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Policy Development Section

POL

Social Dialogue Segment

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Sectoral meetings held in 2024 and proposals for sectoral work in 2025–27

Purpose of the document

This document addresses the sectoral meetings held in the second half of 2024 (section I); the meetings to be held in the last quarter of 2025 and the first quarter of 2026 (section II); the recommendations of the sectoral advisory bodies regarding the programme of global sectoral meetings for the biennium 2026–27, together with an updated list of sectors (section III); possible special ILO–United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) procedural aspects of the possible revision of the ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers (1966) (section IV); and the Group of Experts for the finalization of modifications and restructuring of the International Maritime Organization (IMO)/ILO/United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) Code of Practice for Packing of Cargo Transport Units (2014 CTU Code) (section V) (see the draft decision in paragraph 39).

Relevant strategic objective: Social dialogue and tripartism.

Main relevant outcome: All policy outcomes.

Policy implications: None.

Legal implications: None.

Financial implications: None.

Follow-up action required: The Office would be required to deliver the programme of meetings, if adopted.

Author unit: Sectoral Policies Department (SECTOR).

Related documents: GB.347/PV(Rev.); GB.350/POL/3(Rev.1); GB.351/PV; GB.351/INS/13(Rev.1); GB.352/PV.

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► I. Meetings held in the second half of 2024

A. Technical meeting on the promotion of decent work and a just transition in the building materials industry, including cement

1. In accordance with an earlier decision by the Governing Body,¹ the Technical meeting on the promotion of decent work and a just transition in the building materials industry, including cement, was held from 23 to 27 September 2024.
2. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss opportunities and challenges for the promotion of decent work and a just transition in the building materials industry, including cement, with the aim of adopting conclusions and recommendations for future action. The meeting was the first sectoral meeting focusing on the building materials industry, highlighting its pivotal role in the global economy. A background report² prepared by the Office as the basis for the discussions provided an overview of recent trends in the industry, including production, employment and industry structure, while identifying the need to improve data and conducting industry-specific labour assessments. It also analysed megatrends affecting the industry, including demographic shifts, rapid urbanization, technological advances and supply chains, with a focus on opportunities for promoting decent work and the related challenges, and an enabling environment for sustainable enterprises. Given the industry's carbon footprint, specific attention was paid to the need to advance a just transition in line with the ILO *Guidelines for a just transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all*.
3. The Chairperson of the meeting was Ms Toni Moore (Barbados), appointed by the Workers' group of the Governing Body. The Government Vice-Chairperson was Ms Monica Vimbayi Hanga (Zimbabwe), the Employer Vice-Chairperson was Ms María José Leguina (Spain), and the Worker Vice-Chairperson was Mr Pierre Cuppens (Belgium).
4. A high-level panel with representatives from the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) was also convened to inform the discussions, underscoring the Office's commitment to strengthening multilateral partnerships.
5. The meeting was attended by 43 Government representatives and advisers from 26 Member States, together with 11 Government observers (from 10 Member States); 7 Employer representatives and their 2 advisers; 8 Worker representatives and their 8 advisers; 9 Worker observers; and the secretariats of the Employers' and Workers' groups. Women constituted 41 per cent of the participants in the Government group, 50 per cent in the Employers' group and 32 per cent in the Workers' group. Seven observers from intergovernmental organizations and invited international non-governmental organizations also attended the meeting.
6. The meeting adopted a set of conclusions and recommendations³ for future action, which provide guidance on the promotion of decent work and a just transition in the industry.

¹ GB.350/PV, para. 786, GB.350/POL/3(Rev.1).

² TMBMI/2024.

³ TMBMI/2024/7.

7. The record of proceedings of the meeting summarizes the discussions that took place.⁴

B. Fifteenth Session of the Joint ILO/UNESCO Committee of Experts on the Application of the Recommendations concerning Teaching Personnel (CEART)

8. The 15th Session of CEART was held from 11 to 13 September 2024, hosted by the ILO in Geneva. The meeting was preceded by a number of virtual sessions.
9. This session of the CEART followed the publication of the Recommendations of the United Nations (UN) Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on the Teaching Profession in February 2024. One of the next steps suggested for international action was that:

the United Nations system should adopt an up-to-date international instrument, including a convention or a revision of existing instruments, on the teaching profession. Such an instrument should build on the principles set out in the ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers (1966), the UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Higher-Education Teaching Personnel (1997) and other relevant standards and tools.⁵

10. In light of this proposal, the possibility of revising the 1966 ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers is under consideration by the ILO and UNESCO governance bodies. UNESCO is also examining the possibility of revising the 1997 UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Higher-Education Teaching Personnel (see also section IV and Appendix IV).
11. To support the analysis required to decide on such a matter, at its 15th Session the Joint Committee undertook to examine the Recommendations of the UN Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on the Teaching Profession and how they could supplement or strengthen the 1966 and 1997 Recommendations.
12. The Joint Committee specifically examined the themes of advancing human-centred education technology; leadership, status and dignity in the teaching profession; teaching and social justice; teaching in crisis contexts; and the teacher and society.
13. The Joint Committee also examined a number of allegations that had been received from teachers' organizations concerning the implementation of the Recommendations at country level. The allegations concern such matters as hours of work and payment for work performed beyond regular working hours, financing of higher education, and academic freedom.
14. The report of the meeting summarizes the discussions that took place and recommendations made.⁶

⁴ TMBMI/2024/9.

⁵ ILO, United Nations and UNESCO, *United Nations Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on the Teaching Profession: Recommendations and summary of deliberations – Transforming the teaching profession*, 2024, para. 53.

⁶ ILO and UNESCO, *Final Report: Fifteenth Session – Report of the Joint ILO–UNESCO Committee of Experts on the Application of the Recommendations concerning Teaching Personnel* (Geneva, 11–13 September 2024).

C. Third meeting of the Joint ILO–IMO Tripartite Working Group to Identify and Address Seafarers’ Issues and the Human Element

15. In accordance with an earlier decision by the Governing Body,⁷ the third meeting of the Joint ILO–IMO Tripartite Working Group to Identify and Address Seafarers’ Issues and the Human Element was held from 26 to 28 November 2024. The purpose of the meeting was to adopt guidelines on the fair treatment of seafarers detained on suspicion of committing crimes.
16. The Joint ILO–IMO Tripartite Working Group discussed a draft set of guidelines submitted by the joint ILO–IMO secretariat and unanimously adopted the Guidelines on fair treatment of seafarers detained in connection with alleged crimes. These Guidelines aim to ensure that seafarers detained on suspicion of committing a crime are treated fairly during any investigation and detention by public authorities, and that detention is for no longer than necessary. They are also intended to reinforce existing human rights instruments and ensure appropriate legal process for those seafarers.
17. The Chairperson of the meeting was Mr Antonios Doumanis (Government, Greece). The three Vice-Chairpersons were: Mr César A. Gómez Ruiloba (Panama) for the Government group; Mr Tim Springett for the Shipowners’ group; and Mr Mark Dickinson for the Seafarers’ group.
18. The meeting was attended by 23 Government representatives and advisers (from 8 Member States⁸ nominated by the IMO), together with 141 Government observers (from 52 Member States); 8 Shipowner representatives and their 10 advisers, and 2 Shipowner observers; 8 Seafarer representatives and 8 Seafarer observers; and the secretariats of the Shipowners’ and Seafarers’ groups. Women constituted 37 per cent of the participants in the Government group, 45 per cent in the Shipowners’ group and 33 per cent in the Seafarers’ group. Ten observers from intergovernmental organizations and international non-governmental organizations also attended the meeting.
19. The record of proceedings of the meeting summarizes the discussions that took place.⁹

► II. Meetings to be held from the fourth quarter of 2025 to the first quarter of 2026

A. Meetings to be organized from the fourth quarter of 2025 to the first quarter of 2026

20. At its 347th Session (March 2023), the Governing Body endorsed the programme of sectoral meetings for 2024–25,¹⁰ and at its 352nd Session (October–November 2024), the Governing Body further decided to convene a meeting of experts to devise and adopt guidelines on the application of the fundamental principles and rights at work in the professional sports sector, as well as on violence and harassment in the world of sport.¹¹

⁷ GB.351/PV, para. 229, GB.351/INS/13(Rev.1).

⁸ Belgium, Greece, India, Liberia, Panama, Philippines, Thailand and United States of America.

⁹ TWGSHE/2024/6.

¹⁰ GB.347/PV(Rev.), para. 890(f).

¹¹ GB.352/PV, para. 973(f).

21. At its current session, the Governing Body is requested to endorse the dates, duration, official title, purpose and composition of the meetings envisaged from the fourth quarter of 2025 to the first quarter of 2026 (see Appendix I).

B. Officers of meetings

22. In accordance with article 6 of the [Standing Orders for technical meetings and for meetings of experts](#), the Officers of these meetings consist of one Chairperson and three Vice-Chairpersons (one for each of the three groups). For technical meetings, the Governing Body appoints one of its titular or deputy members as Chairperson (in practice, the appointment is made on a rotating basis among the three groups), or requests the Office to select an independent person with expertise on the matters covered by the agenda and to notify the meeting accordingly. The three Vice-Chairpersons for both forms of meetings are elected from among the representatives, experts or their advisers in each of the three groups.
23. Following the rotating schedule, the Governing Body is requested to endorse the appointment to be made by the Employers' group regarding the Chairpersons for the following meeting:

Technical meeting	Dates	To be appointed by
Technical meeting on decent work in the railways sector *	1–5 September 2025	Employers' group

* Further to the approval of the Governing Body at its 352nd Session (October–November 2024).

24. In the absence of such a nomination 30 days before the meeting, the Office will select an independent person with expertise on the matters covered by the agenda and notify the meeting accordingly.

► III. Sectoral policies: Programme of work for 2026–27

A. The ILO's sectoral approach to decent work

25. The ILO's sectoral approach to the promotion of decent work cuts across all strategic pillars of the Decent Work Agenda and is underpinned by normative and non-normative instruments including sector-specific standards as well as tripartite-adopted guidelines and tools that address the specificities and unique challenges of work at the sectoral level.
26. In the biennium 2026–27, the Office will continue to promote the ratification and effective implementation of sectoral international labour standards, and will give effect to the recommendations made by the Tripartite Working Group of the Standards Review Mechanism. Sectoral social dialogue and consensus-building among tripartite constituents on sector-specific policies and practices will be promoted, including through tripartite sectoral meetings at the global, regional and country level and capacity-building programmes. New sectoral codes of practice, guidelines and tools would be developed through global sectoral meetings. Furthermore, knowledge and statistical data development, including the generation of regular global and regional estimates for key employment and labour market sectoral indicators, will support constituents in making evidence-based policy decisions.
27. Conclusions adopted by sectoral tripartite meetings and approved by the Governing Body will be actively promoted at the country level to support the formulation of national legislation,

policies and programmes to implement sector-specific ILO standards and tools, such as codes of practice and guidelines endorsed by the Governing Body. The Office will promote the integration of sector-specific standards and tools into national policy frameworks, sectoral plans and strategies, including the UN cooperation frameworks and ILO country programmes, with the aim of fostering multilateral and inter-ministerial policy coherence through strategic partnerships.

B. Session of the sectoral advisory bodies held in January 2025

28. The sectoral advisory bodies, composed of tripartite constituents, including those engaged in specific economic sectors, were established by the Governing Body at its 298th Session (March 2007)¹² with the mandate of reviewing sectoral developments and making recommendations to the Governing Body on the programme of sectoral meetings. Sessions of the sectoral advisory bodies are held every two years, usually in January of the second year of a biennium.
29. The 2025 meeting of the sectoral advisory bodies was held in Geneva from 15 to 17 January and was chaired by Mr Carlos Garcia Delgado (Mexico) representing the Chairperson of the Government group of the Governing Body. Proposals submitted by the constituents for the programme of global sectoral meetings for the 2026–27 biennium were discussed (see section III.C below). On this occasion, the Office highlighted priorities and key sectoral developments, presented for consultation a proposal for the possible revision of the list of sectors (see section III.D below), and provided an update on the development of a web-based sectoral data interface. Furthermore, the Office also took note of comments and suggestions relating to recurrent work regarding possible meetings in regions and research as follow-up to past sectoral meetings.

C. Recommendations for global sectoral meetings in the biennium 2026–27

30. At its 352nd Session (October–November 2024), the Governing Body decided to convene in the first quarter of 2026 a meeting of experts to devise and adopt guidelines on the application of the fundamental principles and rights at work in the professional sports sector, as well as on violence and harassment in the world of sport.¹³ In addition, the sectoral advisory bodies agreed to recommend to the Governing Body holding seven global sectoral meetings in the 2026–27 biennium covering the following sectors: retail, tobacco, hotel and restaurants, manufacturing, ports and docks, private security, and utilities (water and sanitation) (see Appendix II).

¹² GB.298/STM/1.

¹³ GB.352/PV, para. 973(f).

D. Review of the list of sectors

31. The work of the Sectoral Policies Department covers 22 sectors. The current list of sectors, grouped into eight broad sectoral groupings,¹⁴ had not been updated since its establishment in 1995. Recognizing that the list may not adequately reflect recent sectoral developments, the 2023 meeting of the sectoral advisory bodies discussed a possible review of the list of sectors,¹⁵ and the Governing Body, at its 349th Session (October–November 2023), requested “that consultations within the Office as well as with constituents be organized on the review of the list of sectors with a view to reporting back in a future session of the Governing Body.”¹⁶
32. The review exercise subsequently undertaken by the Office in 2024 aimed at updating terminology and, where necessary, adding sectors not hitherto covered. The methodology entailed a two-pronged approach: first, to conduct a detailed mapping of external classification systems such as the International Standard Industrial Classification of All Economic Activities (ISIC Rev.5), the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) and the Statistical Classification of Economic Activities in the European Community (NACE), as well as the listings and groupings of sectors of other multilateral organizations; second, a comparison was made with the current ILO list of 22 sectors to detect gaps/overlaps, to ensure that the key sectors as well as emerging sectors are represented, and to identify areas for harmonization to enable comparability of sector-specific data related to employment trends, economic relevance and policy importance. As a result, three new sectors were added: energy generation; personal, administrative, and support services; and telecommunications and information technologies.
33. A proposal for a revised list of sectors was presented to and discussed at the 2025 meeting of the sectoral advisory bodies. The Office further updated and revised the list of sectors in light of the discussions (see Appendix III).

► IV. The possible revision of the ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers (1966)

34. At its 352nd Session (October–November 2024), the Governing Body “requested the Director-General to provide an analysis on the scope, elements and procedural aspects of the possible revision of the ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers (1966), and to place this item on the agenda of the 353rd Session (March 2025) for its consideration.”¹⁷ Appendix IV of this document sets out the reasons why the revision of the Recommendation could be considered, elements of the Recommendation which have been identified as requiring possible revision, the possible scope of a revised instrument, and elements of a possible special joint ILO–UNESCO procedure for adopting such an instrument.

¹⁴ Current list of sectors: Agriculture, plantations, other rural sectors; Basic metal production; Chemical industries; Commerce; Construction; Education; Financial services, other professional services; Food, drink, tobacco; Forestry, wood, pulp and paper; Health services; Hotels, catering, tourism; Mechanical and electrical engineering; Media, culture, graphical; Mining (coal, other mining); Oil and gas production, oil refining; Postal and telecommunications services; Public service; Shipping, ports, fisheries, inland waterways; Textiles, clothing, leather, footwear; Transport (including civil aviation, road transport and railways); Transport equipment manufacturing; Utilities (water, gas, electricity). For the groupings see [GB.298/STM/1/1](#).

¹⁵ [GB.347/POL/2](#).

¹⁶ [GB.349/PV\(Rev.1\)](#), para. 890(f)(ii).

¹⁷ [GB.352/PV](#), para. 973(e).

► V. Establishment of a Group of Experts for the finalization of modifications to and restructuring of the IMO/ILO/UNECE Code of Practice for Packing of Cargo Transport Units (2014 CTU Code)

35. Many incidents in transport are attributed to poor practices in the packing of cargo transport units, including inadequate securing of the cargo, overloading and incorrect declaration of contents. This is of particular concern as the victims may be the general public and/or those engaged in the transport sector and related supply chains who may not have control over the packing of such units. To address these concerns, the ILO Governing Body, at its 322nd Session (October–November 2014), took note of the 2014 CTU Code jointly developed by the Group of Experts of the IMO, the ILO and the UNECE, and authorized its publication.
36. At its 85th Session (February 2023), the UNECE Inland Transport Committee recognized “the urgent need to update the CTU Code to improve the safety of workers handling CTUs and through it contribute to Sustainable Development Goal 8, target 8 on promoting safe and secure working environments for all workers”.¹⁸ To this end, the Committee requested the UNECE to initiate a process to review any update in the framework of a special session. The first special session (2023) concluded that there were grounds to revise the 2014 CTU Code in view of the rapid developments in the transport and logistics industry. At its 86th Session (February 2024), the Inland Transport Committee mandated the UNECE to organize another (second) special session (2024) to discuss and finalize a draft proposal to “start the formal consideration and possible subsequent adoption by the memberships of [UN]ECE, ILO and IMO, in accordance with the respective procedures”.¹⁹
37. The UNECE, the ILO and the IMO subsequently jointly developed the terms of reference for the establishment of a Group of Experts for the finalization of modifications to and restructuring of the CTU Code (Appendix V), which stipulate key parameters, including its composition, length, the decision-making process and related cost.
38. The terms of reference are expected to be approved by the 87th Session of the Inland Transport Committee (February 2025)²⁰ and also by the relevant body of the IMO later this year.

► Draft decision

39. The Governing Body:

- (a) **approved the Conclusions and recommendations adopted by the Technical meeting on the promotion of decent work and a just transition in the building materials industry, including cement, and authorized the Director-General to publish them and the related records of proceedings;**

¹⁸ ECE/TRANS/328, para. 136.

¹⁹ ECE/TRANS/344, para. 140.

²⁰ ECE/TRANS/355/Add.1, Agenda item 5(a), as recommended for approval by the Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics (WP.24). See: ECE/TRANS/WP.24/157, Annex 2.

- (b) requested the Director-General to bear in mind, when drawing up proposals for future work, the recommendations for future action by the ILO made by the Technical meeting on the promotion of decent work and a just transition in the building materials industry, including cement;
- (c) took note of the report of the 15th Session of the Joint ILO/UNESCO Committee of Experts on the Application of the Recommendations concerning Teaching Personnel (CEART) and decided to submit it, along with any observations made by the Governing Body, to the International Labour Conference at its 113th Session (2025) for examination in the first instance by the Committee on the Application of Standards;
- (d) approved the Guidelines on fair treatment of seafarers detained in connection with alleged crimes and authorized the Director-General to publish them (subject to adoption by the Legal Committee of the International Maritime Organization at its 112th Session in March 2025);
- (e) endorsed the proposals contained in Appendix I of document GB.353/POL/3 relating to the dates, duration, official title, purpose and composition of the meetings listed therein and agreed to the appointment of the Chairperson for the Technical meeting on decent work in the railways sector as set out in paragraphs 23 and 24 of the document;
- (f) endorsed the programme of global sectoral meetings for the biennium 2026–27 set out in Appendix II to document GB.353/POL/3, as recommended by the sectoral advisory bodies, subject to the approval by the International Labour Conference at its 113th Session (2025) of the corresponding allocations in the Programme and Budget for 2026–27;
- (g) took note of the revised list of sectors presented in Appendix III to document GB.353/POL/3;
- (h) decided to proceed with a revision of the 1966 ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers, subject to a final decision by the UNESCO General Conference in 2025 to initiate the review process;
- (i) requested the Director-General, together with the secretariat of UNESCO, to develop a joint procedural framework leading to the adoption of a revised Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers, which provides adequate participation for ILO constituents, and to submit such a proposal to its 355th Session in November 2025;
- (j) approved the terms of reference for the establishment of an ILO/IMO/UNECE Group of Experts for the finalization of modifications to and restructuring of the CTU Code contained in Appendix V of document GB.353/POL/3.

► Appendix I

Programme of sectoral meetings (October 2025–February 2026)

Meetings as endorsed by the Governing Body	Proposed dates and location	Proposed duration	Proposed title	Proposed purpose	Proposed composition
Meeting of experts to adopt guidelines for fair labour market services for migrant fishers in the fishing sector (including data and statistics) ¹	27–31 October 2025, Geneva	5 days	Meeting of experts on guidelines for fair labour market services for migrant fishers	The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss and adopt guidelines for fair labour market services for migrant fishers. The draft guidelines may include guidance for all relevant stakeholders in terms of recruitment processes, work agreements, complaint procedures, enforcement measures and other essential aspects aimed at ensuring fair treatment, safeguarding the rights of migrant fishers and supporting employers to recruit and retain a suitable skilled workforce.	Eight Government experts; eight Employer experts; eight Worker experts; advisers. Governments to be invited as experts: Ecuador, Ghana, Indonesia, Philippines, South Africa, Spain, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America. Governments on the reserve list: Argentina, France, Namibia, Norway, Peru, Republic of Korea, Senegal, Thailand. All interested governments ² as observers (one per government). Official international organizations and non-governmental international organizations as observers.
Meeting of experts to adopt a code of practice on occupational safety and health in aquaculture ¹	8–12 December 2025, Geneva	5 days	Meeting of experts on a code of practice on occupational safety and health in aquaculture	The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss and adopt a code of practice on occupational safety and health in aquaculture.	Eight Government experts; eight Employer experts; eight Worker experts; advisers. Governments to be invited as experts: Chile, Egypt, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Nigeria, Norway, United States.

Meetings as endorsed by the Governing Body	Proposed dates and location	Proposed duration	Proposed title	Proposed purpose	Proposed composition
					Governments on the reserve list: Canada, Ecuador, Ghana, Republic of Korea, Spain, Uganda, United Kingdom, Viet Nam. All interested governments ² as observers (one per government). Official international organizations and non-governmental international organizations as observers.
Meeting of experts to devise and adopt guidelines on the application of the fundamental principles and rights at work in the professional sports sector, as well as on violence and harassment in the world of sport ³	16–20 February 2026, Geneva	5 days	Meeting of experts on the application of the fundamental principles and rights at work and on violence and harassment in the world of sport	The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss and adopt guidelines on the application of the fundamental principles and rights at work and on violence and harassment in the world of professional sport. The draft guidelines may include guidance to governments, social partners and other relevant stakeholders on how to effectively apply fundamental principles and rights at work, as well as how to prevent and eliminate violence and harassment in the professional sports sector.	Eight Government experts; eight Employer experts; eight Worker experts; advisers. Governments to be invited as experts: Australia, Canada, Chile, France, Japan, Morocco, Slovenia, South Africa. Governments on the reserve list: Egypt, India, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Norway, Poland, United States. All interested governments ² as observers (one per government). Official international organizations and non-governmental international organizations as observers. ⁴

¹ GB.347/POL/2; ² Except Belarus, in accordance with the [decision](#) adopted by the Governing Body in March 2023 concerning options for measures under article 33 of the ILO Constitution, as well as other measures, regarding Belarus; and the Russian Federation, in accordance with the [resolution](#) concerning the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine from the perspective of the mandate of the ILO, adopted by the Governing Body in March 2022. ³ GB.352/PV, para. 973(f). ⁴ To be submitted to the Governing Body at its 355th Session (November 2025).

► Appendix II

Recommendations of the sectoral advisory bodies for global sectoral meetings to be held in the biennium 2026–27

Sectors	Proposals *
Commerce	Technical meeting on occupational safety and health in retail, including the use of technology
Food, drink and tobacco	Technical meeting on the future of employment and perspectives for decent work in the tobacco growing and manufacturing sector
Hotels, tourism, catering	Technical meeting on decent work in the hotel and restaurant sector, including in the fast-food industry
Manufacturing	Technical meeting on challenges and opportunities for promoting decent work, productivity and a just transition arising from artificial intelligence (AI) in the manufacturing industry
Ports	Technical meeting on decent and sustainable work and a just transition in ports and docks
Professional services	Technical meeting on decent work, professionalization, skills and lifelong learning in the private security sector
Utilities	Technical meeting on advancing decent work and sustainable development in the water and sanitation sector

* In accordance with the Standing Orders for technical meetings, the precise titles, including dates, length, place, agenda and expected results of the meetings, will be determined by the Governing Body at a later stage.

► Appendix III

Proposed revised list of sectors

Grouping	Sectors
Agriculture, food and forestry	Agriculture, aquaculture, plantations Food, drink, tobacco Forestry, wood, pulp and paper
Education	Education and training
Extractives and energy	Mining Oil and gas Energy generation
Infrastructure, construction and related sectors	Construction Building materials
Manufacturing	Basic metals Chemicals and pharmaceuticals Electronics, machinery and electrical equipment Textiles, apparel, leather and related products Transport equipment
Maritime and transport	Shipping, fishing, inland waterways Transport, ports and logistics
Private services sectors	Commerce Financial and professional services Media, culture, sports and entertainment Personal, administrative and support services Postal and courier services Telecommunications and information technologies services Tourism, hotel and food & beverage services
Public service, utilities and health	Health and social services Public service Utilities (gas, electricity, water, waste management)

► Appendix IV

The possible revision of the ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers (1966)

The following sections outline the reasons why the revision of the ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers (1966) could be considered, elements of the Recommendation which have been identified as requiring possible revision, the possible scope of a revised instrument, and a possible special joint ILO–UNESCO procedure for adopting such an instrument. It seeks to inform the Governing Body for it to provide its guidance and decisions on this matter.

Background

1. As was set out in the document prepared for the 352nd Session (October–November 2024) of the Governing Body,¹ in February 2024, the UN Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on the Teaching Profession released its Recommendations, which included a Recommendation that “the United Nations system should adopt an up-to-date international instrument, including a convention or a revision of existing instruments, on the teaching profession.”² The ILO and UNESCO served as the secretariat of the High-Level Panel, and in subsequent meetings with both organizations, the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations stressed the importance of following up on the Recommendations of the High-Level Panel.
2. At its 219th Session (March 2024), the Executive Board of UNESCO authorized the UNESCO Director-General to prepare a preliminary study on the technical and legal aspects relating to the desirability of revising both Recommendations.³ At its 220th Session (October 2024), the Executive Board examined this study and recognized the need to take into account shifts in the educational landscape, in particular the requirements of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Goal 4 on quality education, with a view to making the ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers (1966) and the UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Higher-Education Teaching Personnel (1997) more relevant to new realities. It decided to put the question of the revision of both Recommendations on the agenda of the 43rd Session of the General Conference (early November 2025) for final decision. With respect to the 1966 ILO/UNESCO Recommendation, the UNESCO Executive Board requested the UNESCO Director-General, should the Governing Body of the ILO decide to engage in the revision of the ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers (1966), to develop with the ILO a joint procedural framework leading to the adoption of a revised text of this Recommendation in 2027 by a special intergovernmental conference, and to submit it to the Executive Board at its 221st Session (April 2025). The Board also invited the UNESCO Director-General to continue cooperation with the ILO with a view to the revision of the ILO/UNESCO Recommendation.⁴

¹ GB.352/POL/2, section IV.

² ILO, UN and UNESCO, *United Nations Secretary-General's High-Level Panel On The Teaching Profession: Recommendations and summary of deliberations, Transforming the teaching profession*, 2024, para. 53.

³ UNESCO, 219 EX/Decision 17.II.

⁴ UNESCO, 220 EX/Decisions.

The 1966 ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers

3. The ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers was adopted on 5 October 1966 through a Special Intergovernmental Conference on the Status of Teachers, convened by UNESCO in Paris (21 September–5 October 1966). The proposed text had been prepared by a Joint ILO–UNESCO Meeting of Experts on the Status of Teachers, convened by the ILO in Geneva in 1966. Owing to the particular procedures followed for the adoption of the Recommendation, the Governing Body, at its 167th Session (1966), decided that article 19 of the ILO Constitution was not applicable to the Recommendation.⁵
4. In 1997, UNESCO adopted a Recommendation concerning the Status of Higher-Education Teaching Personnel, citing 28 ILO Conventions and Recommendations in the Annex. The draft Recommendation was developed with the cooperation of the ILO.⁶ The 1966 and 1997 Recommendations are to date the only international instruments concerning teachers.
5. Both the 1966 and 1997 Recommendations are monitored by the Joint ILO/UNESCO Committee of Experts on the Application of the Recommendations concerning Teaching Personnel (CEART), which was established in 1967.⁷ The CEART's mandate was last revised in 1999 to extend the Committee's mandate to the 1997 UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Higher-Education Teaching Personnel.⁸ The report of the CEART is transmitted by the Governing Body to the Conference for discussion by the Committee on the Application of Standards.

Previous considerations of revising the Recommendation

6. The question of whether the 1966 Recommendation needed revision has arisen several times. The CEART, in its report of its Third Session in 1976, pointed to areas where the Recommendation could be revised, and the same year, the General Conference of UNESCO, at its 19th Session, requested the UNESCO Director-General to examine, in consultation with the ILO, the possibility of revising the Recommendation, an initiative endorsed by the ILO Governing Body at its 200th Session in 1976. As a result, a special session of the CEART was held in 1979, which examined the Recommendation to identify areas of possible revision. The CEART concluded that the great majority of provisions pertaining to the ILO (notably rights of teachers (79–84); teacher salaries (Part X) and social security (Part XI)) did not need revision, while parts pertaining to security of tenure, teacher shortages (Part XII), and teachers with family responsibilities could be revised.⁹ No further action was taken.
7. In 1984, the ILO and UNESCO published a joint study, examining areas in which the Recommendation could be updated.¹⁰ The study concluded that there had been a considerable number of changes in the field of education, notably the evolution of human rights and international labour standards, teaching methods, technology, teacher training and the expansion of social protection coverage. Moreover, the study noted that the

⁵ GB.167/18/17(Rev.).

⁶ UNESCO, *Recommendation concerning the Status of Higher-Education Teaching Personnel*, 1997.

⁷ GB.170/F.A/D.4/9, 1967.

⁸ GB.276/LILS/9, GB.276/10/2, para. 47, GB.276/PV.

⁹ ILO and UNESCO, *Report of the Joint ILO/UNESCO Committee of Experts on the Application of the Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers, Special Session*, Annex IV, Paris, 19–23 November 1979.

¹⁰ ILO and UNESCO, *The Status of Teachers: An Instrument for its Improvement – The International Recommendation of 1966: Joint Commentaries by the ILO and UNESCO*, 1984.

Recommendation assumed teachers were women and only provides maternity leave, not parental leave.

8. The possibility of its revision was again examined in both 1985 and 1994 by the CEART. While acknowledging deficiencies in some of the language and content which did not reflect changes in education and teaching since 1966, the CEART at those times advised against amending the Recommendation in view of the evolving situation of teachers and the resources required for such an exercise.¹¹
9. At its 14th Session in October 2021, the CEART recommended, “[t]aking into account the scope and depth of societal and structural changes we have seen over the past year, and the demands and responsibilities now placed on schools and teachers in today’s rapidly changing, multi-cultural societies”, that the Governing Body of the ILO and the Executive Board of UNESCO should prepare an analysis of both the 1966 and 1997 Recommendations, to identify new areas related to teachers and teaching which could serve as the basis for a possible revision of these instruments.¹² Shortly after review of this report by the ILO Governing Body in March 2022, the ILO and UNESCO took up leadership of the Thematic Track 3 on Teachers, Teaching and the Teaching Profession for the Transforming Education Summit, which led to the establishment of the High-Level Panel.

Evolving international standards and policies on education and teaching

10. The landscape of international standards related to education and teachers has evolved significantly since October 1966. Already in December that year, the United Nations adopted the 1966 International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the 1966 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
11. Since 1966, the ILO has adopted a number of international labour standards which are considered relevant to education:¹³
 - Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138);
 - Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182);
 - Paid Educational Leave Convention, 1974 (No. 140);
 - Human Resources Development Convention, 1975 (No. 142);
 - Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 (No. 155) and its Protocol of 2002;
 - Workers with Family Responsibilities Convention, 1981 (No. 156);
 - Workers with Family Responsibilities Recommendation, 1981 (No. 165);
 - Home Work Convention, 1996 (No. 177);
 - Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169);
 - Human Resources Development Recommendation, 2004 (No. 195);

¹¹ ILO and UNESCO, *Joint ILO–UNESCO Committee of Experts on the Application of the Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers*, Sixth ordinary Session, CEART/VI/1994/12, July, 1994; *Second special session of the CEART*, September 1985.

¹² ILO and UNESCO, *Final Report: Fourteenth Session of the Joint ILO–UNESCO Committee of Experts on the Application of the Recommendations concerning Teaching Personnel*, CEART/14/2021/10, 2021, Appendix II, para. 3.

¹³ ILO, *Conclusions: Technical meeting on the future of work in the education sector in the context of lifelong learning for all, skills and the Decent Work Agenda*, TMDWA/2021/7, 17–21 May 2021.

- Employment and Decent Work for Peace and Resilience Recommendation, 2017 (No. 205);
 - Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190);
 - Violence and Harassment Recommendation, 2019 (No. 206).
12. In 2014, the ILO adopted *Policy Guidelines on the promotion of decent work for early childhood education personnel*.
13. Other significant international standards related to education adopted since 1966 include:
- 1979 Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;
 - 1990 International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families;
 - 2006 Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities;
 - 2007 United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples;
 - 2015 UNESCO Recommendation on Adult Learning and Education and the 2015 UNESCO Recommendation concerning Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET);
 - 2017 revision of the 1974 UNESCO Recommendation on the Status of Scientific Researchers resulting in the adoption of the 2017 UNESCO Recommendation on Science and Scientific Researchers;
 - 2019 UNESCO Global Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education;
 - 2019 UNESCO Recommendation on Open Educational Resources;
 - 2021 UNESCO Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence;
 - 2022 Tashkent Declaration and Commitments to Action for Transforming Early Childhood Care and Education;
 - 2023 revision of the 1974 UNESCO Recommendation concerning Education for International Understanding, Cooperation and Peace and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, resulting in the adoption of the 2023 Recommendation on Education for Peace and Human Rights, International Understanding, Cooperation, Fundamental Freedoms, Global Citizenship and Sustainable Development.
14. In 2015, the Sustainable Development Goals were adopted. Goal 4 on quality education sets out as its target 4.c “By 2030, substantially increase the supply of qualified teachers, including through international cooperation for teacher training in developing countries, especially least developed countries and small island developing States”. The urgency of recruiting and retaining qualified teachers to attain this Goal has been underscored repeatedly. Globally, 44 million additional primary and secondary teachers are needed to ensure universal primary and secondary education. Teacher shortages affect both developed and developing countries. Most of these teachers (7 out of 10) are required at the secondary level, and over half of those needed are required to replace existing teachers leaving the workforce.¹⁴

¹⁴ International Task Force on Teachers for Education 2030 and UNESCO, *Global Report on Teachers: Addressing teacher shortages and transforming the profession*, 2024.

Areas of possible revision

15. The ILO Technical meeting on the future of work in the education sector in the context of lifelong learning for all, skills and the Decent Work Agenda was held in Geneva from 17 to 21 May 2021. The [conclusions](#) of the meeting point to a number of developments in the teaching profession which suggest the Recommendation of 1966 is no longer up to date with current realities. These topics include:
 - (a) **Education technology.** The conclusions noted the increasing importance of education technology and the role of hybrid teaching methods and their potential impact on professional autonomy, privacy and data protection, pedagogy, quality of education, governance of education, and working conditions. The Recommendation only refers to technology indirectly in paragraph 88 on “Teaching aids”.
 - (b) **Professional autonomy.** The conclusions noted that professional autonomy is being challenged due to political and economic factors, including the problematic use of standardization in education. While education requires high degrees of coordination, its implementation to suit the needs of individual learners in varying contexts requires a well-skilled and a responsive teaching workforce. Paragraphs 61–69 of the Recommendation address “professional freedom” but do not deal with increased standardization in education and the impact of technologies.
 - (c) **The expanded role of educators.** The conclusions noted the expanded role of teachers in relation to global citizenship and social issues such as health, entrepreneurship education, community-building, climate change, well-being, social justice and peace which require adequate skills training, professional learning and development, and support to fulfil these functions. This expanded role of teachers, together with the demands of technology, has led to an overall work intensification of the teaching profession. The Recommendation only mentions teachers’ duties in relation to “extra-curricular” activities” in paragraph 74, and it focuses mostly on teacher subject-knowledge and education theory.
 - (d) **Occupational safety and health, including risks related to violence and harassment.** The meeting acknowledged that, as frontline workers, education personnel are exposed to occupational health risks, including violence and harassment, both at work and through information and communication technologies, as well as infectious diseases. The Recommendation only mentions teacher safety once, in relation to the maintenance of school premises (paragraph 109).
 - (e) **Connecting teaching to the needs of the labour market.** The technical meeting stressed the importance of education and training systems that are responsive to labour market needs. This can include collaboration between education and skills authorities and workers’ and employers’ organizations, work-based learning schemes, recognition of prior learning through appropriate assessment by qualified teachers and trainers, skills councils, partnerships between education institutions and enterprises, and social dialogue around education and training policies. Paragraph 20 of the Recommendation, which deals with teacher preparation programmes, only indirectly mentions links to industry in the context of vocational schools.
 - (f) **Gender equality.** The conclusions noted the importance of gender equality and inclusion for all across all levels of education and in governance, as well as the participation of women in science, engineering, technology, mathematics and emerging fields. As previous examinations of the Recommendation found, the instrument does not address

gender equality, addresses women teachers only in the context of maternity and parental responsibilities (paragraphs 54–58, 95 and 100), and uses only masculine pronouns to refer to teachers.

- (g) **Private provision of education.** The technical meeting noted the importance of private education institutions and public–private partnerships, which in 2021 provided education to 40 per cent of pre-primary pupils, 20 per cent of primary pupils and 30 per cent of secondary and tertiary students.¹⁵ While the Recommendation applies to teachers in private schools, it does not further address the specific challenges and opportunities faced by private school teachers in relation to working conditions and social dialogue. The Recommendation also does not envision employers’ organizations as relevant partners in education policy. Employers’ organizations are mentioned once (paragraph 10(k)), whereas the Recommendation mentions teachers’ organizations multiple times.
16. At its 15th Session in 2024, the CEART examined the Recommendations of the UN Secretary-General’s High-Level Panel on the Teaching Profession in light of a possible revision of the 1966 and 1997 Recommendations.¹⁶ In its report, it outlined a number of topics which could be examined if a decision was made to revise the Recommendations. The CEART also took into consideration other international discussions of the teaching profession, including the preparatory work on teaching for the UN Transforming Education Summit, the International Commission on the Futures of Education, the Global Report on Teachers by UNESCO and the International Task Force on Teachers for Education 2030.¹⁷ The topics the CEART examined included:
- (a) **Artificial intelligence and teaching (AI).** AI will have an enormous impact on education. It can promote collaboration, simplify administrative tasks and support the development of new pedagogical tools. It can also pose challenges to academic integrity, equality, human rights and data protection in the context of education. The Recommendation does not address this issue.
 - (b) **Developing teacher leadership.** Teacher leadership has emerged as an important means for professional development for teachers. This includes both teachers taking on school leadership roles or leadership positions within the profession. The Recommendation does not address leadership.
 - (c) **Induction, collaboration and mentorship.** Teaching is viewed as a collaborative profession, which is reinforced through induction and mentorship by experienced teachers, and strong systems for reflective and reflexive practice. These approaches are vital for creating the support systems to address teacher attrition. The Recommendation is silent on this issue.
 - (d) **Equity, diversity and inclusion.** Achieving greater equality in education also means promoting diversity and inclusion in the teaching force. This includes not only addressing gender equality, but also attracting other marginalized and vulnerable groups to the

¹⁵ UNESCO, *Global Education Monitoring Report, 2021/2: Non-state actors in education – Who chooses? Who loses?*, 2021.

¹⁶ ILO and UNESCO, *Final Report: Fifteenth Session – Report of the Joint ILO–UNESCO Committee of Experts on the Application of the Recommendations concerning Teaching Personnel* (Geneva, 11–13 September 2024).

¹⁷ International Commission on the Futures of Education, *Reimagining our futures together: A new social contract for education*; Transforming Education Summit, “Thematic Action Track 3: Teachers, teaching and the teaching profession”, Discussion Paper (Final draft –15 July 2022); International Task Force on Teachers for Education 2030 and UNESCO, *Global Report on Teachers*, 2024.

profession, such as persons with disabilities and ethnic and linguistic minorities. This issue is not addressed by the Recommendation.

- (e) **Teaching in crisis-affected contexts.** According to the Inter-agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE), between 2015 and 2019 there were more than 11,000 attacks on schools worldwide, harming over 22,000 students and teachers in 93 countries. A total of 29 per cent of the world's primary and secondary school-age population lived in crisis-affected countries, accounting for 49 per cent of the world's out-of-school primary and secondary school-age children and young people.¹⁸ Teachers working in such situations require appropriate training and psychosocial support, and refugee teachers also have specific needs. This important topic is not addressed by the Recommendation.

Scope of the instrument

- 17. The scope of the 1966 Recommendation covers teachers in both public and private schools up to the completion of the secondary stage of education, whether nursery, kindergarten, primary, intermediate or secondary, including those providing technical, vocational or art education. This scope would likely remain the focus of the Recommendation. The ILO Technical meeting on the future of work in the education sector in the context of lifelong learning for all, skills and the Decent Work Agenda recognized the increasing importance of education support personnel in relation to teaching. Such personnel can range from administrators, counsellors and nurses working in schools to transport and cleaning workers. The High-Level Panel also highlighted the special needs of early childhood education teachers and vocational teachers. The revised instrument could consider the needs of these workers in relation to the teaching profession.

A possible special ILO–UNESCO procedural framework leading to the adoption of a revised Recommendation

- 18. The 1966 Recommendation was adopted through a special procedure set out by the ILO Governing Body and the UNESCO Executive Board specifically for the instrument.
- 19. Should the 353rd Session of the Governing Body decide to proceed with the revision of the 1966 Recommendation, the initiation of the review process would be submitted for final decision to the UNESCO General Conference's 43rd Session in early November 2025.
- 20. The following elements could be considered in the elaboration of a special procedural framework with UNESCO leading to the adoption of a revised text of the Recommendation in 2027 by a special intergovernmental conference. To draft the revised Recommendation, an Expert Group could be established in 2026 following the model of the UN Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on the Teaching Profession. Appointed by both the ILO and UNESCO through appropriate procedures, such a group would consist of representatives of education and labour ministries, social partners and other relevant stakeholders, supported by a joint ILO–UNESCO secretariat. Such a group would meet regularly, in person and through virtual means, to draft a first version of the Recommendation to be circulated to ILO and UNESCO Members and employers and workers through the ILO secretariats of the Employers' and Workers' groups, in the second half of 2026. The Expert Group would elaborate a second draft based on comments received and circulate it to ILO and UNESCO Members and employers and workers through the ILO secretariats of the Employers' and Workers' groups, in early 2027. A final draft

¹⁸ INEE, *20 Years of INEE: Achievements and Challenges in Education in Emergencies*, 2020.

would be prepared by the Expert Group in time for a special intergovernmental conference in the second half of 2027.

21. The special intergovernmental conference would be hosted by UNESCO. Special standing orders would need to be developed to ensure adequate representation of both ILO and UNESCO Members. As with the 1966 Recommendation, the ILO Governing Body would review the text adopted by the special intergovernmental conference in the first half of 2028.
22. Should the decision to revise the Recommendation go forward, details of the possible procedure to adopt a revised instrument would be submitted to the Governing Body at its 355th Session (November 2025) and the UNESCO Executive Board in April 2026 for final approval.¹⁹

¹⁹ In its decision at the 220th Session in November 2024 ([220 EX/Decisions](#)), the UNESCO Executive Board requested that a proposed joint procedural framework be submitted to its 221st Session in April 2025. It is accepted that this timeline is not possible.

► Appendix V

Terms of reference for the establishment of an ILO/IMO/UNECE Group of Experts for the finalization of modifications and restructuring of the Code of Practice for Packing of Cargo Transport Units (2014 CTU Code)

Mandate, working methods and duration

1. The Group of Experts should be tasked to:
 - (a) finalize and recommend for endorsement to the IMO, ILO and UNECE a revised version of the 2014 CTU Code (Core and Supplement), which should reflect the latest information, updates, best practices and requirements on the subject;
 - (b) define and suggest a review and amendment process for each of its sections (Core and Supplement) or any other special instructions pertaining to its chapters, annexes and appendices.
2. The members of the Group of Experts should adopt its work (revisions, outcome document, and amendment process suggestions) by consensus, as duly ascertained and announced by the Chairperson.
3. The Group of Experts should be conducted with simultaneous interpretation in all UN official languages and in a hybrid format where possible. Meeting documents should be made available in all UN official languages, where possible.
4. Unless otherwise decided by the ILO Governing Body, the IMO Council and the UNECE's Inland Transport Committee, the Group of Experts should complete its work in one session (five-day meeting) to be convened in 2025 or 2026 at the Palais des Nations.

Composition

5. The Group of Experts should be composed of members to be nominated or invited by the ILO, the UNECE and the IMO secretariats, as follows:
 - (a) the ILO will be represented in the Group of Experts by four members – two representatives of employers and two representatives of workers – nominated by the ILO through the respective Employers' and Workers' groups of the ILO Governing Body;
 - (b) the IMO and the UNECE will be represented in the Group of Experts by representatives of their Member States. Bearing in mind that one of the key objectives of the Group of Experts is to discuss issues related to the packing of cargo transport units, each IMO and UNECE member shall endeavour to participate with representatives from the maritime, ports, labour and rail, road or intermodal transport authorities.
6. All members may submit working and information documents and may be assisted by advisers when needed.
7. In accordance with their own practices, the secretariats of each one of the collaborating organizations (the IMO, the ILO and the UNECE) should make their own arrangements regarding the cost of participation of their representatives in the Group of Experts.

Officers

8. The Group of Experts shall elect a Chairperson among the government representatives, and three Vice-Chairpersons, one from each of the three groups (Workers, Employers and Governments).
9. The Chairperson shall be responsible for declaring the opening and closing of each meeting, directing the discussions, according the right to speak, ascertaining consensus and ruling on points of order.

Observers

10. Representatives of official international organizations, non-governmental international organizations or other entities with which the ILO, the IMO and the UNECE have established consultative relationships, with which standing agreements for such representation have been made, or which have been specially invited by the Parties' competent bodies, may attend as observers. Representatives of official international organizations may participate in the debates without decision-making power.
11. Observers shall register at least 15 days in advance of a meeting.
12. The Chairperson, in agreement with the Vice-Chairpersons, may permit the representatives of international organizations and non-governmental international organizations to make or circulate statements for the information of the meeting on matters included in its agenda.
13. The Chairperson, with the approval of the Vice-Chairpersons, may invite a limited number of technical experts on the topic(s) under consideration to speak. They may submit documents during the Group of Experts, subject to co-sponsoring by at least one member of the Group of Experts.

Secretariat

14. The ILO, the IMO and the UNECE should establish a joint secretariat. The secretariat should be responsible for preparing draft agendas, circulating the prepared draft code and working documents, drafting reports of meetings, and providing any other services to assist the Group of Experts in the discharge of its functions.
15. The joint secretariat will be responsible for following up and taking part in the preparatory work led by the UNECE Working Party on Intermodal Transport and Logistics (WP.24) for the preparation of the proposals to be considered by the Group of Experts (new draft code and amendment suggestions), which may have been carried out by correspondence, virtually or through WP.24 informal groups.