



THIRD ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Other legal issues**Rules of Regional Meetings:
11th African Regional Meeting
(Addis Ababa, 24–27 April 2007)**

1. The Governing Body decided, at its 264th Session (November 1995), to replace regional conferences provided for in article 38 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization with shorter Regional Meetings having a single agenda item. The current version of the Rules for Regional Meetings was adopted by the Governing Body its 283rd Session (March 2002), and confirmed by the 90th Session (June 2002) of the International Labour Conference.
2. Recent experience gained with the 16th American Regional Meeting (Brasilia, 2–5 May 2006) and the 14th Asian Regional Meeting (Busan, 29 August–1 September 2006) indicated that there may be a need for some amendment of the Rules for Regional Meetings. A document expanding upon these reflections could be presented to the Committee on Legal Issues and International Labour Standards at the 300th Session of the Governing Body in November 2007, should the Committee decide to place it on the agenda.
3. Without prejudice to that exercise, and taking into account practical needs, the Committee may wish to recommend to the Governing Body that it provide for derogations to certain of the Rules governing the work of the 11th African Regional Meeting, to be held in Addis Ababa from 24 to 27 April 2007. The proposed modifications would be applicable to that particular meeting only and are without prejudice to any future amendments that the Governing Body may decide to make to the Rules for Regional Meetings.
4. In particular, the relevant derogation would cover the authorization to the Officers of the Governing Body, should they attend the 11th African Regional Meeting, to address the meeting with the permission of the Chairperson. The possibility for the Officers of the Governing Body to do so in this capacity is not currently mentioned in the Rules. The Governing Body may wish to authorize its Officers, in derogation of article 10 of the Rules, to address the meeting with the permission of the Chairperson.

5. In addition, it may be useful to provide for the possibility for the Officers of the Governing Body to invite observers, should the need arise in the interval between the present session of the Governing Body and the 11th African Regional Meeting. The Governing Body may therefore wish to authorize its Officers to invite to the 11th African Regional Meeting any Member of the International Labour Organization from a different region, any State which is not a Member of the International Labour Organization, any liberation movement recognized by the African Union or the League of Arab States, any representative of an official international organization or of a non-governmental international organization (other than those already invited by the Governing Body), to be represented at the meeting by an observer delegation.

6. *The Committee may wish to propose that the Governing Body:*

- (a) approve the derogation to the Rules applicable to the 11th African Regional Meeting as indicated in paragraph 4 above; and***
- (b) authorize its Officers to invite observers to the 11th African Regional Meeting as indicated in paragraph 5 above.***

Geneva, 7 March 2007.

Point for decision: Paragraph 6.