



Governing Body

356th Session, Geneva, 23 March–2 April 2026

Legal Issues and International Labour Standards Section

LILS

International Labour Standards and Human Rights Segment

Date: 27 February 2026

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Third item on the agenda

Proposed forms for reports to be submitted under article 19 of the ILO Constitution in 2027, 2028 and 2029

Selected up-to-date instruments

Purpose of the document

In this document, the Governing Body is invited to request governments to submit reports under article 19 of the ILO Constitution on selected up-to-date instruments and to approve the corresponding report form (see the draft decision in paragraph 5).

Relevant strategic objective: All.

Main relevant outcome: Outcome 1: Strong, modernized normative action for social justice.

Policy implications: None.

Legal implications: None.

Financial implications: None.

Follow-up action required: Implementation of the Governing Body's decision.

Author unit: International Labour Standards Department (NORMES).

Related documents: None.

1. At its 355th Session (November 2025), the Governing Body had before it a document concerning the choice of Conventions and Recommendations on which reports should be requested under article 19 of the ILO Constitution with a view to the preparation of a General Survey by the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations (Committee of Experts) in 2027, for discussion by the Committee on the Application of Standards in 2028.¹
2. Following the examination of the various options proposed, the Governing Body considered that the General Surveys to be prepared by the Committee of Experts in 2027, 2028 and 2029 should focus on the prospects of ratification of selected up-to-date instruments. The selected up-to-date Conventions relate to outdated Conventions examined by the Standards Review Mechanism Tripartite Working Group (SRM TWG).² In the discussions, reference was made to the potential role of the General Survey in helping to provide a common understanding at the institutional level of the various national circumstances influencing the ratification and effective implementation of selected up-to-date standards,³ particularly in countries where outdated instruments⁴ remain in force; the prospects of, and obstacles to, their ratification; and the technical assistance that may be required to overcome these obstacles. A General Survey would provide comprehensive information on further progress made in respect of the recommendations of the SRM TWG, the follow-up to which is recognized as an institutional priority, and on the impact of promotional work giving effect to these recommendations.⁵ Reports requested on the selected instruments would be spread over a period of three years. This period would correspond to the transitional period proposed for the roll-out of thematic implementation reports under article 22 of the Constitution.⁶
3. The Governing Body therefore decided to request the Office to prepare, for its consideration at its 356th Session (March–April 2026), draft article 19 report forms concerning up-to-date Conventions linked with standards classified as outdated, in particular:
 - the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188), the Occupational Safety and Health (Dock Work) Convention, 1979 (No. 152), the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169), and the Maternity Protection Convention, 2000 (No. 183), for the General Survey to be prepared by the Committee of Experts in 2027 for discussion by the Committee on the Application of Standards in 2028;
 - the Safety and Health in Mines Convention, 1995 (No. 176), the Safety and Health in Construction Convention, 1988 (No. 167), the Occupational Safety and Health Convention,

¹ GB.355/LILS/3.

² The SRM TWG, pursuant to its mandate to contribute to ensuring that the ILO has a clear, robust and up-to-date body of international labour standards, has adopted recommendations, endorsed by the Governing Body, classifying a number of instruments as outdated and calling for the ratification, promotion and effective implementation of the up-to-date instrument or instruments relating to these outdated instruments, particularly in Member States still bound by them.

³ Up-to-date standards are instruments that are fit for purpose. They are promoted by the Office, fully supervised by the Committee of Experts and included in all publications on the standards. See ILO, [Information document 4: Classification of instruments and follow-up action](#), third meeting of the SRM TWG, 2017, para. 10.

⁴ Outdated standards are instruments that appear to have lost their purpose or to no longer make a useful contribution to attaining the objectives of the Organization. See ILO, [International labour standards – A glossary](#), 2019, and [Information document 4: Classification of instruments and follow-up action](#), third meeting of the SRM TWG, 2017, para. 11.

⁵ The SRM TWG recommended that surveys be undertaken in a number of instances to collect information relevant to the ratification of certain up-to-date instruments, including in relation to possible challenges and obstacles, with a view to identifying concrete steps to encourage ratification. See [GB.352/LILS/3](#).

⁶ [GB.355/PV](#), paras 1057–1073.

1981 (No. 155), the Protocol of 2002 to the Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981, the Occupational Health Services Convention, 1985 (No. 161), the Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 2006 (No. 187), and the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138), for the General Survey to be prepared by the Committee of Experts in 2028 for discussion by the Committee on the Application of Standards in 2029;

- the Private Employment Agencies Convention, 1997 (No. 181), the Employment Service Convention, 1948 (No. 88), the Labour Statistics Convention, 1985 (No. 160), the Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952 (No. 102) (Part IV), the Equality of Treatment (Social Security) Convention, 1962 (No. 118), the Employment Promotion and Protection against Unemployment Convention, 1988 (No. 168), the Labour Inspection Convention, 1947 (No. 81), and the Labour Inspection (Agriculture) Convention, 1969 (No. 129), for the General Survey to be prepared by the Committee of Experts in 2029 for discussion by the Committee on the Application of Standards in 2030.⁷
4. The proposed report forms prepared by the Office aim to take into account the views and concerns expressed by the Governing Body at its 355th Session (November 2025) and are submitted for its consideration and approval (see appendices). Subsequently, the proposed reports forms will be available in PDF format and also adapted into a fillable form in Word. As the selected up-to-date Conventions cover a wide range of subjects, the report forms request that governments indicate briefly, for each of the Conventions concerned: (a) the extent to which they propose to give effect to the terms of the instrument; and (b) any difficulties which prevent or delay its ratification. Requested responses should provide, in brief, essential instrument-specific information summarizing the key actions proposed to give effect to the respective Conventions, together with any obstacles to ratification.

► Draft decision

5. The Governing Body:

- (a) requested governments to submit reports under article 19 of the ILO Constitution:
- (i) for 2027 on the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188), the Occupational Safety and Health (Dock Work) Convention, 1979 (No. 152), the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169), and the Maternity Protection Convention, 2000 (No. 183);
 - (ii) for 2028 on the Safety and Health in Mines Convention, 1995 (No. 176), the Safety and Health in Construction Convention, 1988 (No. 167), the Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 (No. 155), the Protocol of 2002 to the Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981, the Occupational Health Services Convention, 1985 (No. 161), the Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 2006 (No. 187), and the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138);
 - (iii) for 2029 on the Employment Service Convention, 1948 (No. 88), the Private Employment Agencies Convention, 1997 (No. 181), the Labour Statistics Convention, 1985 (No. 160), the Social Security (Minimum Standards)

⁷ GB.355/PV, paras 1091–1120.

Convention, 1952 (No. 102) (Part IV), the Equality of Treatment (Social Security) Convention, 1962 (No. 118), the Employment Promotion and Protection against Unemployment Convention, 1988 (No. 168), the Labour Inspection Convention, 1947 (No. 81), and the Labour Inspection (Agriculture) Convention, 1969 (No. 129);

- (b) approved the report forms concerning these instruments, as set out in the appendices to document GB.356/LILS/3.**

► Appendix I

Appl. 19
C.188, C.152, C.169, C.183

International Labour Office

Reports on unratified Conventions and Recommendations (article 19 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization)

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Report form for the following instruments:

Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188)

Occupational Safety and Health (Dock Work) Convention, 1979 (No. 152)

Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169)

Maternity Protection Convention, 2000 (No. 183)

Geneva

2026

Article 19 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization relates to the adoption of Conventions and Recommendations by the Conference, as well as to the obligations resulting therefrom for the Members of the Organization. The relevant provisions of paragraphs 5 and 7 of this article read as follows:

5. In the case of a Convention:

...

- (e) if the Member does not obtain the consent of the authority or authorities within whose competence the matter lies, no further obligation shall rest upon the Member except that it shall report to the Director-General of the International Labour Office, at appropriate intervals as requested by the Governing Body, the position of its law and practice in regard to the matters dealt with in the Convention, showing the extent to which effect has been given, or is proposed to be given, to any of the provisions of the Convention by legislation, administrative action, collective agreement or otherwise and stating the difficulties which prevent or delay the ratification of such Convention.

7. In the case of a federal State, the following provisions shall apply:

- (a) in respect of Conventions and Recommendations which the federal Government regards as appropriate under its constitutional system for federal action, the obligations of the federal State shall be the same as those of Members which are not federal States;
- (b) in respect of Conventions and Recommendations which the federal Government regards as appropriate under its constitutional system, in whole or in part, for action by the constituent states, provinces or cantons rather than for federal action, the federal Government shall:

...

- (iv) in respect of each such Convention which it has not ratified, report to the Director-General of the International Labour Office, at appropriate intervals as requested by the Governing Body, the position of the law and practice of the federation and its constituent states, provinces or cantons in regard to the Convention, showing the extent to which effect has been given, or is proposed to be given, to any of the provisions of the Convention by legislation, administrative action, collective agreement, or otherwise;

In accordance with the above provisions, the Governing Body of the International Labour Office examined and approved the present report form. This has been drawn up in such a manner as to facilitate the supply of the required information on uniform lines.

Report

to be made no later than 28 February 2027, in accordance with article 19 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization by the Government of, on the position of national law and practice in regard to matters dealt with in the instruments referred to in the following questionnaire.

Workers' and employers' organizations may send comments no later than 30 June 2027.

* * *

Context and scope of the questions

At its 355th Session (November 2025), the Governing Body considered that the General Survey to be prepared by the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations in 2027, 2028 and 2029, should focus on the prospects of ratification of selected up-to-date instruments.¹ The Governing Body requested the Office to prepare for its consideration at its 356th Session (March–April 2026), the article 19 report form on the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188), the Occupational Safety and Health (Dock Work) Convention, 1979 (No. 152), the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169), and the Maternity Protection Convention, 2000 (No. 183), for the General Survey to be prepared by the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations in 2027 for discussion by the Conference Committee on the Application of Standards (CAS) in 2028.

During the discussion within the Governing Body, reference was made to the potential role of the General Survey in helping to provide a common understanding at the institutional level of the various national circumstances influencing the ratification and effective implementation of selected up-to-date standards,² particularly in countries where outdated instruments³ remain in force; the prospects of, and obstacles to, their ratification; and the technical assistance that may be required to overcome these obstacles. A General Survey would provide comprehensive information on further progress made in respect of the recommendations of the Standards Review Mechanism Tripartite Working Group (SRM TWG), the follow-up to which is recognized as an institutional priority, and on the impact of promotional work giving effect to those recommendations.⁴ Finally, the General Survey could provide relevant information for the preparation of the forthcoming recurrent discussion on the strategic objective of social protection (labour protection) by the International Labour Conference at its 117th Session (2029).

As the selected up-to-date Conventions cover a wide range of subjects, the report form, which is structured as a simple questionnaire, requests that governments indicate briefly, for each of the Conventions concerned: (a) the extent to which they propose to give effect to the terms of the instrument; and (b) any difficulties which prevent or delay its ratification. Requested responses should provide, in brief, essential instrument-specific information summarizing the key actions proposed to give effect to the respective Conventions, together with any obstacles to ratification.

¹ The selected up-to-date Conventions relate to outdated Conventions examined by the Standards Review Mechanism Tripartite Working Group (SRM TWG). The SRM TWG, pursuant to its mandate to contribute to ensuring that the ILO has a clear, robust and up-to-date body of international labour standards, has adopted recommendations, endorsed by the Governing Body, classifying a number of instruments as outdated and calling for the ratification, promotion and effective implementation of the up-to-date instrument or instruments relating to these outdated instruments, particularly in Member States still bound by them.

² Up-to-date standards are instruments that are fit for purpose. They are promoted by the Office, fully supervised by the Committee of Experts, and are included in all publications on the standards. See [Information document 4: Classification of instruments and follow-up action](#), third meeting of the SRM TWG (2017), para. 10.

³ Outdated standards are instruments that appear to have lost their purpose or to no longer make a useful contribution to attaining the objectives of the Organization. See [International labour standards – A glossary](#), and [Information document 4: Classification of instruments and follow-up action](#), third meeting of the SRM TWG (2017), para. 11.

⁴ The SRM TWG recommended that surveys be undertaken in a number of instances to collect information relevant to the ratification of certain up-to-date instruments, including in relation to possible challenges and obstacles, with a view to identifying concrete steps to encourage ratification. See [GB.352/LILS/3](#).

* * *

The following questions relate to the prospects of ratification of the selected up-to-date Conventions. They are addressed only to Member States that have not ratified these standards.

For federal States, please provide answers to the questions below with regard to both the federal level and the level of the federated units.

In the absence of recent new developments as regards a given Convention, reference may be made to information previously supplied to the ILO, in a report on an unratified Convention or in connection with the submission of a Convention to the competent authority.

Where readily available, please give a specific reference (including a web hyperlink) for information relating to the provisions of legislation, regulations, collective agreements, work rules, arbitration awards, court decisions and policies (or attach an electronic copy).

Article 19 report form concerning Conventions Nos 188, 152, 169 and 183

I. Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188)

Convention No. 188 is the most up-to-date international labour standard addressing working and living conditions of fishers. It revises, consolidates and complements previous outdated fishing instruments (the Minimum Age (Fishermen) Convention, 1959 (No. 112), Medical Examination (Fishermen) Convention, 1959 (No. 113), Fishermen's Articles of Agreement Convention, 1959 (No. 114), and Accommodation of Crews (Fishermen) Convention, 1966 (No. 126)). The aim of the Convention is to guarantee that fishers have decent conditions of work on board fishing vessels with regard to minimum requirements, such as minimum age, medical examination, fishers' work agreements, manning, hours of rest, repatriation, recruitment and placement, payment, accommodation and food, occupational safety and health protection, medical care and social security. The Convention applies to commercial fishing and does not apply to subsistence fishing or recreational fishing; it allows for exclusions of limited categories of fishers or fishing vessels under the conditions set out in the Convention.

At its 352nd Session (October–November 2024), the Governing Body approved recommendations adopted by the ninth meeting of the SRM TWG,⁵ including the targeted promotion of the ratification and effective implementation of up-to-date Convention No. 188 in Member States in which outdated Conventions Nos 112, 113, 114 and 126 are currently in force.⁶

Questions on Convention No. 188

1. If your country has not ratified Convention No. 188, please indicate briefly:
 - 1.(a). the extent to which your country proposes to give effect to the terms of **Convention No. 188**;
 - 1.(b). any difficulties which prevent or delay the ratification of **Convention No. 188**.

II. Occupational Safety and Health (Dock Work) Convention, 1979 (No. 152)

Convention No. 152 revises the outdated Protection against Accidents (Dockers) Convention (Revised), 1932 (No. 32). It is the most up-to-date ILO instrument concerning the occupational health and safety of dock workers. The Convention was developed to raise the standard of safety and health in dock work to an acceptable minimum level in the ports of the world, to achieve the required measure of international uniformity to ensure that ships are not hindered at any port of call because of substantial variation in national safety regulations or varying interpretation of those regulations, and to assist developing countries that may lack the relevant expertise, experience or guidance which is available in the larger industrial and maritime countries. The scope of the Convention extends to the prevention of accidents and occupational diseases through legislative or regulatory measures addressing infrastructure, operations, training, emergency preparedness and health protection. In brief, the Convention

⁵ Report of the ninth meeting of the SRM TWG, 2024, [GB.352/LILS/3](#), Annex I, para. 7.

⁶ [GB.352/PV](#), para. 1135. The recommendations approved also included placing an item concerning the abrogation of Convention No. 112 on the agenda of the 118th Session of the International Labour Conference (2030). At its 353rd Session, the Governing Body (March 2025) decided to place an item concerning the abrogation of Convention No. 112, on the agenda of the 118th Session (2030) of the Conference and invited the four Member States in which Convention No. 112 is still in force to effectively implement the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138), and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182), with the technical assistance of the Office. [GB.353/PV](#), para. 52(d).

provides for workplaces, equipment, and working methods to be safe and properly maintained. It requires that ships, lifting appliances and cargo-handling gear are suitable, regularly inspected and correctly used. It provides for appropriate training, information, and supervision to ensure dock work is carried out safely, and for safety rules and protective equipment to be observed in practice. The Convention further provides for regulatory frameworks, inspection systems and enforcement measures to support compliance. Lastly, it calls for consultations and close collaboration among all parties involved in dock work.

At its 352nd Session (October–November 2024), the Governing Body approved recommendations adopted by the ninth meeting of the SRM TWG,⁷ including the targeted promotion of the ratification and effective implementation of up-to-date Convention No. 152 in Member States in which outdated Convention No. 32 is currently in force.⁸

Questions on Convention No. 152

2. If your country has not ratified Convention No. 152, please indicate briefly:
 - 2.(a). the extent to which your country proposes to give effect to the terms of **Convention No. 152**;
 - 2.(b). any difficulties which prevent or delay the ratification of **Convention No. 152**.

III. Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169)

Convention No. 169 revises the outdated Indigenous and Tribal Populations Convention, 1957 (No. 107). It is the most up-to-date ILO instrument concerning indigenous and tribal peoples' rights and is based on a regulatory approach that differs from that of earlier instruments. Convention No. 169 adopts a comprehensive approach to the protection of the rights of indigenous and tribal peoples and is based on recognition of their aspirations to control their institutions, ways of life and economic development, as well as respect for their cultures. It recognizes self-identification as a fundamental criterion for the determination of the peoples protected and sets out the obligation for governments to develop a systematic and coordinated action to protect indigenous and tribal peoples' rights and integrity. The Convention enshrines the right of indigenous and tribal peoples to be consulted as a tool for ensuring their full participation in decisions that affect them, as well as in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of plans and programmes for national and regional development which may affect them. The Convention also recognizes the spiritual and cultural value that indigenous peoples attribute to the land and their right of ownership and possession over the lands they traditionally occupy. Further, the Convention calls for the adoption of a wide range of measures pertaining to indigenous and tribal peoples' employment and vocational training, education, health and social security, customary law, traditional institutions, languages, religious beliefs as well as to cross-border cooperation.

At its 352nd Session (October–November 2024), the Governing Body approved recommendations adopted by the ninth meeting of the SRM TWG,⁹ including the targeted promotion of the ratification and effective implementation of up-to-date Convention No. 169 in Member States in which outdated Convention No. 107 is currently in force.¹⁰

⁷ Report of the ninth meeting of the SRM TWG, 2024, [GB.352/LILS/3](#), Annex I, para. 8.

⁸ [GB.352/PV](#), para. 1135.

⁹ Report of the ninth meeting of the SRM TWG, 2024, [GB.352/LILS/3](#), Annex I, para. 13.

¹⁰ [GB.352/PV](#), para. 1135.

Questions on Convention No. 169

3. If your country has not ratified Convention No. 169, please indicate briefly:
 - 3.(a). the extent to which your country proposes to give effect to the terms of **Convention No. 169**;
 - 3.(b). any difficulties which prevent or delay the ratification of **Convention No. 169**.

IV. Maternity Protection Convention, 2000 (No. 183)

Convention No. 183 is the most up-to-date Convention on maternity protection and revises the outdated Maternity Protection Convention (Revised), 1952 (No. 103). It provides for 14 weeks paid maternity leave, maternity medical care, health protection for pregnant women and breastfeeding mothers, employment protection and prohibition of discrimination based on maternity, and breastfeeding arrangements. Convention No. 183 applies to all employed women, including women in atypical forms of dependent work. In relation to earlier instruments, possible exclusions have been narrowed; new health-related and non-discrimination protections are included; the minimum period of paid maternity leave is extended and limited flexibility in setting the minimum compulsory postnatal leave is introduced; changes are made to provisions concerning benefits; and the period of protection from dismissal is extended.

At its 349th Session (October–November 2023), the Governing Body approved recommendations adopted by the eighth meeting of the SRM TWG,¹¹ including the targeted promotion of the ratification and effective implementation of up-to-date Convention No. 183 in Member States in which outdated Conventions Nos 3 and 103 are currently in force.¹²

Questions on Convention No. 183

4. If your country has not ratified Convention No. 183, please indicate briefly:
 - 4.(a). the extent to which your country proposes to give effect to the terms of **Convention No. 183**;
 - 4.(b). any difficulties which prevent or delay the ratification of **Convention No. 183**.

¹¹ Report of the eighth meeting of the SRM TWG, 2023, [GB.349/LILS/1](#), Annex I, para. 7.

¹² [GB.349/PV\(Rev.1\)](#), para. 991. The recommendations approved also included placing an item concerning the abrogation of the Maternity Protection Convention, 1919 (No. 3), and the Maternity Protection Convention (Revised), 1952 (No. 103), on the agenda of the 121st Session of the International Labour Conference (2033), subject to an evaluation in 2028 to assess whether Member States with effective ratifications of those outdated Conventions have taken any necessary action to ratify Convention No. 183. At its 350th Session, the Governing Body (March 2024) decided to place an item concerning the abrogation of Conventions Nos 3 and 103 on the agenda of the 121st Session (2033) of the Conference, subject to the possible reconsideration of the date by the Governing Body following an evaluation in 2028. [GB.350/PV](#), para. 80(e)(iii).

V. Final questions

- 5.1. Please indicate whether your country has requested or received any technical assistance from the ILO related to:
- 5.1.(a). Convention No. 188
 - 5.1.(b). Convention No. 152
 - 5.1.(c). Convention No. 169
 - 5.1.(d). Convention No. 183
- 5.2. Please indicate what kind of technical assistance would be most useful in relation to:
- 5.2.(a). Convention No. 188
 - 5.2.(b). Convention No. 152
 - 5.2.(c). Convention No. 169
 - 5.2.(d). Convention No. 183

VI. Consultation with and participation by employers, workers and their organizations

- Please indicate the representative organizations of employers and workers to which copies of the present report have been communicated in accordance with article 23, paragraph 2, of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization, and indicate whether you have received observations from such organizations. If so, please communicate a copy of the observations received together with any comments that you may consider useful.
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► Appendix II

Appl. 19
C.176, C.167, C.155 and its
Protocol of 2002, C.161, C.187, C.138

International Labour Office

Reports on unratified Conventions and Recommendations (article 19 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization)

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Report form for the following instruments:

Safety and Health in Mines Convention, 1995 (No. 176)

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

Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 (No. 155)

Protocol of 2002 to the Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981

Occupational Health Services Convention, 1985 (No. 161)

Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention 2006 (No. 187)

Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138)

Article 19 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization relates to the adoption of Conventions and Recommendations by the Conference, as well as to the obligations resulting therefrom for the Members of the Organization. The relevant provisions of paragraphs 5 and 7 of this article read as follows:

5. In the case of a Convention:

...

- (e) if the Member does not obtain the consent of the authority or authorities within whose competence the matter lies, no further obligation shall rest upon the Member except that it shall report to the Director-General of the International Labour Office, at appropriate intervals as requested by the Governing Body, the position of its law and practice in regard to the matters dealt with in the Convention, showing the extent to which effect has been given, or is proposed to be given, to any of the provisions of the Convention by legislation, administrative action, collective agreement or otherwise and stating the difficulties which prevent or delay the ratification of such Convention.

7. In the case of a federal State, the following provisions shall apply:

- (a) in respect of Conventions and Recommendations which the federal Government regards as appropriate under its constitutional system for federal action, the obligations of the federal State shall be the same as those of Members which are not federal States;
- (b) in respect of Conventions and Recommendations which the federal Government regards as appropriate under its constitutional system, in whole or in part, for action by the constituent states, provinces or cantons rather than for federal action, the federal Government shall:

...

- (iv) in respect of each such Convention which it has not ratified, report to the Director-General of the International Labour Office, at appropriate intervals as requested by the Governing Body, the position of the law and practice of the federation and its constituent states, provinces or cantons in regard to the Convention, showing the extent to which effect has been given, or is proposed to be given, to any of the provisions of the Convention by legislation, administrative action, collective agreement, or otherwise;

In accordance with the above provisions, the Governing Body of the International Labour Office examined and approved the present report form. This has been drawn up in such a manner as to facilitate the supply of the required information on uniform lines.

Report

to be made no later than 29 February 2028, in accordance with article 19 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization by the Government of, on the position of national law and practice in regard to matters dealt with in the instruments referred to in the following questionnaire.

Workers' and employers' organizations may send comments no later than 30 June 2028.

* * *

Context and scope of the questions

At its 355th Session (November 2025), the Governing Body considered that the General Survey to be prepared by the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations in 2027, 2028 and 2029, should focus on the prospects of ratification of selected up-to-date instruments.¹ The Governing Body requested the Office to prepare for its consideration at its 356th Session (March–April 2026), the article 19 report form on the Safety and Health in Mines Convention, 1995 (No. 176), the Safety and Health in Construction Convention, 1988 (No. 167), the Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 (No. 155), the Protocol of 2002 to the Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981, the Occupational Health Services Convention, 1985 (No. 161) and the Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 2006 (No. 187), and the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138), for the General Survey to be prepared by the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations in 2028 for discussion by the Conference Committee on the Application of Standards (CAS) in 2029.

During the discussion within the Governing Body, reference was made to the potential role of the General Survey in helping to provide a common understanding at the institutional level of the various national circumstances influencing the ratification and effective implementation of selected up-to-date standards,² particularly in countries where outdated instruments³ remain in force; the prospects of, and obstacles to, their ratification; and the technical assistance that may be required to overcome these obstacles. A General Survey would provide comprehensive information on further progress made in respect of the recommendations of the Standards Review Mechanism Tripartite Working Group (SRM TWG), the follow-up to which is recognized as an institutional priority, and on the impact of promotional work giving effect to those recommendations.⁴ Finally, the General Survey could provide relevant information for the preparation of the forthcoming recurrent discussion on the strategic objective of fundamental principles and rights at work by the International Labour Conference at its 118th Session (2030).

As the selected up-to-date Conventions cover a wide range of subjects, the report form, which is structured as a simple questionnaire, requests that governments indicate briefly, for each of the Conventions concerned: (a) the extent to which they propose to give effect to the terms of the instrument; and (b) any difficulties which prevent or delay its ratification. Requested responses should provide, in brief, essential instrument-specific information

¹ The selected up-to-date Conventions relate to outdated Conventions examined by the Standards Review Mechanism Tripartite Working Group (SRM TWG). The SRM TWG pursuant to its mandate to contribute to ensuring that the ILO has a clear, robust and up-to-date body of international labour standards, has adopted recommendations, endorsed by the Governing Body, classifying a number of instruments as outdated and calling for the ratification, promotion and effective implementation of the up-to-date instrument or instruments relating to these outdated instruments, particularly in Member States still bound by them.

² Up-to-date standards are instruments that are fit for purpose. They are promoted by the Office, fully supervised by the Committee of Experts, and are included in all publications on the standards. See [Information document 4: Classification of instruments and follow-up action](#), third meeting of the SRM TWG (2017), para. 10.

³ Outdated standards are instruments that appear to have lost their purpose or to no longer make a useful contribution to attaining the objectives of the Organization. See [International labour standards – A glossary](#), and [Information document 4: Classification of instruments and follow-up action](#), third meeting of the SRM TWG (2017), para. 11.

⁴ The SRM TWG recommended that surveys be undertaken in a number of instances to collect information relevant to the ratification of certain up-to-date instruments, including in relation to possible challenges and obstacles, with a view to identifying concrete steps to encourage ratification. See [GB.352/LILS/3](#).

summarizing the key actions proposed to give effect to the respective Conventions, together with any obstacles to ratification.

* * *

The following questions relate to the prospects of ratification of the selected up-to-date Conventions. They are addressed only to Member States that have not ratified these standards.

For federal States, please provide answers to the questions below with regard to both the federal level and the level of the federated units.

In the absence of recent new developments as regards a given Convention, reference may be made to information previously supplied to the ILO, in a report on an unratified Convention or in connection with the submission of a Convention to the competent authority.

Where readily available, please give a specific reference (including a web hyperlink) for information relating to the provisions of legislation, regulations, collective agreements, work rules, arbitration awards, court decisions and policies (or attach an electronic copy).

Article 19 report form concerning Conventions Nos 176, 167, 155 and its Protocol of 2002, 161, 187 and 138

I. Safety and Health in Mines Convention, 1995 (No. 176)

Convention No. 176 sets out that safety and health must be a priority in the design, construction, commissioning, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of mines, and establishes the roles of governments, employers and workers in that respect. It aims to protect both women and men working in mining. The Convention requires the establishment and periodic review, in consultation with representative employers' and workers' organizations, of a coherent national policy on safety and health in all mines. Convention No. 176 also calls for: the adoption of laws and regulations related to safety and health in mines; requirements for employers to take preventive and protective measures to eliminate or minimize safety and health risks in mining operations, including supervision, inspection, hazard prevention and emergency preparedness; rights and duties of workers and their representatives; cooperation between employers and workers and their representatives; and effective enforcement.

At its 334th Session (October–November 2018), the Governing Body approved recommendations adopted by the fourth meeting of the SRM TWG,⁵ including Office follow-up with Member States currently bound by the outdated Underground Work (Women) Convention, 1935 (No. 45) to encourage the ratification of up-to-date instruments concerning occupational safety and health (OSH), including but not limited to, Convention No. 176.⁶

Questions on Convention No. 176

1. If your country has not ratified Convention No. 176, please indicate briefly:
 - 1.(a). the extent to which your country proposes to give effect to the terms of **Convention No. 176**;
 - 1.(b). any difficulties which prevent or delay the ratification of **Convention No. 176**.

II. Safety and Health in Construction Convention, 1988 (No. 167)

Convention No. 167 establishes requirements concerning safety and health in construction and provides for preventive and protective measures to be taken in respect of construction work. It revises the Safety Provisions (Building) Convention, 1937 (No. 62), which was abrogated by the International Labour Conference at its 112th Session (2024). Convention No. 167 requires the adoption and maintenance of laws or regulations ensuring its application, based on the identification of hazards and the assessment of risks. The Convention covers cooperation between employers and workers, duties of employers and self-employed persons, coordination of safety measures where two or more employers undertake activities at a construction site, consideration of safety in the design and planning of construction projects, rights and duties of workers and their representatives. It further covers specific preventive and protective measures relating to workplaces, equipment, tools, scaffolds, traffic and machinery, work at heights, excavations and other construction operations, as well as provisions on first

⁵ Report of the fourth meeting of the SRM TWG, 2018, [GB.334/LILS/3](#), annex, paras 9–12.

⁶ [GB.334/PV](#), para. 761. The recommendations approved also included placing an item concerning the abrogation of Convention No. 45 on the agenda of the 113th Session (2024) [112th Session (2024)] of the International Labour Conference. See also [GB.334/INS/2/1](#), para. 31(d); and [GB.334/PV](#), para. 42(e). Convention No. 45 was abrogated by the ILC at its 112th Session (2024).

aid, welfare facilities, information, training, notification and reporting of accidents and diseases, and effective enforcement.

At its 334th Session (October–November 2018), the Governing Body approved recommendations adopted by the fourth meeting of the SRM TWG,⁷ including Office follow-up and promotion of tripartite action with Member States currently bound by Convention No. 62 to encourage the ratification of up-to-date instruments concerning OSH, including but not limited to, Convention No. 167 and targeted technical assistance offered to those countries requiring most support.⁸

Questions on Convention No. 167

2. If your country has not ratified Convention No. 167, please indicate briefly:
 - 2.(a). the extent to which your country proposes to give effect to the terms of **Convention No. 167**;
 - 2.(b). any difficulties which prevent or delay the ratification of **Convention No. 167**.

III. Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 (No. 155)

Convention No. 155 is a fundamental Convention, establishing the core framework for occupational safety and health (OSH) management at both national and workplace levels. It requires the formulation, implementation and periodic review of a coherent national policy on occupational safety, occupational health and the working environment aimed at preventing work-related accidents and ill-health, in consultation with representative employers' and workers' organizations. At the national level, the Convention identifies key OSH functions of the competent authority, including enforcement and the provision of guidance, as well as measures to ensure the safe design, manufacture and import of machinery, equipment or substances for occupational use. At the workplace level, the Convention sets out the key obligations of employers related to the safety of workplaces, machinery, equipment and processes, as well as the rights and duties of workers.

At its 334th Session (October–November 2018), the Governing Body approved recommendations adopted by the fourth meeting of the SRM TWG,⁹ including Office follow-up with Member States currently bound by the outdated Underground Work (Women) Convention, 1935 (No. 45), and the outdated Safety Provisions (Building) Convention, 1937 (No. 62), to encourage the ratification of up-to-date instruments¹⁰ concerning OSH.¹¹

⁷ Report of the fourth meeting of the SRM TWG, 2018, [GB.334/LILS/3](#), annex, paras 13–14.

⁸ [GB.334/PV](#), para. 761. The recommendations approved also included placing an item concerning the abrogation of Convention No. 62 on the agenda of the 113th Session (2024) [112th Session (2024)] of the International Labour Conference. See also [GB.334/INS/2/1](#), para. 31(d); and [GB.334/PV](#), para. 42(e).

⁹ Report of the fourth meeting of the SRM TWG, 2018, [GB.334/LILS/3](#), annex, paras 9–14.

¹⁰ In relation to the OSH instruments that it has been called upon to review, the SRM TWG has recommended the ratification and effective implementation of certain up-to-date OSH Conventions, which establish a general framework: the Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 (No. 155), and its Protocol of 2002, the Occupational Health Services Convention, 1985 (No. 161), and the Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 2006 (No. 187). See Report of the third meeting of the SRM TWG, 2017, [GB.331/LILS/2](#), annex, para. 7; and the Governing Body decision approving the SRM TWG recommendations, [GB.331/PV](#), para. 723.

¹¹ [GB.334/PV](#), para. 761. The recommendations approved also included placing an item concerning the abrogation of Conventions Nos 45 and 62 on the agenda of the 113th Session (2024) [112th Session (2024)] of the International Labour Conference. See also [GB.334/INS/2/1](#), para. 31(d); and [GB.334/PV](#), para. 42(e). Conventions Nos 45 and 62 were abrogated by the ILC at its 112th Session (2024).

Questions on Convention No. 155

3. If your country has not ratified Convention No. 155, please indicate briefly:
 - 3.(a). the extent to which your country proposes to give effect to the terms of **Convention No. 155**;
 - 3.(b). any difficulties which prevent or delay the ratification of **Convention No. 155**.

IV. Protocol of 2002 to the Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981

The Protocol of 2002 to the Occupational Safety and Health Convention sets out requirements and procedures for the recording and notification of occupational accidents and diseases, and, as appropriate, dangerous occurrences, commuting accidents and suspected cases of occupational diseases as well as the publication of related annual statistics.

At its 334th Session (October–November 2018), the Governing Body approved recommendations adopted by the fourth meeting of the SRM TWG,¹² including Office follow-up with Member States currently bound by the outdated Underground Work (Women) Convention, 1935 (No. 45), and the outdated Safety Provisions (Building) Convention, 1937 (No. 62) to encourage the ratification of up-to-date instruments¹³ concerning OSH.¹⁴

Questions on the Protocol of 2002 to Convention No. 155

4. If your country has not ratified the Protocol of 2002 to Convention No. 155, please indicate briefly:
 - 4.(a). the extent to which your country proposes to give effect to the terms of the **Protocol of 2002 to Convention No. 155**;
 - 4.(b). any difficulties which prevent or delay the ratification of the **Protocol of 2002 to Convention No. 155**.

V. Occupational Health Services Convention, 1985 (No. 161)

Convention No. 161 provides for the establishment of occupational health services in undertakings which are entrusted with essentially preventive functions and which are responsible for advising the employer, the workers and their representatives in the undertaking on the requirements for establishing and maintaining a safe and healthy working environment. The Convention requires the formulation, implementation and periodic review, in consultation with the most representative organizations of employers and workers, of a coherent national policy on occupational health services. It calls for the progressive

¹² Report of the fourth meeting of the SRM TWG, 2018, [GB.334/LILS/3](#), annex, paras 9–14.

¹³ In relation to the OSH instruments that it has been called upon to review, the SRM TWG has recommended the ratification and effective implementation of certain up-to-date OSH Conventions, which establish a general framework: the Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 (No. 155), and its Protocol of 2002, the Occupational Health Services Convention, 1985 (No. 161), and the Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 2006 (No. 187). See Report of the third meeting of the SRM TWG, 2017, [GB.331/LILS/2](#), annex, para. 7; and the Governing Body decision approving the SRM TWG recommendations, [GB.331/PV](#), para. 723.

¹⁴ [GB.334/PV](#), para. 761. The recommendations approved also included placing an item concerning the abrogation of Conventions Nos 45 and 62 on the agenda of the 113th Session (2024) [112th Session (2024)] of the International Labour Conference. See also [GB.334/INS/2/1](#), para. 31(d); and [GB.334/PV](#), para. 42(e). Conventions Nos 45 and 62 were abrogated by the ILC at its 112th Session (2024).

development of occupational health services, with functions adequate and appropriate to the occupational risks of the workplace, and sets out conditions of operation.

At its 334th Session (October–November 2018), the Governing Body approved recommendations adopted by the fourth meeting of the SRM TWG,¹⁵ including Office follow-up with Member States currently bound by the outdated Underground Work (Women) Convention, 1935 (No. 45), and the outdated Safety Provisions (Building) Convention, 1937 (No. 62), to encourage the ratification of up-to-date instruments¹⁶ concerning OSH.¹⁷

Questions on Convention No. 161

5. If your country has not ratified Convention No. 161, please indicate briefly:
 - 5.(a). the extent to which your country proposes to give effect to the terms of **Convention No. 161**;
 - 5.(b). any difficulties which prevent or delay the ratification of **Convention No. 161**.

VI. Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 2006 (No. 187)

Convention No. 187 is a fundamental Convention that introduces an integrated approach to OSH standards, enhancing their coherence, relevance, and impact. It has two key aims: the development of a preventative safety and health culture and the application of a systems approach to managing OSH at the national level. The Convention incorporates these basic principles into the three foundational concepts of the instrument: (i) a national OSH policy; (ii) a national OSH system; and (iii) a national programme on OSH. It requires Member States to promote the continuous improvement of OSH to prevent occupational injuries, diseases and deaths, through the development of these three mechanisms, in consultation with the most representative organizations of employers and workers.

At its 334th Session (October–November 2018), the Governing Body approved recommendations adopted by the fourth meeting of the SRM TWG,¹⁸ including Office follow-up with Member States currently bound by the outdated Underground Work (Women)

¹⁵ Report of the fourth meeting of the SRM TWG, 2018, [GB.334/LILS/3](#), annex, paras 9–14.

¹⁶ In relation to the OSH instruments that it has been called upon to review, the SRM TWG has recommended the ratification and effective implementation of certain up-to-date OSH Conventions, which establish a general framework: the Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 (No. 155), and its Protocol of 2002, the Occupational Health Services Convention, 1985 (No. 161), and the Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 2006 (No. 187). See Report of the third meeting of the SRM TWG, 2017, [GB.331/LILS/2](#), annex, para. 7; and the Governing Body decision approving the SRM TWG recommendations, [GB.331/PV](#), para. 723.

¹⁷ [GB.334/PV](#), para. 761. The recommendations approved also included placing an item concerning the abrogation of Conventions Nos 45 and 62 on the agenda of the 113th Session (2024) [112th Session (2024)] of the International Labour Conference. See also [GB.334/INS/2/1](#), para. 31(d); and [GB.334/PV](#), para. 42(e). Conventions Nos 45 and 62 were abrogated by the ILC at its 112th Session (2024).

¹⁸ Report of the fourth meeting of the SRM TWG, 2018, [GB.334/LILS/3](#), annex, paras 9–14.

Convention, 1935 (No. 45), and the outdated Safety Provisions (Building) Convention, 1937 (No. 62), to encourage the ratification of up-to-date instruments ¹⁹ concerning OSH. ²⁰

Questions on Convention No. 187

6. If your country has not ratified Convention No. 187, please indicate briefly:
 - 6.(a). the extent to which your country proposes to give effect to the terms of **Convention No. 187**;
 - 6.(b). any difficulties which prevent or delay the ratification of **Convention No. 187**.

VII. Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138)

Convention No. 138 is a fundamental Convention, aiming at the effective abolition of child labour through the adoption and implementation of a national policy and the establishment of the minimum age for admission to employment or work. It revises the outdated Minimum Age (Industry) Convention, 1919 (No. 5), Minimum Age (Agriculture) Convention, 1921 (No. 10), Minimum Age (Non-Industrial Employment) Convention, 1932 (No. 33), Minimum Age (Industry) Convention (Revised), 1937 (No. 59), and Minimum Age (Underground Work) Convention, 1965 (No. 123). Convention No. 138 requires that the general minimum age for admission to employment or work to be no lower than the age of completion of compulsory schooling and, in any case, not less than 15 (or 14 in certain circumstances), and the minimum age for hazardous work to be set at 18 years (or 16 under certain strict conditions). It also contains various flexibility clauses, including to regulate the possibility for children under the minimum age to participate in apprenticeships or vocational training, light work activities and artistic performances, and sets out provisions for effective enforcement.

At its 349th Session (October–November 2023), the Governing Body approved recommendations adopted by the eighth meeting of the SRM TWG, ²¹ including the targeted promotion of the ratification and effective implementation of up-to-date Convention No. 138 in Member States in which outdated Conventions Nos 5, 10, 33, 59 and 123 are currently in force. ²²

¹⁹ In relation to the OSH instruments that it has been called upon to review, the SRM TWG has recommended the ratification and effective implementation of certain up-to-date OSH Conventions, which establish a general framework: the Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 (No. 155), and its Protocol of 2002, the Occupational Health Services Convention, 1985 (No. 161), and the Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 2006 (No. 187). See Report of the third meeting of the SRM TWG, 2017, [GB.331/LILS/2](#), annex, para. 7; and the Governing Body decision approving the SRM TWG recommendations, [GB.331/PV](#), para. 723.

²⁰ [GB.334/PV](#), para. 761. The recommendations approved also included placing an item concerning the abrogation of Conventions Nos 45 and 62 on the agenda of the 113th Session (2024) [112th Session (2024)] of the International Labour Conference. See also [GB.334/INS/2/1](#), para. 31(d); and [GB.334/PV](#), para. 42(e). Conventions Nos 45 and 62 were abrogated by the ILC at its 112th Session (2024).

²¹ Report of the eighth meeting of the SRM TWG, 2023, [GB.349/LILS/1](#), Annex I, para. 10.

²² [GB.349/PV\(Rev.1\)](#), para. 991. The recommendations approved also included placing an item concerning the abrogation of Conventions Nos 10, 33, 59 and 123 and the withdrawal of Convention No. 5 on the agenda of the 116th Session of the International Labour Conference (2028). At its 350th Session, the Governing Body (March 2024) decided to place an item concerning the abrogation of Conventions Nos 10, 33, 59 and 123 and the withdrawal of Convention No. 5 on the agenda of the 116th Session (2028) of the Conference. [GB.350/PV](#), para. 80(e)(i).

Questions on Convention No. 138

7. If your country has not ratified Convention No. 138, please indicate briefly:
 - 7.(a). the extent to which your country proposes to give effect to the terms of **Convention No. 138**;
 - 7.(b). any difficulties which prevent or delay the ratification of **Convention No. 138**.

VIII. Final questions

- 8.1. Please indicate whether your country has requested or received any technical assistance from the ILO related to:
 - 8.1.(a). Convention No. 176
 - 8.1.(b). Convention No. 167
 - 8.1.(c). Convention No. 155
 - 8.1.(d). Protocol of 2002 to Convention No. 155
 - 8.1.(e). Convention No. 161
 - 8.1.(f). Convention No. 187
 - 8.1.(g). Convention No. 138
- 8.2. Please indicate what kind of technical assistance would be most useful in relation to:
 - 8.2.(a). Convention No. 176
 - 8.2.(b). Convention No. 167
 - 8.2.(c). Convention No. 155
 - 8.2.(d). Protocol of 2002 to Convention No. 155
 - 8.2.(e). Convention No. 161
 - 8.2.(f). Convention No. 187
 - 8.2.(g). Convention No. 138

IX. Consultation with and participation by employers, workers and their organizations

- Please indicate the representative organizations of employers and workers to which copies of the present report have been communicated in accordance with article 23, paragraph 2, of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization, and indicate whether you have received observations from such organizations. If so, please communicate a copy of the observations received together with any comments that you may consider useful.
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► Appendix III

Appl. 19
C.88, C.181, C.160,
C.102 (Part IV), C.118, C.168, C.81, C.129

International Labour Office

Reports on unratified Conventions and Recommendations

(article 19 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization)

* * *

Report form for the following instruments:

Employment Service Convention, 1948 (No. 88)

Private Employment Agencies Convention, 1997 (No. 181)

Labour Statistics Convention, 1985 (No. 160)

Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952 (No. 102) (Part IV)

Equality of Treatment (Social Security) Convention, 1962 (No. 118)

Employment Promotion and Protection against Unemployment Convention, 1988 (No. 168)

Labour Inspection Convention, 1947 (No. 81)

Labour Inspection (Agriculture) Convention, 1969 (No. 129)

Article 19 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization relates to the adoption of Conventions and Recommendations by the Conference, as well as to the obligations resulting therefrom for the Members of the Organization. The relevant provisions of paragraphs 5 and 7 of this article read as follows:

5. In the case of a Convention:

...

- (e) if the Member does not obtain the consent of the authority or authorities within whose competence the matter lies, no further obligation shall rest upon the Member except that it shall report to the Director-General of the International Labour Office, at appropriate intervals as requested by the Governing Body, the position of its law and practice in regard to the matters dealt with in the Convention, showing the extent to which effect has been given, or is proposed to be given, to any of the provisions of the Convention by legislation, administrative action, collective agreement or otherwise and stating the difficulties which prevent or delay the ratification of such Convention.

7. In the case of a federal State, the following provisions shall apply:

- (a) in respect of Conventions and Recommendations which the federal Government regards as appropriate under its constitutional system for federal action, the obligations of the federal State shall be the same as those of Members which are not federal States;
- (b) in respect of Conventions and Recommendations which the federal Government regards as appropriate under its constitutional system, in whole or in part, for action by the constituent states, provinces or cantons rather than for federal action, the federal Government shall:

...

- (iv) in respect of each such Convention which it has not ratified, report to the Director-General of the International Labour Office, at appropriate intervals as requested by the Governing Body, the position of the law and practice of the federation and its constituent states, provinces or cantons in regard to the Convention, showing the extent to which effect has been given, or is proposed to be given, to any of the provisions of the Convention by legislation, administrative action, collective agreement, or otherwise;

In accordance with the above provisions, the Governing Body of the International Labour Office examined and approved the present report form. This has been drawn up in such a manner as to facilitate the supply of the required information on uniform lines.

Report

to be made no later than 28 February 2029, in accordance with article 19 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization by the Government of, on the position of national law and practice in regard to matters dealt with in the instruments referred to in the following questionnaire.

Workers' and employers' organizations may send comments no later than 30 June 2029.

* * *

Context and scope of the questions

At its 355th Session (November 2025), the Governing Body considered that the General Survey to be prepared by the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations in 2027, 2028 and 2029, should focus on the prospects of ratification of selected up-to-date instruments.¹ The Governing Body requested the Office to prepare for its consideration at its 356th Session (March–April 2026), the article 19 report form on the Employment Service Convention, 1948 (No. 88), the Private Employment Agencies Convention, 1997 (No. 181), the Labour Statistics Convention, 1985 (No. 160), the Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952 (No. 102) (Part IV), the Equality of Treatment (Social Security) Convention, 1962 (No. 118), the Employment Promotion and Protection against Unemployment Convention, 1988 (No. 168), the Labour Inspection Convention, 1947 (No. 81) and the Labour Inspection (Agriculture) Convention, 1969 (No. 129), for the General Survey to be prepared by the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations in 2029 for discussion by the Conference Committee on the Application of Standards (CAS) in 2030.

During the discussion within the Governing Body, reference was made to the potential role of the General Survey in helping to provide a common understanding at the institutional level of the various national circumstances influencing the ratification and effective implementation of selected up-to-date standards,² particularly in countries where outdated instruments³ remain in force; the prospects of, and obstacles to, their ratification; and the technical assistance that may be required to overcome these obstacles. A General Survey would provide comprehensive information on further progress made in respect of the recommendations of the Standards Review Mechanism Tripartite Working Group (SRM TWG), the follow-up to which is recognized as an institutional priority, and on the impact of promotional work giving effect to those recommendations.⁴ Finally, as the Governing Body has not yet decided on a new cycle of recurrent discussions to be held by the International Labour Conference after 2030, the General Survey could provide relevant information for the preparation of a forthcoming recurrent discussion, which is yet to be determined.

As the selected up-to-date Conventions cover a wide range of subjects, the report form, which is structured as a simple questionnaire, requests that governments indicate briefly, for each of the Conventions concerned: (a) the extent to which they propose to give effect to the terms of the instrument; and (b) any difficulties which prevent or delay its ratification. Requested responses should provide, in brief, essential instrument-specific information

¹ The selected up-to-date Conventions relate to outdated Conventions examined by the Standards Review Mechanism Tripartite Working Group (SRM TWG). The SRM TWG pursuant to its mandate to contribute to ensuring that the ILO has a clear, robust and up-to-date body of international labour standards, has adopted recommendations, endorsed by the Governing Body, classifying a number of instruments as outdated and calling for the ratification, promotion and effective implementation of the up-to-date instrument or instruments relating to these outdated instruments, particularly in Member States still bound by them.

² Up-to-date standards are instruments that are fit for purpose. They are promoted by the Office, fully supervised by the Committee of Experts, and are included in all publications on the standards. See [Information document 4: Classification of instruments and follow-up action](#), third meeting of the SRM TWG (2017), para. 10.

³ Outdated standards are instruments that appear to have lost their purpose or to no longer make a useful contribution to attaining the objectives of the Organization. See [International labour standards – A glossary](#), and [Information document 4: Classification of instruments and follow-up action](#), third meeting of the SRM TWG (2017), para. 11.

⁴ The SRM TWG recommended that surveys be undertaken in a number of instances to collect information relevant to the ratification of certain up-to-date instruments, including in relation to possible challenges and obstacles, with a view to identifying concrete steps to encourage ratification. See [GB.352/LILS/3](#).

summarizing the key actions proposed to give effect to the respective Conventions, together with any obstacles to ratification.

* * *

The following questions relate to the prospects of ratification of the selected up-to-date Conventions. They are addressed only to Member States that have not ratified these standards.

For federal States, please provide answers to the questions below with regard to both the federal level and the level of the federated units.

In the absence of recent new developments as regards a given Convention, reference may be made to information previously supplied to the ILO, in a report on an unratified Convention or in connection with the submission of a Convention to the competent authority.

Where readily available, please give a specific reference (including a web hyperlink) for information relating to the provisions of legislation, regulations, collective agreements, work rules, arbitration awards, court decisions and policies (or attach an electronic copy).

Article 19 report form concerning Conventions Nos 88, 181, 160, 102 (Part IV), 118, 168, 81 and 129

I. Employment Service Convention, 1948 (No. 88)

Convention No. 88 calls on governments to maintain a free public employment service on a national basis, to assist workers to find suitable employment and employers to find suitable workers. It calls for cooperation with public and private bodies to ensure the best possible organization of the labour market for achieving and maintaining full employment and for developing and deploying productive resources. The Convention calls for measures to ensure cooperation with employers' and workers' organizations in the organization and operation of the service; and to provide for adequate staffing, resources, reporting and administration so that the employment service can operate effectively in accordance with national conditions.

At its 337th Session (October–November 2019), the Governing Body approved recommendations adopted by the fifth meeting of the SRM TWG,⁵ including Office follow-up encouraging Member States party to the outdated Unemployment Convention, 1919 (No. 2), to ratify up-to-date Conventions Nos 88, 102 (Part IV), 118, 160 and 168, as relevant, to avoid a gap in legal protection, and providing technical assistance to support ratification to Member States requesting it.⁶

Questions on Convention No. 88

1. If your country has not ratified Convention No. 88, please indicate briefly:
 - 1.(a). the extent to which your country proposes to give effect to the terms of **Convention No. 88**;
 - 1.(b). any difficulties which prevent or delay the ratification of **Convention No. 88**.

II. Private Employment Agencies Convention, 1997 (No. 181)

Convention No. 181 establishes a comprehensive framework for the registration, licensing, and effective regulation of private employment agencies, the protection of workers who use these services, and the promotion of cooperation with public employment services. It revises the outdated Fee-Charging Employment Agencies Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 96), and the Fee-Charging Employment Agencies Convention, 1933 (No. 34), which was withdrawn by the International Labour Conference at its 109th Session (2021). The Convention applies to all private employment agencies, economic sectors, and categories of workers, with the exception of seafarers. It requires that private employment agencies should not charge any fees or cost to workers for their services, unless the competent authority has authorized specific exceptions, following consultations.

At its 337th Session (October–November 2019), the Governing Body approved recommendations adopted by the fifth meeting of the SRM TWG,⁷ including encouraging Member States party to the outdated Convention No. 96 to ratify the up-to-date Convention

⁵ Report of the fifth meeting of the SRM TWG, 2019, [GB.337/LILS/1](#), Annex I, para. 5.

⁶ [GB.337/PV](#), para. 745. The recommendations approved also noted the SRM TWG's intention to evaluate the Office follow-up involving tailored plans of action concerning Convention No. 2 at its meeting in 2026 with a view to taking an informed decision on the appropriate date at which the International Labour Conference should consider the abrogation or withdrawal of Convention No. 2.

⁷ Report of the fifth meeting of the SRM TWG, 2019, [GB.337/LILS/1](#), Annex I, para. 7.

No. 181 to avoid a gap in legal protection, and providing technical assistance to support ratification to Member States requesting it.⁸

Questions on Convention No. 181

2. If your country has not ratified Convention No. 181, please indicate briefly:
 - 2.(a). the extent to which your country proposes to give effect to the terms of **Convention No. 181**;
 - 2.(b). any difficulties which prevent or delay the ratification of **Convention No. 181**.

III. Labour Statistics Convention, 1985 (No. 160)

Convention No. 160 revises the Convention concerning Statistics of Wages and Hours of Work, 1938 (No. 63), which was abrogated by the International Labour Conference at its 112th Session (2024). Convention No. 160 provides for the establishment, maintenance and development of a system of labour statistics based on international standards encompassing all areas of basic labour statistics, and broadens the range of statistics on wages and hours of work to be delivered. It covers subjects such as employment, unemployment, earnings, labour costs, consumer prices, household income and expenditure, occupational injuries and diseases and industrial disputes. Convention No. 160 allows ratifying Member States to progressively apply and expand statistical obligations by excluding certain provisions of Part II of the Convention, offering flexibility to facilitate ratification and effective implementation.

At its 334th Session (October–November 2018), the Governing Body approved recommendations adopted by the fourth meeting of the SRM TWG,⁹ including Office follow-up with Member States currently bound by outdated Convention No. 63, and non-metropolitan territories to which it has been declared applicable, to support consideration of the ratification of up-to-date Convention No. 160.¹⁰ At its 337th Session (October–November 2019), the Governing Body approved recommendations adopted by the fifth meeting of the SRM TWG,¹¹ including Office follow-up encouraging Member States party to the outdated Unemployment Convention, 1919 (No. 2), to ratify up-to-date Conventions Nos 88, 102 (Part IV), 118, 160 and 168, as relevant, to avoid a gap in legal protection, and providing technical assistance to support ratification to Member States requesting it.¹²

⁸ GB.337/PV, para. 745. The recommendations approved also included, placing an item concerning the abrogation of Convention No. 96 on the agenda of the 119th Session (2030) [118th Session (2030)] of the International Labour Conference; and the withdrawal of Convention No. 34 on the agenda of the 110th Session (2021) [109th Session (2021)]. See also GB.337/INS/2(Add.1), para. 9(b) and (c); and GB.337/INS/2(Add.1)/decision.

⁹ Report of the fourth meeting of the SRM TWG, 2018, GB.334/LILS/3, annex, para. 20.

¹⁰ GB.334/PV, para. 761. The recommendations approved also included placing an item concerning the abrogation of Convention No. 63 on the agenda of the 113th Session (2024) [112th Session (2024)] of the International Labour Conference. See also GB.334/INS/2/1, para. 31(d); and GB.334/PV, para. 42(e).

¹¹ Report of the fifth meeting of the SRM TWG, 2019, GB.337/LILS/1, Annex I, para. 5.

¹² GB.337/PV, para. 745. The recommendations approved also noted the SRM TWG's intention to evaluate the Office follow-up involving tailored plans of action concerning Convention No. 2 at its meeting in 2026 with a view to taking an informed decision on the appropriate date at which the International Labour Conference should consider the abrogation or withdrawal of Convention No. 2.

Questions on Convention No. 160

3. If your country has not ratified Convention No. 160, please indicate briefly:
 - 3.(a). the extent to which your country proposes to give effect to the terms of **Convention No. 160**;
 - 3.(b). any difficulties which prevent or delay the ratification of **Convention No. 160**.

IV. Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952 (No. 102) (Part IV)

Convention No. 102 is a landmark social security Convention. It is the only international instrument, based on core social security principles, that establishes worldwide-agreed minimum standards for all nine branches of social security. These branches are: medical care (Part II); sickness benefit (Part III); unemployment benefit (Part IV); old-age benefit (Part V); employment injury benefit (Part VI); family benefit (Part VII); maternity benefit (Part VIII); invalidity benefit (Part IX); and survivors' benefit (Part X). While Convention No. 102 covers all branches, it requires that only three of these branches be ratified by Member States, which allows for the step-by-step extension of social security coverage by ratifying countries. Part IV of Convention No. 102, on unemployment benefit, requires the provision of this benefit to protected persons who are capable of and available for work but unable to obtain suitable employment, subject to prescribed qualifying conditions. It sets out the minimum parameters applicable to the benefit, as regards coverage, qualifying and waiting periods, level and duration of payment, for social insurance and tax-funded schemes.

At its 337th Session (October–November 2019), the Governing Body approved recommendations adopted by the fifth meeting of the SRM TWG,¹³ including Office follow-up encouraging Member States party to the outdated Unemployment Convention, 1919 (No. 2), to ratify up-to-date Conventions Nos 88, 102 (Part IV), 118, 160 and 168, as relevant, to avoid a gap in legal protection, and providing technical assistance to support ratification to Member States requesting it.¹⁴

Questions on Convention No. 102 (Part IV)

4. If your country has not ratified Convention No. 102 and accepted the obligations in Part IV of that Convention, please indicate briefly:
 - 4.(a). the extent to which your country proposes to give effect to the terms of **Convention No. 102 (Part IV)**;
 - 4.(b). any difficulties which prevent or delay the ratification of **Convention No. 102** and/or acceptance of its **Part IV**.

V. Equality of Treatment (Social Security) Convention, 1962 (No. 118)

Convention No. 118 establishes rules on the equality of treatment of nationals and non-nationals in social security, especially for migrant workers. It provides for the right to equality of treatment for all nine branches of social security, requiring acceptance of the obligations in

¹³ Report of the fifth meeting of the SRM TWG, 2019, [GB.337/LILS/1](#), Annex I, para. 5.

¹⁴ [GB.337/PV](#), para. 745. The recommendations approved also noted the SRM TWG's intention to evaluate the Office follow-up involving tailored plans of action concerning Convention No. 2 at its meeting in 2026 with a view to taking an informed decision on the appropriate date at which the International Labour Conference should consider the abrogation or withdrawal of Convention No. 2.

at least one branch. For each of the nine branches accepted, there is a requirement to grant within the Member States' territory, equality of treatment with its own nationals to nationals (and their dependents) of any other State that has ratified the Convention. The Convention further requires the provision of certain benefits abroad, as well as encourages Member States to participate in schemes for the maintenance of acquired rights and rights in the course of acquisition.

At its 337th Session (October–November 2019), the Governing Body approved recommendations adopted by the fifth meeting of the SRM TWG,¹⁵ including Office follow-up encouraging Member States party to the outdated Unemployment Convention, 1919 (No. 2), to ratify up-to-date Conventions Nos 88, 102 (Part IV), 118, 160 and 168, as relevant, to avoid a gap in legal protection, and providing technical assistance to support ratification to Member States requesting it.¹⁶

Questions on Convention No. 118

5. If your country has not ratified Convention No. 118, please indicate briefly:
 - 5.(a). the extent to which your country proposes to give effect to the terms of **Convention No. 118**;
 - 5.(b). any difficulties which prevent or delay the ratification of **Convention No. 118**.

VI. Employment Promotion and Protection against Unemployment Convention, 1988 (No. 168)

Convention No. 168 provides for protection against unemployment through the provision of unemployment benefit, and for the promotion of productive employment, including through employment services, vocational training and vocational guidance. Convention No. 168 broadens the scope and level of protection prescribed by Convention No. 102 (Part IV), including in respect of the contingencies covered, the persons protected and the amount and duration of payments. It also sets out special provisions for new applicants for employment, as well as legal, administrative, and financial guarantees for the provision of unemployment benefits.

At its 337th Session (October–November 2019), the Governing Body approved recommendations adopted by the fifth meeting of the SRM TWG,¹⁷ including Office follow-up encouraging Member States party to the outdated Unemployment Convention, 1919 (No. 2), to ratify up-to-date Conventions Nos 88, 102 (Part IV), 118, 160 and 168, as relevant, to avoid a gap in legal protection, and providing technical assistance to support ratification to Member States requesting it.¹⁸

¹⁵ Report of the fifth meeting of the SRM TWG, 2019, [GB.337/LILS/1](#), Annex I, para. 5.

¹⁶ [GB.337/PV](#), para. 745. The recommendations approved also noted the SRM TWG's intention to evaluate the Office follow-up involving tailored plans of action concerning Convention No. 2 at its meeting in 2026 with a view to taking an informed decision on the appropriate date at which the International Labour Conference should consider the abrogation or withdrawal of Convention No. 2.

¹⁷ Report of the fifth meeting of the SRM TWG, 2019, [GB.337/LILS/1](#), Annex I, para. 5.

¹⁸ [GB.337/PV](#), para. 745. The recommendations approved also noted the SRM TWG's intention to evaluate the Office follow-up involving tailored plans of action concerning Convention No. 2 at its meeting in 2026 with a view to taking an informed decision on the appropriate date at which the International Labour Conference should consider the abrogation or withdrawal of Convention No. 2.

Questions on Convention No. 168

6. If your country has not ratified Convention No. 168, please indicate briefly:
 - 6.(a). the extent to which your country proposes to give effect to the terms of **Convention No. 168**;
 - 6.(b). any difficulties which prevent or delay the ratification of **Convention No. 168**.

VII. Labour Inspection Convention, 1947 (No. 81)

Convention No. 81 requires ratifying States to establish a system of labour inspection for workplaces in industry and commerce. It sets out a series of principles concerning the fields covered by labour inspection, the functions and organization of the system of inspection, the recruitment, status and terms and conditions of service of labour inspectors, and their powers and obligations. The Convention provides for collaboration between the labour inspectorate and employers' and workers' organizations. It also provides that the labour inspectorate has to publish, and communicate to the ILO, an annual labour inspection report. Convention No. 81 is a governance Convention, designated by the ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization (2008), as amended in 2022, as one of four Conventions most significant from the viewpoint of governance.

At its 334th Session (October–November 2018), the Governing Body approved recommendations adopted by the fourth meeting of the SRM TWG,¹⁹ including Office follow-up with Member States bound by the outdated Labour Inspectorates (Non-Metropolitan Territories) Convention, 1947 (No. 85), promoting the ratification of up-to-date Conventions Nos 81 and 129 and determining any practical or legal obstacles to ratification of those instruments.²⁰

Questions on Convention No. 81

7. If your country has not ratified Convention No. 81, please indicate briefly:
 - 7.(a). the extent to which your country proposes to give effect to the terms of **Convention No. 81**;
 - 7.(b). any difficulties which prevent or delay the ratification of **Convention No. 81**.

VIII. Labour Inspection (Agriculture) Convention, 1969 (No. 129)

Convention No. 129 is similar in content and approach to Convention No. 81, but applies to the agricultural sector. It requires the maintenance of a system of labour inspection in agriculture. It was adopted to fill the gap in the protection of workers due to the fact that Convention No. 81 only requires, at least, a system of labour inspection to be maintained for industrial and commercial workplaces. Convention No. 129 is a governance Convention, designated by the ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization (2008), as amended in 2022, as one of four Conventions most significant from the viewpoint of governance.

¹⁹ Report of the fourth meeting of the SRM TWG, 2018, [GB.334/LILS/3](#), annex, paras 15–17.

²⁰ [GB.334/PV](#), para. 761. The recommendations approved also included placing an item concerning the abrogation of Convention No. 85 on the agenda of the 113th Session (2024) [112th Session (2024)] of the International Labour Conference. See also [GB.334/INS/2/1](#), para. 31(d); and [GB.334/PV](#), para. 42(e). Convention No. 85 was abrogated by the ILC at its 112th Session (2024).

At its 334th Session (October–November 2018), the Governing Body approved recommendations adopted by the fourth meeting of the SRM TWG,²¹ including Office follow-up with Member States bound by the outdated Labour Inspectorates (Non-Metropolitan Territories) Convention, 1947 (No. 85), promoting the ratification of up-to-date Conventions Nos 81 and 129 and determining any practical or legal obstacles to ratification of those instruments.²²

Questions on Convention No. 129

8. If your country has not ratified Convention No. 129, please indicate briefly:
 - 8.(a). the extent to which your country proposes to give effect to the terms of **Convention No. 129**;
 - 8.(b). any difficulties which prevent or delay the ratification of **Convention No. 129**.

IX. Final questions

- 9.1. Please indicate whether your country has requested or received any technical assistance from the ILO related to:
 - 9.1.(a). Convention No. 88
 - 9.1.(b). Convention No. 181
 - 9.1.(c). Convention No. 160
 - 9.1.(d). Convention No. 102 (Part IV)
 - 9.1.(e). Convention No. 118
 - 9.1.(f). Convention No. 168
 - 9.1.(g). Convention No. 81
 - 9.1.(h). Convention No. 129
- 9.2. Please indicate what kind of technical assistance would be most useful in relation to:
 - 9.2.(a). Convention No. 88
 - 9.2.(b). Convention No. 181
 - 9.2.(c). Convention No. 160
 - 9.2.(d). Convention No. 102 (Part IV)
 - 9.2.(e). Convention No. 118
 - 9.2.(f). Convention No. 168
 - 9.2.(g). Convention No. 81
 - 9.2.(h). Convention No. 129

X. Consultation with and participation by employers, workers and their organizations

- Please indicate the representative organizations of employers and workers to which copies of the present report have been communicated in accordance with article 23, paragraph 2, of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization, and indicate whether you have received observations from such organizations. If so, please communicate a copy of the observations received together with any comments that you may consider useful.

²¹ Report of the fourth meeting of the SRM TWG, 2018, [GB.334/LILS/3](#), annex, paras 15–17.

²² [GB.334/PV](#), para. 761. The recommendations approved also included placing an item concerning the abrogation of Convention No. 85 on the agenda of the 113th Session (2024) [112th Session (2024)] of the International Labour Conference. See also [GB.334/INS/2/1](#), para. 31(d); and [GB.334/PV](#), para. 42(e). Convention No. 85 was abrogated by the ILC at its 112th Session (2024).