



Tripartite Meeting on the Review of the Functioning of the Governing Body

Geneva, 5–8 May 2025

► Essential information and arrangements for the conduct of debates

1. At its 352nd Session (October–November 2024), the Governing Body:
 - (a) decided to undertake a review of the areas of its functioning identified in section I of document GB.352/INS/8(Rev.1) and to convene, to that end, two tripartite meetings to which the Standing Orders for technical meetings would apply, with the suspension of article 3, paragraph 2, and article 9, paragraphs 2, 3 and 8, and for which arrangements would be made to enable remote participation;
 - (b) decided that:
 - (i) the first tripartite meeting would be held over four days in April/May 2025 and present its deliberations and outcome to the Governing Body at its 355th Session (November 2025);
 - (ii) the second tripartite meeting would be held in January/February 2026, and present its deliberations and outcome to the Governing Body at its 356th Session (March 2026);
 - (iii) the meetings would be composed of one representative of each interested Government, eight representatives of the Employers' group and of the Workers' group respectively, with the possibility of being accompanied by advisers;
 - (c) noted that discussions were ongoing within the Government group concerning the representation of Governments in the Screening Group.
2. This note provides essential information and describes the proposed arrangements for the first meeting, which will be held from 5 to 8 May 2025 in Geneva with participants attending in person and remotely.

Suspension of certain provisions of the Standing Orders for technical meetings

3. In accordance with the decision above, the meeting shall be governed by the [Standing Orders for technical meetings](#) (the Standing Orders), with the suspension of the following provisions:¹

¹ GB.352/PV, para 436 and GB.352/INS/8(Rev.1).

- article 3(2), as there will be no need to publish or disseminate the outcomes of the meetings, which should be reported to the Governing Body at its 355th Session (November 2025);
- paragraphs 2, 3 and 8 of article 9, as representatives of international organizations and non-governmental organizations and external persons will not participate.

Purpose of the meeting and programme of work

4. Based on recent discussions by the Governing Body, the Office has prepared a [background document](#) that contains proposals to improve the functioning of the Governing Body in the seven areas that have been identified as requiring a review.
5. Participants will discuss these proposals with a view to selecting proposals that could be submitted to the Governing Body for endorsement and those that could be further developed for consideration by the Governing Body or at a second tripartite meeting.
6. The outcome of the meeting will be recommendations to the Governing Body concerning the proposals to be endorsed and the proposals to be further developed. In accordance with article 13 of the Standing Orders, the meeting will set up a subsidiary body to prepare the draft recommendations.
7. As indicated in the [programme of work](#), the discussion of the proposals by the meeting plenary is expected to conclude by Wednesday midday and the Subsidiary body to meet on Wednesday afternoon to prepare the draft recommendations. The meeting will consider the draft recommendations as of Thursday morning and adopt them in the afternoon before closing the meeting.

Remote attendance

8. All participants will be able to join the sittings and actively participate in the discussion remotely through a closed virtual platform, which will allow them to communicate in writing with the Secretariat through the chat function in the platform to request any technical assistance.
9. Participants attending online will receive on Friday, 2 May, the link to follow all the sittings of the meeting from "ILO / OIT <no-reply@zoom.us>". They should activate the microphone and camera only when given the floor.
10. The sittings and group meetings will be organized during Geneva working hours between 9.00 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. There will normally be two daily sittings and evening sittings will be avoided to the extent possible. Should these become necessary, extended sittings will be announced in advance.
11. There will be group meetings (Employers' group, Workers' group and Government group) in the morning and afternoon. Group meetings are private, and therefore, should only be accessed by those participants authorized by each group. Authorized participants will be able to take the floor and listen to other participants and to interact through the chat function.

Conduct of debates

12. In the interest of making the best use of the time available, and based on the experience of previous hybrid meetings, the following principles, will apply:
 - To the extent possible, positions should be expressed through group statements made by the spokesperson for the group. Individual statements should, to the extent possible, be

limited to situations where they differ from the group to which the member belongs, or where they add a perspective not covered by the group statement.

- Participants are encouraged to send requests for the floor at least one hour before the opening of the sitting at which they want to speak and to indicate on which proposal they will speak.
- To make the best use of the time available, it is proposed to apply the following time limits for statements: five minutes for groups spokespersons and three minutes for individual statements. This proposal will be submitted to the Officers for approval in accordance with article 7(5).

Interpretation

13. Interpretation will be available in English, French and Spanish. To ensure accurate and faithful interpretation, written statements should be sent in advance to: interpreterspeeches@ilo.org. Interpreters will treat this information as confidential and check against delivery.
14. For participants attending online, interpretation can only work if they use a headset with microphone. It is also strongly advised to speak at a slower pace than usual.

Contact

- All the information and documents for the meeting are available on its [webpage](#), which is updated regularly.
- For any questions, please contact reloff@ilo.org.