



FOR DEBATE AND GUIDANCE

THIRD ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Update on planning for the event to mark the 30th anniversary of the Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy

1. This paper updates the information provided in November 2006¹ and takes into account the views expressed during the last session of the Subcommittee² and the meeting of the Officers of the Subcommittee in January 2007.
2. The main event will be held for a period of one day, tentatively scheduled for Friday, 16 November, following the November 2007 sitting of the MNE Subcommittee. Tentative venue for the event is Geneva. An advisory committee, which includes the Officers of the Subcommittee, is working on the agenda and the list of participants, speakers and facilitators to invite. An annotated agenda is provided in the appendix.
3. The Multinational Enterprises Programme is working closely with the Department of Communication and Public Information to conceive and implement a communication strategy aimed at giving more prominence to the MNE Declaration and at promoting a better understanding of what its principles mean in practice. A leaflet which explains and highlights the practical value of the MNE Declaration will be published with inputs provided by the Officers. A promotional campaign will be carried out throughout the year consisting of: announcements on the ILO web site homepage, articles in ILO magazines and the specialized press, and contacts with the media.
4. During the November 2006 meeting, the Office was also requested to organize a series of smaller events during the entire year. The following are being planned or considered:
 - an InFocus forum on voluntary reporting will be held in Geneva on 22 March with the participation of the members of the Subcommittee and ILO officials. It will consist of a panel with an academic and representatives of management and workers of a company, followed by a discussion;

¹ GB.297/MNE/4.

² GB.297/13, paras 36–42.

- the Belgian Government has offered to host a technical meeting to contribute to the shaping of the overall strategy to take a more practical approach in the promotion of the MNE Declaration; and
 - finally, the Office is considering the possibility of organizing events aimed at translating research results and dialogue into technical cooperation projects at the national level. They could take the form of tripartite seminars or workshops to raise awareness of the MNE Declaration and how to put in practice its principles. Given that no specific funding has been allocated for this purpose, events would be held in countries where they could be organized at minimal expense.
5. The Subcommittee may wish to express its views and give guidance to the Office on the steps to be taken.

Geneva, 15 February 2007.

Submitted for debate and guidance.

Appendix

Tentative agenda for the main event on 16 November 2007

Time	Session	Description of the session
Morning sessions (a.m.)	Registration of participants	
	Opening speeches: High-level representative of a multinational enterprise and the International Labour Organization	Reflection on the first 30 years of the MNE Declaration, its relevance today, and the importance of putting its principles into practice
	Plenary session: A panel of multinational enterprises represented by their management and workers' representatives	Theme: Multinational enterprises and employment (Presentation of cases from selected sectors)
12.00–14.00	Lunch	A keynote speaker will be invited
Afternoon sessions (p.m.)	Parallel sessions: A panel of multinational enterprises represented by their management and workers' representatives	Theme: Multinational enterprises and working conditions (Presentation of cases from selected sectors)
		Theme: Multinational enterprises and industrial relations (Presentation of cases from selected sectors)
	Plenary session	Feedback from the two parallel sessions Conclusions and way forward
Evening	Gala dinner	A keynote speaker will be invited
Note: This tentative agenda reflects ideas expressed during past consultations. It will be finalized in due course in consultation with the advisory committee.		