



## THIRD ITEM ON THE AGENDA

**Technical meetings reserve for 2006-07**

1. The technical meetings reserve for 2006-07 amounts to US\$1,659,953. Of this, a total of US\$500,000 contributes to the cost of the Maritime Session of the International Labour Conference in February.
2. At its 294th Session (November 2005), the Governing Body approved<sup>1</sup> the financing of the following two meetings from the technical meetings reserve for 2006-07, at a total estimated cost of US\$644,248:<sup>2</sup>
  - International Symposium on the Role of Trade Unions in Workers' Education: The Key to Trade Union Capacity Building (US\$397,224);<sup>3</sup>
  - Symposium on Managing Labour and Social Issues in Supply Chains: Challenges for Business (US\$247,024).
3. At the same session, the Governing Body decided to defer its decision on the use of the remaining balance of the technical meetings reserve, US\$515,705, until a later session.
4. Taking into consideration the observations and the comments made by the Governing Body of the same session, some of the proposals presented in November have been revised, including measures to reduce costs so that two meetings can be selected.
5. A proposal for a Tripartite Meeting of Experts on Working Time has been added following the decision of the Governing Body at its 294th Session.<sup>4</sup>
6. Details of the revised list of proposals and information on the cost of meetings proposed are included in Appendices I and II.

<sup>1</sup> GB.294/8/1.

<sup>2</sup> Interpretation cost is charged separately to RELCONF.

<sup>3</sup> The interpretation cost of the meeting was decreased from US\$143,720 to US\$47,910 following the discussion which took place during the Programme, Financial and Administrative Committee of the November 2005 session of the Governing Body.

<sup>4</sup> GB.294/9.

7. Any unallocated resources from the fund after the selection of two meetings and any savings under the fund would be used in the first place to contribute to the cost of the Joint ILO/UNESCO Committee of Experts on the Application of the Recommendations concerning Teaching Personnel (CEART), Ninth Session.<sup>5</sup>
8. *The Committee may wish to recommend to the Governing Body a selection of meetings that could be financed by the use of the remaining technical meetings reserve for 2006-07.*

Geneva, 3 February 2006.

*Point for decision:* Paragraph 8.

<sup>5</sup> The information on this joint meeting can be found in GB.294/PFA/10.

## Appendix I

### Cost of technical meetings (in US\$)

Title	Technical preparatory work	Participation cost	Total to be covered by technical meetings reserve	Interpretation cost	Grand total	Status	Observation
Total allocation of technical meetings reserve for 2006-07			1 659 953				
Remaining resources for two meetings to be selected after taking into account the three meetings already approved in former sessions			515 705				
(a) Interregional Symposium on the Informal Economy: Enabling Transition to Formalization	80 468	172 700	253 168	18 600	271 768	Presented at the 294th Session (November 2005)	The total budget to be covered by the reserve was reduced from US\$283,324 to US\$253,168
(b) Symposium on Labour and Social Issues in Regional Economic Integration	60 156	190 100	250 256	12 400	262 656	Presented at the 294th Session (November 2005)	The total budget to be covered by the reserve was reduced from US\$301,012 to US\$250,256
(c) Tripartite Meeting of Experts on Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers	105 624	136 400	242 024	18 600	260 624	Presented at the 294th Session (November 2005)	
(d) International Forum on the occasion of the 30th Anniversary of the Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy <sup>1</sup>	65 156	202 800	267 956	18 600	286 556	Presented at the 294th Session (November 2005)	The total budget to be covered by the reserve was reduced from US\$404,624 to US\$267,956
(e) Tripartite Meeting of Experts on Working Time	50 000	178 800	228 800	57 757	286 557	New proposal approved to be submitted to the GB at its 294th Session (November 2005)	
Total of (a) to (e)	361 404	880 800	1 242 204	125 957	1 368 161		

<sup>1</sup> The title of this proposal was indicated in the last GB report (GB.294/PFA/10) as: International Forum on Corporate Social Responsibility and the World of Work. This has been changed at the request of the technical unit: MNE (Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy) which submitted the proposal.

## Appendix II

### Selection of ILO technical meetings in 2006-07

NB: Technical meetings already selected are not described hereafter. The information on the selected meetings can be found in GB.294/PFA/10.

(a) ***Interregional Symposium on the Informal Economy: Enabling Transition to Formalization (US\$253,168)***<sup>1</sup>

*Proposed participation:* ten Government, ten Employer and ten Worker participants

#### Objective

- Constituents exchange, based on a forum for sharing of information and experience on concrete results, best practices and promising strategies which specifically demonstrate how employment promotion and social protection concerns are addressed jointly. The trade-offs and challenges encountered and the impact of interventions will be examined, and examples will be drawn from different policies, programmes and projects. The forum will help the ILO to apply integrated strategies and policies and to develop technical cooperation programmes and projects.

The Global Employment Agenda targets the informal economy and draws attention to the linkages between social protection and enhanced productivity, contributing to employment and economic development. The Declaration and Plan of Action adopted at the 2004 African Union Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government on Employment and Poverty Alleviation considered enhancing employment for vulnerable groups and extending social protection schemes to workers and their families currently excluded as priorities for action.

(b) ***Symposium on Labour and Social Issues in Regional Economic Integration (US\$250,256)***<sup>1</sup>

*Proposed participation:* 12 Government, 12 Employer and 12 Worker participants

#### Objective

- Improved abilities of governments and social partners involved in subregional groupings to address the labour and social consequences of economic integration through a process of social dialogue.

Strengthening the social dimension of regional integration processes has been identified as a key area for action by the ILO in 2006-07, with particular importance placed on the institutions and mechanisms for social dialogue, networks and partnerships among constituents, institutions for social dialogue and the Office.

<sup>1</sup> As described in Appendix I, the budget to be covered by the technical meetings reserve for this meeting has been reduced in order for the Governing Body to select two more meetings.

An exchange of experience among ILO constituents across regions would bring to light successful initiatives taken on topics that span the Decent Work Agenda. The Symposium represents an important follow-up to both the Ouagadougou Summit, at which the Regional Economic Commissions were assigned a particular role, and the Summit of the Americas process.

**(c) Tripartite Meeting of Experts on Equal Remuneration for Men and Women Workers (US\$242,024)**

*Proposed participation:* eight Government, eight Employer and eight Worker participants

Objective

- To develop an action plan on the elimination of discrimination in employment and occupation (2004-07) following the Global Report *Time for Equality at Work*, which was endorsed by the Governing Body in November 2003, and the 2004 ILC resolution on gender equality, pay equity and maternity protection.
- Enhanced knowledge of the size and evolution of the earning and employment disparities between men and women in different regions, sectors and occupations, including in the informal economy; changes in the type and relative importance of the determinants of these differentials; recent trends in law, jurisprudence, collective agreements and job evaluation methods, and their impact on reducing gender inequalities in earnings and employment and in enhancing productivity.
- A set of guidelines to orient practical action by ILO constituents and the Office to strengthen development, at national and regional levels, to eliminate unjustified inequalities in remuneration between men and women as well as between workers with and without family responsibilities.

**(d) International Forum on the occasion of the 30th Anniversary of the Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy<sup>2</sup> (US\$267,956)<sup>3</sup>**

*Proposed participation:* 15 Government, 15 Employer, 15 Worker and ten expert participants

<sup>2</sup> The title of this proposal was originally: International Forum on Corporate Social Responsibility and the World of Work and was changed at the 294th Session.

<sup>3</sup> The budget of this proposal was reduced substantially (from US\$404,624 to US\$267,956) in order for the Governing Body to select two more technical meetings. In order to reduce costs, the forum is now planned to be held in Geneva and immediately follow or precede the November 2007 Governing Body meeting. At least 20 of the participants would already be in Geneva, thus reducing air travel costs. Furthermore, the Office, in consultation with the Officers of the Subcommittee on Multinational Enterprises, could also invite up to ten resource persons from multinationals and global union federations, as well as technical experts on various aspects of MNEs. All abovementioned participants would be funded by the Office.

## Objective

- To promote better use of the Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy (MNE Declaration) in the world of work and to stimulate an innovative discussion among senior-level participants with insight and knowledge of issues involving multinational enterprises.

Strengthening the promotion of the MNE Declaration has been identified as a key area for action. The upcoming 30th anniversary of the MNE Declaration is a timely occasion for the Office to organize an international event to commemorate the adoption of the instrument and draw attention to the fact that it is perhaps even more relevant today, particularly in the context of the ongoing global discussions on corporate social responsibility.

The output of the forum could be a written report reflecting the major insights presented and a set of recommendations for concrete follow-up work that the ILO could pursue in this area. Additionally, the communication materials produced in preparation for the forum would be integrated into training and other promotional activities concerning the MNE Declaration.

**(e) *Tripartite Meeting of Experts on Working Time***  
**(US\$228,800)**

Based on the conclusions of the General Survey on Conventions Nos. 1 and 30 carried out by the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations in December 2004, and a subsequent discussion of this General Survey by the Committee on the Application of Standards during the International Labour Conference in June 2005, the Governing Body approved at its 294th Session (November 2005) the organization of a tripartite meeting of experts as a means of moving forward in addressing the issue of working time in all of its multiple dimensions and requested the Office to prepare a document on the proposed agenda, composition and financial implications of the meeting.

***Proposed participation:*** ten Government, ten Employer and ten Worker participants

## Objective

Review and advise on modern working time arrangements, which could include outlining an integrated framework of principles, policy options and recommendations, which might serve as the basis for a general discussion on working time and related issues at a future session of the International Labour Conference.