



Governing Body

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Institutional Section

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Fifteenth item on the agenda

Report of the Director-General

Regular report – Addendum: Communication from the Government of the Republic of Nicaragua under article 1(5) of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization

1. On 28 February 2025, the Director-General received the following communication from the Government of Nicaragua.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Managua, Nicaragua

Managua, 27 February 2025
MRE/DM-VJ/014/02/2025

Mr Gilbert F. Houngbo
Director-General
International Labour Organization (ILO)

Dear Sir,

The Government of National Unity and Reconciliation of the Republic of Nicaragua presents to you the assurances of its highest consideration and takes this opportunity to refer to the examination of the so-called “complaints” that are brought before the Governing Body of the International Labour Organization (ILO), and that are scheduled to be addressed at the 353rd Session of the Governing Body in March 2025.

These repeated and inappropriate examinations are evidence of the denaturation of the International Labour Organization (ILO), which is acting in a politicized manner, lending itself to destabilization and interventionist manoeuvres by dealing with essentially political issues

that fall within the national jurisdiction of States, acting outside the legal framework of the ILO, all of which is damaging and detrimental to the National Sovereignty of Nicaragua and the Self-Determination of our People.

The Republic of Nicaragua, with the constitutional reforms that have been in force since 18 February 2025, is constituted as a revolutionary, free, sovereign and independent State, which recognizes the individual, the family and the community as essential protagonists, as the beginning and the end of national governance, in the framework of a direct democracy; its mission is to guarantee sovereignty, security and peace, advancing each day in the struggle against injustice and inherited poverty, striving for human development and the common good of each and every Nicaraguan.

The decisions that the Governing Body of the ILO has been making are biased, lack objectivity, are based on distorted information and on reports by entities that have gone along with the scheming of individuals who have attacked and continue to attack peace and tranquillity, and are the perpetrators of multiple murders, kidnappings, rapes, atrocities and outrages against the Nicaraguan people, also causing destruction and incalculable damage to the national economy.

For the above reasons, the Government of the Republic of Nicaragua, on the basis of article 1, paragraph 5, of the ILO Constitution, conveys its sovereign and irrevocable decision to withdraw from the Organization.

Yours faithfully,

(signed) Valdrack Jaentschke
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Republic of Nicaragua

2. On 4 March 2025, the Director-General sent the following reply:

► **The Director-General**

Mr Valdrack Jaentschke
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Managua
Republic of Nicaragua
4 March 2025

Dear Minister,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your communication of 27 February 2025 informing me, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 5 of article 1 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization, of the intention of the Government of the Republic of Nicaragua to withdraw from the Organization.

Paragraph 5 of article 1 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization provides as follows:

“5. No Member of the International Labour Organization may withdraw from the Organization without giving notice of its intention so to do to the Director-General of the International Labour Office. Such notice shall take effect two years after the date of its reception by the Director-General, subject to the Member having at that time fulfilled all financial obligations arising out of its membership. When a Member has ratified any international labour

Convention, such withdrawal shall not affect the continued validity for the period provided for in the Convention of all obligations arising thereunder or relating thereto."

In accordance with the above provisions, the notice of intention to withdraw submitted by the Government of the Republic of Nicaragua, which I received on 28 February 2025, would take effect on 28 February 2027, subject to it having at that time fulfilled all financial obligations arising out of its membership. Thereafter the Republic of Nicaragua would remain bound by all obligations arising from the Conventions to which it is a party or relating to them during the period provided for in them.

I take due note of the concerns you have expressed regarding what you consider to be a biased complaints process, lacking objectivity and based on subjective information and supervisory system reports that continue to disturb the peace and tranquillity of your country. In this regard, I wish respectfully to recall that the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, independent and impartial, has for many years been making observations on the application of the Freedom of Association and the Right to Organize Convention (No. 87), 1948, and the Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111), in your country. Furthermore, the Committee on the Application of Standards of the International Labour Conference (CAS) discussed the application of Convention No. 87 in 2022, 2023 and 2024, and of Convention No. 111 in 2023. These bodies have offered technical assistance on numerous occasions, and in 2022 invited your Government to accept a direct contacts mission. During the CAS discussions, your Government requested the ILO to evaluate positively the progress made by your country in these areas. It is my firm conviction that the offers of assistance and the missions, including by the Governing Body in the framework of a complaint submitted under article 26 of the ILO Constitution, would have made it possible to assess these outstanding issues. I regret that, despite the commitment of our Office to facilitate assistance and visits to your country, our efforts have not been met with a positive response.

I sincerely hope that the period of two years' notice stipulated in the Constitution serves to resolve the outstanding issues and allows the Republic of Nicaragua to remain in the International Labour Organization.

I avail myself of this opportunity to renew to you the assurances of my highest consideration.

(signed) Gilbert F. Hounbo

3. On 4 March 2025, the Director-General received the following communication from the Government of Nicaragua.

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Managua, Nicaragua

Managua, 3 March 2025
MRE/DM-VJ/016/03/2025

Mr Gilbert F. Houngbo
Director-General
International Labour Organization (ILO)

Dear Sir,

We have received your letter dated today, 4 March, in which you acknowledge receipt of our communication regarding the decision of the Government of National Unity and Reconciliation to withdraw from the International Labour Organization (ILO).

This Ministry confirms the content of the Note MRE/DM-VJ/014/02/2025 of 27 February 2025 and confirms its sovereign and irrevocable decision to withdraw from the Organization as from the date previously indicated.

We reiterate our rejection of the malicious practice of dictating and imposing conditions on countries such as Nicaragua which, in a sovereign manner, are advancing in their own political, social and economic processes, and we remind you that the decisions that have been taken by the Governing Body of the Organization over which you preside are biased and lack all objectivity, going along with the scheming of individuals who have attacked and continue to attack the peace and tranquillity of our people.

Yours faithfully,

(signed) Valdrack Jaentschke
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Republic of Nicaragua