



NINTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Programme and Budget for 2004-05

Technical meetings reserve

1. The Director-General's Programme and Budget proposals for 2004-05, now adopted, note that the Governing Body would be invited to decide on the subjects and composition of the technical meetings at a future session. This paper includes proposals from which technical meetings may be selected. Details on these proposals are set out in the appendix to the present document.
2. The technical meetings reserve for 2004-05 amounts to US\$1,791,751. This would permit funding of six to eight meetings depending on the ones chosen.
3. Two of the technical meetings are traditionally reserved for the Employers' and Workers' groups. The proposals are "The social dimension of globalization: From debate to action", and the International Symposium on Trade Unions and Poverty Eradication.
4. A decision can be deferred until a later session on the use of part of the reserve. This may be prudent since it has been important in recent years to organize a certain number of the meetings around topics of particular urgency.
5. *The Committee may wish to recommend to the Governing Body a selection of meetings to be financed by the technical meetings reserve as contained in the 2004-05 programme and budget.*

Geneva, 1 October 2003.

Point for decision: Paragraph 5.

Appendix

Selection of ILO technical meetings in 2004-05

Tripartite Meeting of Experts on Harassment and Violence at Work (\$257,540)

Operational objectives

- *Gender equality*

ILO constituents take positive action to increase gender equality in the world of work.

- *1c: Normative action*

International labour standards and the standards supervisory process influence legislation and policies of member States for achieving decent work and international development goals.

- *3b: Labour protection*

ILO constituents target and take effective action to improve safety and health and conditions of employment, with special attention to the most hazardous conditions at the workplace.

Proposed participation: eight government, eight employer and eight worker participants.

Output: Adoption of a code of practice on harassment and violence at work including specific treatment of the problem of sexual harassment, and recommendations for action by constituents and the Office to strengthen the development at national and regional levels of policies and practical programmes to combat workplace harassment and violence.

An ILO code of practice would provide the first international guidance of general application on sexual harassment at work. It would complement and reinforce the increased attention paid by the Committee of Experts to the issue of sexual harassment, most recently in a general observation under Convention No. 111 adopted in 2002. The Meeting would also build upon the development of a proposed sectoral code of practice on stress and violence in the services sector, which will be discussed by a Meeting of Experts in October 2003.

Meeting of Experts on Hazardous Work and Working Children (\$275,080)

Operational objectives

- *1b: Child labour*

Child labour is progressively eliminated through capacity building and strengthening of the worldwide movement against child labour, with priority given to the urgent elimination of child labour in its worst forms and the provision of alternatives for children and families.

- *3b: Labour protection*

ILO constituents target and take effective action to improve safety and health and conditions of employment, with special attention to the most hazardous conditions at the workplace.

Proposed participation: ten government, ten employer and ten worker participants.

Output: Adoption of guidelines on determination of hazardous child labour, including an internationally recognized list of forms of hazardous child labour.

Country reporting has revealed notable gaps in terms of identifying and determining hazardous child labour. The Meeting will provide crucial guidance for the countries ratifying the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182), which delegates to the national level the responsibility for determining hazardous child labour and prioritizing it for action. The Meeting will provide a platform for the social partners to exchange experiences and information on children working in the most hazardous occupations and conditions and to elaborate international criteria and documents for preventive measures.

Youth employment: The way forward (\$242,520)*Operational objective*■ *2a: Employment policy support*

ILO constituents are better equipped to analyse trends in national and global employment and labour markets, and to elaborate, advocate and implement effective strategies for the promotion of decent employment for men and women.

Proposed participation: 22 government, 11 employer and 11 worker participants.

Output: Joint implementation planning for national reviews and action plans on youth employment, as called for in the United Nations General Assembly Resolution A/57/165 and supported by the Governing Body, in selected countries, including lead countries for the Youth Employment Network (YEN).

The meeting will serve to strengthen the ILO's technical programme and policy message on youth employment, as called for by the Governing Body (GB.286/15). It is focused on concrete outcomes at the country level involving support to those countries which have agreed to prepare national reviews and action plans on youth employment by March 2004.

**Tripartite Symposium on Promoting the MNE
Declaration in SADC Countries (\$140,540)****Tripartite Symposium on Promoting the MNE
Declaration in MERCOSUR Countries (\$76,340)****Tripartite Symposium on Promoting the MNE
Declaration in ASEAN Countries (\$116,240)***Operational objectives*■ *2b: Knowledge, skills and employability*

ILO constituents invest more in training and skills development to provide men and women with improved and equal access to decent jobs.

■ *2c: Employment creation*

ILO member States and constituents are better equipped to design and implement employment promotion programmes in the areas of enterprise development and employment-intensive investment, including in post-crisis situations, paying particular attention to the situation of women.

■ *International partnerships*

Tripartite constituents and ILO partners at the international and regional levels support integrated economic and social policies that promote decent work.

Proposed participation:

SADC countries: 14 government, 14 employer and 14 worker participants;

MERCOSUR countries: four government, four employer and four worker participants;

ASEAN countries: ten government, ten employer and ten worker participants.

Output: Plans of joint action in the areas of employment, skills development, working conditions and industrial relations, stimulated by multinational enterprises, local governments and employers' and workers' organizations, on the basis of the provisions of the Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy (MNE Declaration).

In its 286th Session, the Governing Body requested the Office to include three regional meetings to promote the MNE Declaration in the proposals for the use of the technical meetings reserve for 2004-05 (GB.286/14, paragraph 34).

Decent work and local development: An integrated ILO response to the challenges of globalization (\$270,240)

Operational objectives

- *An integrated approach to decent work*
Constituents in member States adopt and apply integrated economic and social policies that promote decent work.
- *Poverty reduction and social inclusion*
Member States include decent work goals in national poverty reduction policies and programmes.
- *International partnerships*
Tripartite constituents and ILO partners at the international and regional levels support integrated economic and social policies that promote decent work.

Proposed participation: six government, six employer and six worker participants.

Output: Contribution to the implementation of the conclusions of the general discussions on social security (2001) and the informal economy (2002), and to the promotion of several ILO instruments such as Conventions Nos. 87, 98, 141 and 155 or Recommendations Nos. 169, 189 and 193. The symposium is likely to contribute to the operationalization of some of the recommendations that are expected to feature in the final report of the World Commission on the Social Dimension of Globalization.

The symposium will provide a platform for the exchange of information and experience among the world's leading local development actors, stakeholders and researchers, to enrich the local development work of the ILO and its constituents and partners, with particular emphasis on the informal and rural economies. The symposium will be organized jointly by the Employment Sector, the Social Protection Sector and the Social Dialogue Sector.

Updating the list of occupational diseases (\$275,080)

Operational objective

- *3b: Labour protection*
ILO constituents target and take effective action to improve safety and health and conditions of employment, with special attention to the most hazardous conditions at the workplace.

Proposed participation: ten government, ten employer and ten worker participants.

Output: An updated list of occupational diseases based on a simplified mechanism authorized by the List of Occupational Diseases Recommendation, 2002 (No. 194).

The procedure foreseen for updating the list of occupational diseases is outlined in Paragraph 3 of the List of Occupational Diseases Recommendation, 2002 (No. 194): "The list as annexed to this Recommendation should be regularly reviewed and updated through tripartite meetings of experts convened by the Governing Body of the International Labour Office. Any new list so established shall be submitted to the Governing Body for its approval, and upon approval shall replace the preceding list and shall be communicated to the Members of the International Labour Organization."

The social dimension of globalization: From debate to action (\$223,440)

Operational objectives

- *4a: Social partners*
The representation, services and influence of the social partners are strengthened.

- *International partnerships*

Tripartite constituents and ILO partners at the international and regional levels support integrated economic and social policies that promote decent work.

Proposed participation: 24 employer participants.

Output: Conclusions on how employers and their organizations can play a key role in shaping the policy agenda to ensure countries can seize the development opportunities offered by globalization and how business could make a contribution to achieving wider policy objectives such as the Millennium Development Goals, particularly on the issue of youth employment, and the role of employers' organizations in the PRSP process, particularly given the linkages between employment promotion and poverty reduction.

The World Commission on the Social Dimension of Globalization will issue its report in spring 2004. The role that business plays in the global economy is a topic of debate.

International Symposium on Trade Unions and Poverty Eradication (\$349,840)

Operational objectives

- *4a: Social partners*

The representation, services and influence of the social partners are strengthened.

- *International partnerships*

Tripartite constituents and ILO partners at the international and regional levels support integrated economic and social policies that promote decent work.

Proposed participation: 45 worker participants.

Output: The symposium will bring together current worldwide experience and good practice on strategies for effective trade union participation in the PRSP process, and thereby equip participants to develop the capacity of their own organizations to effectively introduce decent work concerns into national economic and social policies to address poverty eradication.

With rising poverty levels, trade unions are increasingly developing new services to their members and reaching out to organize the working poor, the majority of whom are women and are found in the informal economy.

Meeting of Experts: Gaining influence in policy-making: Challenges for labour ministries (\$213,440)

Operational objective

- *4b: Governments and institutions of social dialogue*

The legal frameworks, institutions, machinery and processes for social dialogue are strengthened and used.

Proposed participation: eight government, eight employer and eight worker participants.

Output: Agreed set of conclusions on good practices to improve the position of labour and employment ministries in the formulation of economic and social policy.

The meeting is part of the research project set up within the InFocus Programme on Social Dialogue, Labour Law and Labour Administration (IFP/DIALOGUE) with the aim of finding out which institutional arrangements best ensure that labour and employment concerns are given proper due in the formulation of government policy.

Meeting of Experts: Development of social dialogue indicators (\$218,140)

Operational objective

- *Knowledge*

Policies to promote and realize decent work are based on sound information and gender-disaggregated statistics.

Proposed participation: eight government, eight employer and eight worker participants.

Output: A plan for improved ILO capacity to collect statistics of social dialogue and draft international guidelines for statistics on trade union membership and collective bargaining coverage.

IFP/DIALOGUE, with the Bureau of Statistics (STAT) support, and the cooperation of other units, initiated a programme in 2001 to assess internal and external end-user needs in the regions and within countries. In accordance with the Strategic Policy Framework this database could eventually be sourced through STAT's regular data collection activities.

Promoting integrated country strategies on decent work (\$365,740)

Operational objectives

- *An integrated approach to decent work*

Constituents in member States adopt and apply integrated economic and social policies that promote decent work.

- *Poverty reduction and social inclusion*

Member States include decent work goals in national poverty reduction policies and programmes.

- *International partnerships*

Tripartite constituents and ILO partners at the international and regional levels support integrated economic and social policies that promote decent work.

Proposed participation: 26 government, 13 employer and 13 worker participants.

Output: An international exchange of views and experience on the operationalization of the Decent Work Agenda at the national level to support further actions by ILO constituents for advancing on integrated country strategies on decent work.

The adoption and implementation of decent work as a policy goal requires an integrated approach to economic and social policy-making that engages major national stakeholders in a manner that strengthens ILO constituents.