

Committee on the Application of Standards

Date: 21 May 2026

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

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

Argentina

Labour Inspection Convention, 1947 (No. 81) (ratification: 1955)

Labour Inspection (Agriculture) Convention, 1969 (No. 129) (ratification: 1985)

Labour Administration Convention, 1978 (No. 150) (ratification: 2004)

The Government has provided the following written information.

A. Labour inspection

In Argentina, the number of inspectors is sufficient and ensures the effective discharge of the duties

In Argentina, labour inspection is a function that is not delegated to the nation by the provinces or the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, which retain exclusive competence to inspect compliance with labour legislation and safety and health conditions. Federal competence for inspection is exceptional and relates to the transport of passengers, loads and river, maritime and lake activities, ports and airports.

Within this framework of the division of competence, Act No. 25.212 endorses the Federal Labour Pact concluded by the national State, the provinces and the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, and its objectives are: the unification of labour inspection criteria and penalties for labour violations throughout the country.

Act No. 25.877 established the Comprehensive Labour and Social Security Inspection System (SIDITYSS) for the supervision and inspection of compliance with labour and social security provisions throughout the national territory.

In light of the above, the Government considers that the quantitative analysis of the numbers of inspectors should be undertaken adding together the number of inspectors of the national administration, local jurisdictions and non-State public bodies with delegated

inspection functions. The national public administration accordingly has a service with dependent labour inspectors consisting of the: Secretariat of Labour, Employment and Social Security (STEySS), the Occupational Risk Supervisory Authority (SRT) and the Customs Collection and Supervisory Agency (ARCA).

Each of the provinces and the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires in turn have their own labour inspection services.

In addition, the inspectors must be included of non-State public bodies: the National Register of Rural Workers and Employers (RENATRE) and the Statistical and Registry Institute for the Construction Industry (IERIC).

As a result, the total number of inspectors is sufficient and effective under the terms of Convention No. 81.

In Argentina, the labour inspection system ensures the presence of a central authority in a federal system

In Argentina, there is a central authority (the Ministry of Human Capital – STEySS) which coordinates and sets common policies for the country as a whole within the framework of co-responsibility and cooperation (Act No. 25.212). Similarly, the STEySS, as the central authority, includes the Federal Labour Council (CFT), a body that ensures the greatest effectiveness of Government action in the various jurisdictions, as established by Act No. 25.212.

Moreover, the National Plan for the regularization of labour (PNRT) remains in force under the joint management of the national and provincial governments and the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires. Under the terms of Act No. 25.212, the STEySS is the authority responsible for the application of the SIDITYSS and exercises its functions in articulation with the provincial administrations and the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires.

In Argentina, labour inspectors are provided with means of transport and mobility allowances

In this respect, it is important to emphasize that all inspectors are in receipt of the monthly mobility allowances, which is intended to cover journeys on public transport required to carry out their daily functions.

It is also the case that, in the event that they have to travel over 50km from their workplace (the premises of regional agencies), service commissions are provided to inspectors consisting of a sum of money so that they can cover the necessary expenses for the discharge of their duties, including accommodation if they have to stay overnight in other cities.

Both the central headquarters and the regional agencies of the STEySS have means of transport available.

Information requested on the number of inspectors with tenure and the number employed on contracts at the federal level

The number of inspectors at the federal level is 316, of whom 263 have tenure and 53 are under contract (the total of inspectors in the provincial administrations and the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires). In addition, the SRT has a total of 100 inspectors under permanent contracts and 20 under fixed-term contracts for one year with automatic renewal (Act No. 20.744).

Measures taken to ensure penalties for unregistered work

In this regard, in relation to the comment relating to the regulations repealed by Act No. 27.742 providing for financial consequences for employers for failure to comply with labour regulations, it should be noted that in essence they constituted a double burden, as employers were responsible for the same failure to comply with Act No. 25.212. However, as the comment covered by the above response bears no relation to the matters set out in Convention No. 81, it is requested that it is not taken into account.

Below, information is provided on the General System of Penalties for Labour Violations (REGESIL), which are applicable throughout the national territory (Act No. 25.212):

Types	Offences	Level of fines
Light	Formal or administrative violations	Between 25 and 150 per cent of the minimum mobile living wage (SMVM)
Serious	Acts or omissions which result in failure to comply with occupational safety and health requirements	Between 30 and 200 per cent of the SMVM for each worker
Very serious	Acts or omissions which may result in serious or imminent risks to the health of workers, discrimination, acts contrary to intimacy and dignity	Between 50 and 2 000 per cent of the SMVM for each worker affected
Obstruction	Conduct which impedes, disturbs or delays the work of the inspector	Between 100 and 5 000 per cent of the SMVM

The Public Register of Employers with Labour Penalties (REPSAL) – Act No. 26.940:

The Register publishes final penalties for unregistered work imposed by the STEySS, ARCA, regional authorities and the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, RENATRE and the SRT, as well as penalties for the obstruction of labour inspection, court sentences for labour relations not recognized by the employer, penalties for violations of the prohibition of child labour and the protection of young workers, and penalties for violations of the Act on the prevention and punishment of the trafficking of persons and assistance to victims (penalty: prohibition of access to State programmes, benefits and subsidies, credit from public financial institutions and participation in tendering for public works or services).

There are sufficient numbers of inspectors in agriculture, combined under all inspection systems (national, provincial and the RENATRE)

There are a total of 316 federal inspectors, who discharge functions within the framework of the PNRT with full federal competence, but also carry out inspections in the agricultural sector (including provincial inspectors and those of the RENATRE).

The Committee notes that unregistered work is largely prevalent in rural areas

Argentina is continuing to implement the PNRT at the national level, with joint action being taken with the RENATRE, denunciations being received and action carried out to detect workers who are not registered and their inclusion in the dependent staff.

The Committee notes persistent rural child labour, labour exploitation and trafficking and inhumane conditions

Within the context of the STEySS RENATRE Coordination Committee, the presence of children and situations of labour exploitation have been detected, and denunciations have been made so that the judicial system could intervene. The result of the work of the Coordination Committee was to improve the focus on the detection of violations.

Coordination between national and provincial bodies and RENATRE. Cooperation agreement

In 2019, a cooperation agreement was concluded between the then Government Secretariat for Labour and Employment and the RENATRE to strengthen inspection and promote decent work in the agricultural sector, thereby avoiding the duplication of effort and enabling resources to be used by both bodies. Subsequently, in 2020, the then Secretariat of Labour of the former Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security and RENATRE concluded a supplementary agreement. On the basis of these agreements, articulated and planned working methods were consolidated for the two bodies.

The principal indicators of the Coordination Committee are set out below:

Year	Establishments inspected	Establishments with violations	Percentage of establishments with violations	Workers inspected	Workers without prior registration (CAT)	Percentage of workers without prior registration (CAT)	Inspections where child labour/work by young persons detected	Inspections where work by young persons detected	Number of children detected	Number of young persons detected	Cases of labour exploitation
2024	134	93	69.4	1 399	485	34.7	2	3	2	3	13
2025	133	106	79.7	1 704	1 092	64.1	3	14	2	14	17
2026	59	44	74.6	1 397	759	54.3	1	4	0	4	1
General total	326	243	74.5	4 500	6 750	150.0	6	21	4	21	31

Data as of 8/5/2026 – Own source CPO

Public expenditure austerity policies do not affect the continuity and strengthening of inspection services

Public expenditure austerity policies have not affected the labour inspection or rural inspection services, as the implementation of the PNRT is continuing, with a total of 173,233 inspections in 2025 at the national level. It is also reiterated that joint action is continuing with the RENATRE.

B. Labour administration

In this regard, it is important to clarify that Argentina was experiencing a deep-rooted crisis and it was vital to adopt measures to overcome the emergency. The administrative reorganization of Act No. 27.742 therefore seeks to reduce the oversized State in order to achieve optimum resource allocation.

Particular considerations:

- Criterion of “availability”: it should be noted that this concept was already envisaged by Act No. 25.742. The administrative career system has been retained to ensure the professional nature of the service.
- Labour inclusion policies: STEySS Decision No. 295/26 (B.O. 13/04/26) established the Human Capital Training Programme. In addition, the Promoting Employment, Self-employment Programme (PEI), Interharvest and Good Harvest programmes are continuing.

The Labour Modernization Act No. 27.802 established the Labour Formalization Incentive System (RIFL), the objective of which is to promote the recruitment in the private sector of workers who did not have a registered employment relationship as of 10 December 2025 and the Labour Assistance Fund (FAL) as a financial tool to improve the compensation system.

- Platform economy: Argentina has taken a pioneering role in its regulation and Act No. 27.802 established the Personal Mobility and/or Sharing System for Private Services to ensure the protection and independence of the workers.
- Minimum Mobile Living Wage Board: in accordance with the procedure established by section 137 of Act No. 24.013, Decision No. 9 of 2 December 2025 was adopted establishing the SMVM as a progressive measure until the month of August 2026.
- Approval of agreements: contrary to the indication in the report, the administrative authority is in compliance with the statutory time limits, carries out exhaustive checks and requests the relevant clarifications. In this process, the time limit is calculated from the date of submission to the competent authority once the requirements have been fulfilled (section 6 of Act No. 23.546).
- Social dialogue: sectoral bargaining, dynamic wages, task completion supplements, tax concessions, agreements to derogate from collective labour agreements, adjustment of working hours, the conclusion of crisis collective agreements, etc., are collective bargaining tools through which framework agreements have been developed (Decree No. 633/18).

Indeed, emphasis should be placed on a historical milestone in agricultural collective bargaining on 13 May 2025 when the first collective agreement was concluded for rural workers (Act No. 27.802).

C. Conclusion

The nation is currently undergoing a process of reform, and the Government undertakes to analyse its consequences and request technical assistance from the Office to evaluate the operation of the labour inspection system at the federal, and particularly the provincial level. Moreover, although the Government of Argentina undertakes to keep the Committee informed on all the matters raised in its report, it should be emphasized that the comments made do not constitute serious failures of compliance. For this reason, it is respectfully requested that other means be chosen to resolve the matters raised.