

Committee on the Application of Standards

Date: 16 May 2025

Governments appearing on the list of individual cases have the opportunity, if they so wish, to supply written information to the Committee.

► Information on the application of ratified Conventions supplied by governments on the list of individual cases

Bolivia (Plurinational State of)

Asbestos Convention, 1986 (No. 162) (ratification: 1990)

Safety and Health in Construction Convention, 1988 (No. 167) (ratification: 2015)

The Government has provided the following written information, as well as a copy of the proposed tentative methodology for conducting training workshops on the safe use of asbestos and occupational safety for sectors exposed to asbestos.

The Plurinational State of Bolivia affirms that, in accordance with the Conventions, it has in place the General Act on Occupational Safety and Health, and Welfare, adopted by Legislative Decree No. 16998 of 2 August 1979, occupational safety and health (OSH) management programmes, Technical Safety Standards (NTS), NTS 009/23, adopted by Ministerial Decision No. 992/23 of 9 June 2023, on the OSH management programme, and NTS 008/17, approved by Ministerial Decision No. 387/17 of 17 May 2017, which, although they are general, contribute to reducing the use of asbestos and to its elimination as, in order to comply with these standards, enterprises in various areas take measures to protect the integrity of workers against exposure to agents harmful to health.

Specifically with regard to Convention No. 162, technical point 5(b) of NTS 009/23 requires specific studies and/or monitoring, depending on the characteristics of the enterprise or workplace, with the results to be recorded in the hazard identification, risk assessment and control (IPER) matrix, in which asbestos is included under: "(ii) contaminating chemicals in the working environment (hazardous substances) and (vi) other studies that may be necessary". Immediate action will also include the development of a training programme to raise awareness of the safe use of asbestos and occupational safety for sectors exposed to asbestos. The programme will be brought to the attention of the World Health Organization so that it can contribute to its content with experts on the subjects on an inter-institutional basis with the Ministry of Health and Sports and other institutions to be identified.