



EIGHTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Report of the Joint ILO/UNESCO Committee of Experts on the Application of the Recommendations concerning Teaching Personnel (CEART)

1. The Joint ILO/UNESCO Committee of Experts on the Application of the Recommendations concerning Teaching Personnel (CEART) held its Ninth Session at the ILO in Geneva, 30 October–3 November 2006. An oral report on the major outcomes was presented to the Committee on Sectoral and Technical Meetings and Related Issues (STM) at the 297th Session (November 2006) of the Governing Body, and the STM will be examining the substantive issues contained in the full CEART report at the present Governing Body session, in the framework of its responsibility to oversee sectoral activities.¹
2. At the same time, the practice since 2000 has been for LILS to examine the part of the CEART report dealing with allegations submitted by national and international teachers' organizations concerning non-observance on the part of governments of provisions of the ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers, 1966, or the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Recommendation concerning the Status of Higher Education Teaching Personnel, 1997 (also monitored by the CEART). In accordance with its mandate and procedures of work, at its Ninth Session, the CEART examined a number of such allegations submitted to it (paragraphs 149–158 and Annex II of the report²). The review by LILS is proposed because the procedure for treatment of these allegations is inspired by and relates to the practical application of international labour standards, many of which are referred to directly, or indirectly affect provisions of the Recommendations. LILS is therefore called upon to take note of and recommend to the full Governing Body that the Director-General transmit the relevant parts of the report to the concerned parties. Such a review falls within the mandate of LILS as determined by the Governing Body.³ Parallel action will also be taken by the Committee on Conventions and Recommendations and the Executive Board of UNESCO. In this regard, it may be noted that, for the first time, the CEART has been requested by a

¹ GB.298/STM/4.

² CEART/9/2006/10.

³ *Compendium of rules applicable to the Governing Body of the International Labour Office* (Geneva, ILO 2006), Introduction, para. 21.

teachers' organization, and the Government of the country concerned (Japan) to undertake a mission to examine in more detail the problems related to alleged non-observance of the ILO/UNESCO Recommendations' provisions, and intends to accept this invitation, a practice inspired by direct contacts procedures of ILO supervisory bodies.

3. Moreover, since the creation of the Joint Committee by separate decisions of the Governing Body and the Executive Board of UNESCO in 1967, it has been the practice for the report to be submitted to the International Labour Conference, once examined by the Governing Body. The report will also be on the agenda of the next UNESCO General Conference. This practice derives from the fact that the report is prepared by an expert body charged by the Governing Body with the monitoring and promotion of international standards adopted in close cooperation with UNESCO, and which makes explicit reference to Conventions and Recommendations adopted by the International Labour Conference. Following internal consultations, the Office proposes to maintain this practice for the abovementioned reasons.
4. *The Committee on Legal Issues and International Labour Standards may wish to recommend that the Governing Body:*
 - (i) *take note of paragraphs 149–158 and Annex II of the report on the Ninth Session of the Joint ILO/UNESCO Committee of Experts on the Application of the Recommendations concerning Teaching Personnel, which concern allegations submitted to it by teachers' organizations;*
 - (ii) *authorize the Director-General to communicate the relevant parts of the Annex to the Governments of Australia, Ethiopia and Japan and to the teachers' organizations concerned and, where appropriate, to invite them to take the necessary follow-up action as recommended in the report;*
 - (iii) *forward the report to the International Labour Conference at its 96th Session (May–June 2007) for examination in the first instance by the Committee on the Application of Standards.*

Geneva, 25 January 2007.

Point for decision: Paragraph 4.