manner in which the Convention is applied (so far as this has not already been done in reply to previous questions) including, for example, extracts from reports, studies and inquiries, and statistics on the numbers of collective agreements and workers covered by them, matters dealt with by collective agreement, the number of labour disputes settled at the various stages of the settlement procedures, etc. Please indicate any practical difficulties encountered in the implementation of the Convention.**
- V. Please indicate the representative organisations of employers and workers to which copies of the present report have been communicated in accordance with article 23, paragraph 2, of the Constitution of the International Labour Organisation.¹ If copies of the report have not been communicated to representative organisations of employers and/or workers, or if they have been communicated to bodies other than such organisations, please supply information on any particular circumstances existing in your country which explain the procedure followed.**

Please indicate whether you have received from the organisations of employers or workers concerned any observations, either of a general kind or in connection with the present or the previous report, regarding the practical application of the provisions of the Convention or the application of the legislation or other measures implementing the Convention. If so, please communicate the observations received, together with any comments that you consider useful.

¹ Article 23, paragraph 2, of the Constitution reads as follows: "Each Member shall communicate to the representative organisations recognised for the purpose of article 3 copies of the information and reports communicated to the Director-General in pursuance of articles 19 and 22."

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING RECOMMENDATION, 1981 (No. 163)

The General Conference of the International Labour Organisation,

Having been convened at Geneva by the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, and having met in its Sixty-seventh Session on 3 June 1981, and

Having decided upon the adoption of certain proposals with regard to the promotion of collective bargaining, which is the fourth item on the agenda of the session, and

Having determined that these proposals shall take the form of a Recommendation supplementing the Collective Bargaining Convention, 1981,

adopts this nineteenth day of June of the year one thousand nine hundred and eighty-one the following Recommendation, which may be cited as the Collective Bargaining Recommendation, 1981:

I. METHODS OF APPLICATION

1. The provisions of this Recommendation may be applied by national laws or regulations, collective agreements, arbitration awards or in any other manner consistent with national practice.

II. MEANS OF PROMOTING COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

2. In so far as necessary, measures adapted to national conditions should be taken to facilitate the establishment and growth, on a voluntary basis, of free, independent and representative employers' and workers' organisations.

3. As appropriate and necessary, measures adapted to national conditions should be taken so that—

- (a) representative employers' and workers' organisations are recognised for the purposes of collective bargaining;
- (b) in countries in which the competent authorities apply procedures for recognition with a view to determining the organisations to be granted the right to bargain collectively, such determination is based on pre-established and objective criteria with regard to the organisations' representative character, established in consultation with representative employers' and workers' organisations.

4. (1) Measures adapted to national conditions should be taken, if necessary, so that collective bargaining is possible at any level whatsoever, including that of the establishment, the undertaking, the branch of activity, the industry, or the regional or national levels.

(2) In countries where collective bargaining takes place at several levels, the parties to negotiations should seek to ensure that there is co-ordination among these levels.

5. (1) Measures should be taken by the parties to collective bargaining so that their negotiators, at all levels, have the opportunity to obtain appropriate training.

(2) Public authorities may provide assistance to workers' and employers' organisations, at their request, for such training.

(3) The content and supervision of the programmes of such training should be determined by the appropriate workers' or employers' organisation concerned.

(4) Such training should be without prejudice to the right of workers' and employers' organisations to choose their own representatives for the purpose of collective bargaining.

6. Parties to collective bargaining should provide their respective negotiators with the necessary mandate to conduct and conclude negotiations, subject to any provisions for consultations within their respective organisations.

7. (1) Measures adapted to national conditions should be taken, if necessary, so that the parties have access to the information required for meaningful negotiations.

(2) For this purpose—

- (a) public and private employers should, at the request of workers' organisations, make available such information on the economic and social situation of the negotiating unit and the undertaking as a whole, as is necessary for meaningful negotiations; where the disclosure of some of this information could be prejudicial to the undertaking, its communication may be made conditional upon a commitment that it would be regarded as confidential to the extent required; the information to be made available may be agreed upon between the parties to collective bargaining;
- (b) the public authorities should make available such information as is necessary on the over-all economic and social situation of the country and the branch of activity concerned, to the extent to which the disclosure of this information is not prejudicial to the national interest.

8. Measures adapted to national conditions should be taken, if necessary, so that the procedures for the settlement of labour disputes assist the parties to find a solution to the dispute themselves, whether the dispute is one which arose during the negotiation of agreements, one which arose in connection with the interpretation and application of agreements or one covered by the Examination of Grievances Recommendation, 1967.

III. FINAL PROVISION

9. This Recommendation does not revise any existing Recommendation.