

Courtesy translation

REPUBLIC OF TOGO

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Cooperation, African Integration and Togolese Abroad

CABINET

No. 0314 /MAECIATE/CAB

Subject: Application for the post of Director-General of the International Labour Office

The Minister

To: **Ms Anousheh Karvar**

Chair of the Governing Body

International labour Office (ILO)

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Lomé, 17 April 2026

Madam Chair,

I acknowledge receipt of your letter regarding the appointment of the Director-General of the International Labour Office (ILO) and thank you for it.

In my capacity as Minister for Foreign Affairs, Cooperation, African Integration and Togolese Abroad, I have the honour of submitting the candidacy of Mr Gilbert F. Houngbo for the post of Director-General of the International Labour Office.

A seasoned executive, Mr Houngbo has over forty years' experience in the field of international development. He has held senior management positions within governments, the United Nations system, international financial institutions and the private sector, and is recognized for his ability to successfully lead institutional reforms that generate sustainable efficiency gains.

In his capacity as Director-General of the International Labour Office, Mr Houngbo has demonstrated a steadfast commitment to implementing the International Labour Organization's mandate to promote social justice, against a backdrop of changes in the multilateral system and profound transformations in the world of work. Since his election in 2022, significant progress has been made, notably through the adoption of new instruments, the creation of the Global Coalition for Social Justice, the modernization of the standards review system, work undertaken on artificial intelligence and the living wage, as well as the implementation of a major institutional reform aimed at preparing the Organization for developments in the multilateral system.

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In the statement attached as an annex, Mr Hounbo sets out the vision that would guide his work at the head of the Organization, as well as the main priorities he would seek to focus on should he be elected for a second term. Given the achievements already made and those currently underway, his re-election would ensure continuity in the efforts already undertaken and would enable him, in close collaboration with the Organization's tripartite constituents, the objective of ensuring that, by 2032, the Organization is fully refocused on its original mandate, namely its standard-setting role and its technical capacity to advise the tripartite constituents on the ground, based on the five fundamental principles and rights at work.

I am convinced that the results already achieved by Mr Hounbo during his first term of office demonstrate his full capacity to assume the responsibilities attached to this high function. He possesses the leadership qualities, experience and skills required to continue to lead this unique tripartite Organization and to meet the challenges it faces.

The required documents are attached to this communication.

Please accept, Madam President, the assurance of my highest consideration.

Prof. Robert DUSSEY