

**Sixteenth American Regional Meeting  
(Brasilia, 2-5 May 2006)**

It is my pleasure to invite your country to be represented at the *Sixteenth American Regional Meeting* convened by the International Labour Organization, which will be held in Brasilia, Brazil, from 2 to 5 May 2006, commencing with group meetings in the afternoon of 2 May. The plenary will begin at 10:00 on Wednesday, 3 May.

Every four years, the *American Regional Meeting* brings together the tripartite representatives of ILO member States, together with high-level political, economic, social and labour actors from the countries of the Region. This *Sixteenth Meeting* will focus particularly on the themes taken up in the two-volume report that I shall be placing before it, which will be sent to you in due course.

- The first volume reviews ILO activities in the Region since the last Regional Meeting, held in 2002; it contains practical guidance on the cooperation that the ILO can provide to its constituents in achieving common objectives, placing emphasis on results obtained;
- The second volume contains an in-depth analysis of the prospects for the implementation of decent work in the Americas Region and suggests key policy areas (general and specific) to be developed in accordance with the ILO's strategic objectives.

I should like to draw your particular attention to articles 1 and 9 of the *Rules for Regional Meetings*, which deal respectively with the composition of delegations, and with the time-limit for the submission of credentials. The form for the presentation of credentials should be completed and returned to the Office of the Legal Adviser of the International Labour Office in Geneva before **17 April 2006**.

In June 2004, I called on our constituents to strive to meet a target of 30 per cent representation of women in delegations to the International Labour Conference. For the *Sixteenth American Regional Meeting*, as for all ILO meetings, I would urge governments, employers' and workers' organizations to increase their efforts to include more women in their delegations.

The ILO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean is at your disposal to supply you with any additional information you may need. An internet site providing information concerning the *Meeting* is available at the following address:

<[www.oitamericas2006.org](http://www.oitamericas2006.org)>

I would be grateful if you could communicate this information to the representatives of the employers' and workers' organizations who will be part of your national delegation.

I hope that your country will be able to accept this invitation and that I may have the pleasure of meeting you personally on the occasion of the *Sixteenth American Regional Meeting*.

Yours faithfully,

Juan Somavia  
Director-General

