



Governing Body

357th Session, Geneva, 12 and 13 June 2026

Institutional Section

INS

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Intergovernmental and international non-governmental organizations to be invited as observers to ILO official meetings

Summary: This document provides information on the intergovernmental organizations and international non-governmental organizations to be invited as observers to the 15th African Regional Meeting.

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Related documents: GB.357/INS/9/1.

► Organizations to be invited as observers to the 15th African Regional Meeting (Windhoek, Namibia, 2–4 December 2026)

1. Article 1.12 of the Rules for regional meetings states that:
representatives of official universal or regional international organizations and of non-governmental universal or regional international organizations which have been invited by the Governing Body, either individually or as a result of a standing arrangement, to be represented at the meeting may attend it as observers.
2. At its 356th Session, the Governing Body delegated to its Officers the authority to invite official international organizations and non-governmental international organizations to be represented at official meetings.
3. On this basis, the Officers of the Governing Body have authorized the Director-General to invite the organizations listed below to attend the 15th African Regional Meeting to be held in Windhoek, Namibia, from 2 to 4 December 2026, as observers.

Intergovernmental organizations

- African Regional Labour Administration Centre (ARLAC)
- Centre Régional Africain d'Administration du Travail (CRADAT)
- Arab Centre for Labour Administration and Employment (ACLAE)
- Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA)
- Economic and Statistical Observatory for Sub-Saharan Africa (AFRISTAT)
- Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)
- Indian Ocean Commission
- New Partnership for Africa's Development Agency (NEPAD)
- Pan-African Productivity Association (PAPA)
- Union du Maghreb Arabe (UMA)
- Union Parlementaire Africaine (UPA)
- West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU)

International non-governmental organizations, research organizations and academic institutions

- African Regional Organisation of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC-Africa)
- Autorité de Développement Intégré des États du Liptako-Gourma (ALG)
- CARE International
- Conseil de Coordination syndicale de l'Afrique de l'Est
- East and Central African Social Security Association
- Fairtrade International
- General Union of Chambers of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture for Arab Countries

International non-governmental organizations, research organizations and academic institutions

- Global Citizen
- HelpAge International
- Horn of Africa Trade Union Confederation (HACTU)
- International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions
- International Domestic Workers Federation
- Internationale Francophone du Dialogue Social (IFDS)
- SADC Private Sector Forum (SPSF)
- Solidarity Center
- Southern African Trade Union Coordination Council (SATUCC)
- Organization of Trade Unions of West Africa (OTUWA)
- East African Trade Union Confederation (EATUC)
- Organization of Trade Unions of Central Africa (OUSTAC)
- UNI Global Union
- Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO)

Academic institutions

- Université Cheikh Anta Diop de Dakar
 - Mulungushi University
 - National University of Lesotho
 - Nelson Mandela University
 - Stellenbosch University
 - The American University in Cairo
 - Université d'Antananarivo
 - Université de Yaoundé II
 - University of Fort Hare
 - University of Ghana
 - University of Johannesburg
 - University of Namibia
 - University of Rwanda
 - University of the Witwatersrand
 - University of Zambia
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International non-governmental organizations, research organizations and academic institutions

Labour research and other organizations

- African Labour Law Society
- Labour Resource and Research Institute (LaRRI)
- National Labour and Economic Development Institute (NALEDI)
- Zambia Institute for Labour Research and Development (ZILARD)
- Labour and Economic Development Research Institute of Zimbabwe (LEDRIZ)
- Labour Research and Policy Institute (LaRPI)
- CIVIC+264
- Economic and Social Justice Trust (ESJT)

4. In addition to the aforementioned organizations, the Director-General intends to invite the intergovernmental organizations listed below that have a standing arrangement with the ILO, followed by international non-governmental organizations enjoying general consultative status with the ILO that are automatically invited to all ILO official meetings.

Intergovernmental organizations to be invited as observers on the basis of a standing arrangement with the ILO

- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)
- International Organization for Migration (IOM)
- International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
- Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)
- Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
- United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)
- United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- United Nations Women
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)
- United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)
- United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- World Bank Group

Intergovernmental organizations to be invited as observers on the basis of a standing arrangement with the ILO**Regional and multi-regional organizations**

- African Centre of Statistics, United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA)
- African Development Bank Group (AfDB)
- African Union (AU)
- African Union Institute for Statistics (STATAFRIC)
- Economic, Social and Cultural Council of the African Union
- European Union
- Inter-African Conference on Social Security (CIPRES)
- Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)
- League of Arab States
- Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (OIF)
- Southern African Development Community (SADC)

International non-governmental organizations enjoying consultative status with the ILO

- International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)
 - International Organisation of Employers (IOE)
 - International Cooperative Alliance (ICA)
 - Organization of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU)
 - Business Africa
 - World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU)
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