

Committee on the Application of Standards

Date: 25 May 2026

Governments concerned are invited to submit written information on serious failure to report by 26 May 2026

► Information on cases of serious failure to respect reporting and other standards-related obligations supplied by governments

Brunei Darussalam

Failure to submit instruments to the competent authorities

The Government has provided the following written information.

The Government of Brunei Darussalam reaffirms its commitment to the constitutional obligations of the ILO, specifically the duty to submit newly adopted instruments to the competent national authorities. The Government acknowledges the concerns raised by the Committee regarding the serious failure to submit and wish to reiterate that the national governance framework relies on the multi ministerial review process.

This practice ensures that any instrument brought before the highest competent authority is accompanied by a thorough assessment of its impact on national legislation and socio-economic priorities.

Phase 1: Technical review by the Department of Labour and the Ministry of Home Affairs

Phase 2: Formal transmittal to policy-holding ministries and agencies for their evaluation

Phase 3: Consolidation of inter-agency feedback to determine the feasibility of ratification or otherwise

Phase 4: Formal communication and reporting to the International Labour Organization

The Government wishes to highlight that the process for recently adopted instruments is active. In this regard, the Department of Labour has transmitted the instruments to the relevant agencies with a clear deadline for reply. While formal replies from certain agencies are currently pending, the Department of Labour continues to engage in constant follow-up.

To ensure consistency, the Government will apply the same procedure to previously adopted instruments. The Department of Labour will transmit these instruments to the relevant ministries and agencies through official letters, accompanied by a set deadline for their review and feedback. The substantive evaluation of feasibility for ratification or otherwise will rest with the respective ministries and agencies. The Department of Labour will monitor

progress and follow up before the prescribed deadlines to ensure timely responses, after which consolidated feedback will be communicated to the ILO.

Given their subject-matter mandates, technical expertise and dedicated legal advisory capacity, the Department of Labour has identified the relevant ministries and agencies as the competent authorities for the purpose of reviewing each instrument. This ensures that the evaluation is undertaken by institutions with the appropriate jurisdiction and expertise.

To address the bottleneck in inter-agency communication and move towards full compliance with article 19 of the ILO Constitution, the Government will implement the following:

- Enhanced tracking: Monitoring system within the Department of Labour to track the status of instruments currently with external/respective agencies/ministries;
- High-level engagement: Should technical-level replies remain pending, the Department of Labour will escalate these consultations to a senior policy level to ensure timely responses;
- Continuing dialogue: Continued communication with the ILO Regional Office has been maintained to ensure the reporting format meets the Committee's expectations.

The Government notes the list of pending instruments requiring submission and will ensure that these items are prioritized. The Government remains committed to strengthening its institutional process and to fulfilling article 19 obligations through the established governance channels. The Government looks forward to providing further updates accordingly.

► Mapping of instruments to competent authorities

Session	Instrument	Responsible ministry/agency	Status
96th Session (2007)	• Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188) • Work in Fishing Recommendation, 2007 (No. 199)	Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Primary Resources and Tourism	Under review by the relevant Ministry/Agency
99th Session (2010)	HIV and AIDS Recommendation, 2010 (No. 200)	Ministry of Health	Under review by the relevant Ministry/Agency
100th Session (2011)	• Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) • Domestic Workers Recommendation, 2011 (No. 201)	Department of Labour, Ministry of Home Affairs	Under review by the relevant Ministry/Agency
101st Session (2012)	• Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202)	Department of Community Development, Ministry of Culture Youth & Sports	Under review by the relevant Ministry/Agency

Session	Instrument	Responsible ministry/agency	Status
103rd Session (2014)	• Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 • Forced Labour (Supplementary Measures) Recommendation, 2014 (No. 203)	Department of Labour, Ministry of Home Affairs	Under review by the relevant Ministry/Agency
104th Session (2015)	• Transition from the Informal to the Formal Economy Recommendation, 2015 (No. 204)	Department of Labour, Ministry of Home Affairs	Under review by the relevant Ministry/Agency
106th Session (2017)	• Employment and Decent Work for Peace and Resilience Recommendation, 2017 (No. 205)	Department of Labour, Ministry of Home Affairs	Under review by the relevant Ministry/Agency
108th Session (2019)	• Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190) • Violence and Harassment Recommendation, 2019 (No. 206)	Royal Brunei Police Force, Prime Minister's Office	Under review by the relevant Ministry/Agency
111th Session (2023)	• Safe and Healthy Working Environment (Consequential Amendments) Convention, 2023 (No. 191) • Safe and Healthy Working Environment (Consequential Amendments) Recommendation, 2023 (No. 207) • Quality Apprenticeships Recommendation, 2023 (No. 208)	Safety, Health and Environment National Authority Manpower Planning Office (PPTM)	Under review by the relevant Ministry/Agency