

Committee on the Application of Standards

CAN/PV Centenary

Commission de l'application des normes

02.06.2026

Comisión de Aplicación de Normas

114th Session, Geneva, 2026

114^e session, Genève, 2026114.^a reunión, Ginebra, 2026

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Segunda sesión, 2 de junio de 2026, 10.16 horas**Second sitting, 2 June 2026, 10.16 a.m.****Deuxième séance, 2 juin 2026, 10 h 16**

Presidenta: Sra. López

Chairperson: Ms López

Présidente: M^{me} López**Centenario
Centenary
Centenaire**

Presidenta - Buenos días a todos y a todas. Me alegro mucho volver a verlos en esta segunda sesión de nuestra Comisión.

En ese sentido antes de comenzar nuestras labores, quisiera hacer un anuncio importante: hoy 2 de junio se celebrará una sesión de votación electrónica acerca de la propuesta de suspensión de la aplicación de determinadas disposiciones del Reglamento de

la Conferencia. Dicha suspensión permitirá a los miembros de la delegación del Estado de Palestina ejercer en la presente reunión de la Conferencia, los derechos y privilegios adicionales que se les confieren en la Resolución sobre la condición de Palestina en la OIT y los derechos de participación de Palestina en las reuniones de la OIT, adoptada por la Conferencia del año pasado en su 113.^a reunión.

La votación se abrió a las 10 horas de Ginebra del día de hoy y se cerrará a las 17 horas de este mismo día. Los resultados de la votación se anunciarán en la sesión plenaria matutina del 3 de junio. El enlace a la plataforma de votación se envió por correo electrónico antes de las 10 horas a los delegados titulares y a los suplentes. El primer código de votación figurará en el mensaje de correo electrónico.

El segundo código de votación, que tiene cuatro caracteres, está impreso en el distintivo de la Conferencia de cada delegado. Las personas con derecho a votar podrán hacerlo de la siguiente manera: primero, utilizando su propio dispositivo, un ordenador personal o un teléfono inteligente; segundo, en las estaciones de votación disponibles en la Salle des Pas Perdus detrás de la Sala de Asambleas en el Palacio de las Naciones, en la entrada del Centro Internacional de Conferencias de Ginebra (CICG), o bien frente a la Sala del Consejo de Administración, aquí mismo, actualmente utilizada por la Comisión. La Secretaría estará presente en los tres lugares para prestar la asistencia que sea necesaria para votar. Cualquier consulta sobre el particular podrá enviarse a: meetingsupport@ilo.org.

Les recuerdo que para que las modificaciones de los poderes se tramiten a tiempo para la votación, los puntos focales deberán presentarlas a más tardar a las 9 horas del día en que se vaya a celebrar la votación. Las sustituciones por parte de empleadores y trabajadores también deberán presentarse a más tardar a las 9 horas del día de la votación. Es posible que las presentaciones tardías no se transmitan a tiempo para la votación.

La sesión de esta mañana comenzará con la discusión general que se basa en el Informe General de la Comisión de Expertos que incluye este año un segmento dedicado a marcar el Centenario de la Comisión. A continuación, se debatirá el Estudio General titulado: *El empleo y el trabajo decente para la paz y la resiliencia*. Luego, nuestra Comisión proseguirá sus labores con el examen de los casos de incumplimiento grave por parte de los Estados Miembros de su obligación de envío de memorias y de otras obligaciones relacionadas con las normas.

A este respecto les informamos que el documento CAN/D/SF elaborado por la Oficina para la base de este examen está disponible en la página web de la Comisión. Dicho documento recopila información actualizada sobre los casos de incumplimientos graves y contiene la información escrita facilitada por los Gobiernos al respecto. A continuación, la Comisión podrá cerrar la discusión general con las respuestas del Presidente de la Comisión de Expertos y de la representante del Secretario General así como las observaciones finales de los dos Vicepresidentes. Les informo asimismo, que los documentos que contienen la información escrita enviada por los Gobiernos de Malí con relación al Convenio sobre las peores formas de trabajo infantil, 1999 (núm. 182), de Sudáfrica sobre el Convenio sobre la discriminación (empleo y ocupación), 1958 (núm. 111), y de la Argentina sobre el Convenio sobre la inspección del trabajo, 1947 (núm. 81), el Convenio sobre la inspección del trabajo (agricultura), 1969 (núm. 129) y el Convenio sobre la administración del trabajo, 1978 (núm. 150) están disponibles en la página web de nuestra Comisión. También les informo que en la página web de la Comisión está disponible el documento D.0 (Rev. 2) que contiene el nuevo programa de trabajo provisional, en el que se indican las fechas de examen de cada uno de los 23 casos individuales.

Permítanme recordarles que queda estrictamente prohibido filmar o tomar fotografías de delegaciones distintas a la propia, así como realizar publicaciones en directo en redes sociales durante las sesiones de la Comisión, incluso en la sala de retransmisión del pleno (Sala 2).

También me gustaría recordarles que con el fin de gestionar el tiempo en forma eficaz se ruega a los delegados que se inscriban en la lista de oradores con la debida antelación, tal como se indica en nuestros métodos de trabajo en el documento D.1. Los delegados inscritos en la Comisión deberán solicitar su inclusión en la lista de oradores rellenando el formulario previsto a tal efecto, disponible en la página de la Comisión y remitiéndolo por correo electrónico a la dirección de la Comisión (CAN@ilo.org).

También, quisiera recordarles que los tiempos máximos de intervención establecidos para la discusión general, tal y como están previstos en la parte 9 del documento D.1, sobre los métodos de trabajo en nuestra Comisión, son los siguientes: 20 minutos para los portavoces del Grupo de los Empleadores y del Grupo de los Trabajadores; 15 minutos para la Representante del Secretario General, así como, para la Presidencia de la Comisión de Expertos y del Comité de Libertad Sindical; 12 minutos para las declaraciones del Grupo Gubernamental, y 5 minutos para los demás miembros.

Para facilitar la labor de los intérpretes no olviden enviar sus declaraciones con antelación por correo electrónico a la siguiente dirección; can@ilo.org. Asimismo, les agradeceríamos que pronuncien sus intervenciones a un ritmo razonable.

Como ya he mencionado este año, nuestra discusión general comenzará con la conmemoración del Centenario de nuestra Comisión, que fue establecida en el año 1926. En esta especial ocasión tengo el honor de ceder la palabra al Sr. Kaizer Moyane, Vicepresidente Empleador, para que haga uso de su declaración.

Employer members – It is a particular honour for me to take the floor as the Committee marks the centenary of its establishment. One hundred years ago, this Committee was created as a practical expression of the ILO's commitment to supervise the application of international labour standards through tripartite dialogue. A century later, it continues to fulfil that

mandate. Today, the Committee remains the only standing committee of the Conference and a cornerstone of the ILO's supervisory system. The Employer members welcome this opportunity to reflect on the centenary of the Committee in a forward-looking spirit.

In doing so, we are mindful not only of the Committee's long history but also of the significant responsibility it carries in an increasingly complex and demanding global environment. Over the past 100 years, the Committee has played a central role in examining the application of international labour standards within the ILO's tripartite framework. It has provided a forum where governments, employers and workers jointly assess individual cases of concern, exchange views on national realities, and identify ways to improve the implementation of standards both in law and in practice. This tripartite work is not merely procedural. It is fundamental to the legitimacy, credibility and effectiveness of the supervisory system.

Preserving that tripartite foundation remains essential to maintaining confidence in the supervisory system, particularly at a time of increasing pressure on multilateral institutions. From the perspective of the Employer members, the ILO's supervisory system must serve all constituents and operate within the agreed mandate. Its integrity depends on the active and meaningful participation of governments, employers and workers. The Committee has endured for a century precisely because it has ensured that supervision remains grounded in dialogue, shared responsibility and mutual respect. Confidence in the supervisory system also depends on processes and outcomes that are consistent, predictable and credible.

For a century, the Committee has combined continuity with adaptation. Over time, its structure, format and working methods have been adapted and refined through tripartite engagement, reflecting changes in the world of work and increasing complexity of labour markets and national implementation challenges. The Employer members consider that a

number of these changes have contributed to strengthening the efficiency and effectiveness of the Committee's work, allowing discussions to be more focused, structured and disciplined. At the same time, the Employer members have consistently emphasized that the value of the Committee does not lie in the number of cases examined, but rather in the quality of its discussions and the conclusions that flow from them. When discussions take proper account of national context, institutional capacities and economic realities, they are far more likely to lead to conclusions that are balanced, credible and implementable.

One of the enduring strengths of the Committee is its ability to look beyond formal compliance and explore how international labour standards operate in practice. For employers, this is critical. The Committee contributes to the world of work not just by identifying gaps but by providing governments with practical and realistic guidance and supporting sustainable improvements that reflect realities on the ground. Ultimately, the credibility of the supervisory system depends not only on identifying concerns but on supporting outcomes that can realistically be implemented and sustained in practice.

This contribution is not abstract. In a number of instances, long-standing engagement with ILO standards has contributed to strengthening institutionalized social dialogue mechanisms, supporting more structured and regular consultation between governments and social partners. An illustration of how the supervisory system can contribute to gradual institutional reform and strengthen social dialogue is the case of Kazakhstan. This case demonstrates how the supervisory system can contribute to progress in complex and evolving situations through dialogue and continued follow-up. The case of Kazakhstan has been examined repeatedly by the Committee over a number of years, reflecting ongoing attention to issues related to freedom of association and trade union registration. For employers, it has been especially significant because discussions have addressed matters directly affecting employers' organizations and the broader functioning of social dialogue.

In particular, the Committee's work has focused on institutional arrangements affecting the organization and representation of employees, including the framework surrounding the National Chamber of Entrepreneurs. These discussions highlighted the importance of ensuring that representative organizations are able to operate freely and independently without structures and mechanisms that may affect their autonomy. For employers, this goes to the heart of the international labour standard system. Predictability, respect for representative organizations and effective institutional dialogue are essential elements of a stable business environment and sustainable economic development as well as key foundations of meaningful social dialogue.

Through repeated discussions and conclusions, the Committee called for the removal of obstacles affecting independent employers' organizations, encouraged review of relevant institutional arrangements and emphasized the importance of free and independent participation in social dialogue. It also supported legislative and practical reforms, stronger engagement with social partners and the development of follow-up measures, including technical cooperation. A concrete outcome of this process was the direct contacts mission that took place in 2022 following the Committee's discussions. This mission created an opportunity for in-depth engagement with the Government and social partners and helped to identify practical paths for reform and implementation. Since then, certain adjustments have been made to the legal framework. While implementation challenges remain, the Committee illustrates that progress in strengthening independent and representative social dialogue institutions is often gradual and requires sustained engagement.

Importantly, this experience highlights that the supervisory process does not end with Committee discussions. Follow-up mechanisms such as reporting, technical assistance and sustained dialogue help to maintain momentum and encourage constructive engagement among governments and social partners. While challenges remain, cases such as Kazakhstan

show how the Committee works in practice. They demonstrate how the Committee contributes to visibility, accountability and gradual reform while supporting Member States in addressing complex institutional issues. More broadly, they illustrate how over time the work of the Committee can contribute incrementally but meaningfully to stronger institutions, more effective social dialogue and better conditions for representative organizations to operate independently.

As we look ahead and reflect, we obviously appreciate the centenary of the Committee and its achievements over time, but what lies ahead? For many years, the Employer members have advocated for an approach to individual case discussions that not only addresses serious violations but also gives greater prominence to cases of progress and positive developments. We believe, as employers, that highlighting progress matters. It enables Member States to learn from successful reform initiatives and effective social dialogue practices, reinforces confidence in international labour standards as tools that can be implemented successfully, and strengthens the supportive and preventive dimension of the supervisory system. Recognizing progress does not undermine standards. It reinforces credibility and encourages compliance through learning and example.

Chairperson, the Committee enters its second centenary at a time of profound transformation in the world of work. Economic uncertainty, technological change, new forms of employment and the shifting labour markets all raise complex supervisory questions. In this context, the Committee must remain anchored in its core principles of tripartism, dialogue, balance and pragmatism while adapting intelligently to new realities in a measured and disciplined manner. As the supervisory system continues to evolve, it will be important that future discussions remain firmly anchored in social dialogue, practical implementation and respect for the diversity of national legal and industrial relations systems.

For the Employer members, a strong and credible Committee is one that promotes respect for international labour standards by producing conclusions that are implementable in practice by governments, supported by social partners at the national level, and contribute to sustainable enterprises and job creation.

Chairperson, the Committee remains indispensable to the ILO supervisory system. The Employer members are fully committed to constructive engagement in its work, supporting its continued evolution and ensuring that its outcomes are balanced and credible. As we commemorate this centenary, we do so not only in recognition of the Committee's past but with a shared responsibility to ensure that the Committee continues to serve all ILO constituents effectively in the decades to come.

Presidenta - Ahora voy a dar el uso de la palabra a la Sra. Ann Bermorgan, Vicepresidenta trabajadora, para que haga su declaración.

Worker members – It is an honour to address you on behalf of the Worker members at a moment of rare institutional significance, the centenary of the Committee. One hundred years of scrutiny, monitoring, evidence-based dialogue, accountability and major progress for workers and employers between 1926 to 2026. This is how our Organization has been waging its battles for social justice and a better life for millions of workers. Progress has been made, though more needs to be done. But today is for celebration. I dare state that the most significant contribution of the Committee has most definitely been the setting of the normative and institutional conditions that facilitated the decolonization and the consolidation of newly independent States.

Ghana gained independence in March 1957, the first country in sub-Saharan Africa to do so. By May of the same year, it had ratified ten ILO Conventions, showing that it was ready to

integrate into the global economy, that it was ready to be treated on equal footing and ready to use the system to improve the conditions of workers in the newly independent state.

This Committee also served as a mechanism of safeguarding a floor of dignity to check any further exploitation of workers and a race to the bottom. Through its scrutiny of the application of the first forced labour, freedom of association, collective bargaining, discrimination and equal pay conventions, this Committee also contributed to the spread of freedom and democracy without which workers are unable to exercise their rights and defend their interest in dignity.

The ILO Centenary Declaration, adopted in 2019, recalls with clarity and urgency that “continuous and concerted action of governments and representatives of employers and workers is essential to the achievement of social justice, democracy and the promotion of universal and lasting peace”. It also reaffirms, against every attempt to reduce work to a mere input, that labour is not a commodity. The Committee stands at the heart of realizing this principle. It is not merely a procedural forum. It is one of the places where ILO action becomes a reality.

The Centenary Declaration is explicit: “The setting, promotion, ratification and supervision of international labour standards is of fundamental importance to the ILO”. This is clear because standards without supervision risk becoming aspiration without consequence or just mere declarations, and supervision without engagement risk becoming form without legitimacy or credibility. Our system is built to avoid both failures.

Let me share with you some examples on our results, current and going further back in time. Let me start with Fiji and this year’s observation by the Committee of Experts. The case of Fiji was discussed in this Committee on the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87), in 2019. But this also led to the observations on

the Tripartite Consultation (International Labour Standards) Convention, 1976 (No. 144), in following years. The Committee called upon the Government to refrain from interfering in the designation of the representatives of the social partners in tripartite bodies and to reconvene the Employment Relations Advisory Board (ERAB) without delay. In its observation for this year, the Committee of Experts have been able to express satisfaction with the appointment of the members of the reconstituted ERAB, ensuring equal representation of the Government, workers and employers.

Taking a further step back, we can see the case of Botswana, which the Committee took up in 2017 to guarantee the application of Convention No. 87. The Committee asked to amend the Trade Disputes Act and the Trade Unions and Employers Organizations Act, and urged the adoption of a time-bound implementation plan with the social partners. In 2018, the case returned because these issues were still unresolved, although a tripartite review process and action plan had begun. In the 2019 report of the Committee of Experts, the Committee could express satisfaction that in line with its recommendations, as the law had been amended.

I would also like to bring the case of Ireland, discussed in 2016 under the [Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 \(No. 98\)](#), concerning the application of the Convention and in particular the application of the Irish Competition Law to self-employed workers. After our discussion, the Committee of Experts could note with satisfaction the adoption of legislation which provided that the prohibition of entering into agreements for setting prices shall not apply to collective bargaining and agreements in respect of relevant categories of self-employed workers, such as musicians engaged as session musicians and journalists engaged as freelance journalists.

I continue with Mexico and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182), discussed in 2008. It concerned the serious use of trafficking of children, the situation of

children carrying out hazardous work in the agriculture sector, and that of street children. In 2015, the Committee of Experts could welcome the ratification of the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138). It took note with satisfaction of the adoption of legislation under which it is prohibited to use children under 18 years in work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm to health, safety or morals of children.

Going back even further, I set the scope even larger and refer to the case of Poland. Many discussions were held in this Committee during the 1980s on the right to freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining under Conventions Nos 87 and 98. In 1990, the Committee of Experts could note with satisfaction the adoption of legislation which grants all citizens, whatever their religion or opinion, the right to establish associations of their own choosing. It also noted with satisfaction that all convictions imposed in respect of strikes or other protest actions committed after the 31 August 1980 were annulled.

These are but a small sample of sometimes very big positive results. Our work in the Committee has been to the benefit of workers and employers in those countries, but also to the benefit of all constituents everywhere. It is important and right that this is said here today on the occasion of this centenary year.

As I said yesterday, our work in the Committee should focus on supervision and accountability regarding implementation of standards, but what we call cases of progress could be put forward in the manner in which we have done today: a separate segment in the work of the Committee. As we discuss cases of serious failure every year, reminding us regularly that our work also leads to improvement in the lives of workers is equally important. It provides an opportunity to remind us all that the supervisory system is a public good that leads to wider social benefits. It protects workers from abuse. It provides states with guidance. It gives employers clarity and a level-playing field and it upholds the rule of international labour

law. The system matters most when it is uncomfortable, when it must speak plainly about violations, about regression, about the targeting of trade unions or about failures to implement obligations freely undertaken by ratification. The system works best when it is understood as complimentary.

The Committee does not stand alone. It is a part of a broader supervisory architecture alongside the Committee of Experts and the Committee on Freedom of Association, each contributing essential functions, each reinforcing the credibility of the whole. We should therefore mark the centenary with a renewed sense of responsibility for the supervisory system itself, a system that must fully play its role now and for the years to come.

Presidenta – Procederé a dar la palabra a la Sra. Panayiotou del Gobierno de Chipre, que va a hablar en representación de la Unión Europea.

Government member, Cyprus, speaking on behalf of the European Union (EU) and its Member States (Ms PANAYIOTOU) – I have the honour to speak on behalf of the EU and its Member States. The candidate countries, North Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Albania, Ukraine, Republic of Moldova and Georgia, the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) country Norway, member of the European Economic Area, as well as the United Kingdom, align themselves with this statement.

We would like to welcome and extend our best wishes to the new Chairperson of the Committee, the Vice-Chairpersons and the Reporter. We welcome the discussion at the Committee, a crucial pillar of the ILO supervisory system. We reaffirm our strong belief in the fundamental importance of international labour standards, their ratification and the effective and authoritative supervision of their implementation.

At the centenary of both the Committee of Experts and the Conference Committee, and in the face of current challenges for the multilateral system, this cannot be stressed enough:

the Committee of Experts remains specifically relevant as a cornerstone of the ILO supervisory system. We strongly value the impartial, legal and evidence-based guidance it has provided to Member States throughout the years in order to implement international labour standards. In its centenary statement, the Committee of Experts rightly recognizes the rapid changes shaping the world of work and stresses its members' attention to evolving laws and practices across ILO Member States to ensure that its comments continue to be accurate, comprehensible, reliable and responsive to ongoing developments. We share this commitment to ensure that the work of the Committee of Experts remains useful for all constituents in advancing the full application of international labour standards for the achievement of social justice and decent work in the future. We recall our strong commitment to the independence, objectivity and impartiality of the Committee of Experts. The analysis and expertise of the Committee of Experts is shown in its annual reports which provide a solid basis for the work of the Conference Committee.

Our Committee's discussions and conclusions are and will continue to be an invaluable contribution to improving our implementation of the international labour standards that lead to decent work and social justice. We attach great importance to the follow-up to these conclusions and to the technical assistance provided by the Office in this regard. Evaluation and adaptation of working methods and procedures are necessary elements to ensure an effective and authoritative supervisory system. The streamlining of article 22 reporting and the generalized thematic reporting across 15 thematic implementation reports to which we are transitioning following the Governing Body decision are good examples of this. We will work on consolidated reports by subject for the instruments we have ratified and look forward to the Committee of Experts' modernized, clearly prioritized technical strategic guidance through concise comments.

The EU and its Member States reiterate their full support to the well-functioning and authoritative supervisory system of the ILO which has been established and adapted over more than a century on the basis of tripartism and continued social dialogue. It is unique and robust, providing a valuable example of a multilateral rule-based order. We are looking forward to a constructive engagement with tripartite constituents during the debate in this Committee.

Presidenta - Le daré la palabra a la Sra. Elise Hansbury, en nombre del Gobierno del Canadá.

Membre gouvernementale, Canada (M^{me} HANSBURY) – C'est un privilège de prendre la parole au nom du gouvernement du Canada afin de souligner le centenaire de la commission, qui est un pilier essentiel du système de contrôle de l'OIT.

La commission occupe une place unique au sein de l'OIT. En tant que commission permanente de la Conférence, elle offre un forum tripartite sans équivalent, qui réunit les gouvernements, les employeurs et les travailleurs, afin d'examiner la mise en œuvre concrète des normes internationales du travail. Par sa nature inclusive et transparente, elle incarne pleinement les valeurs fondamentales du dialogue social qui sont au cœur du mandat de l'Organisation.

La commission s'inscrit dans un système de contrôle rigoureux et complémentaire, établi depuis maintenant un siècle. S'appuyant sur les travaux de la commission d'experts, elle engage un dialogue ouvert, constructif et orienté vers les solutions avec les États Membres, afin d'identifier les meilleurs moyens de transposer, à l'échelle nationale, les engagements pris au sein de cette Organisation.

Ce processus est essentiel. Il permet aux États de rendre compte publiquement de leurs efforts, de répondre aux préoccupations soulevées et de bénéficier des perspectives des

partenaires sociaux ainsi que d'autres gouvernements. Cette dynamique d'examen tripartite, conjuguée à la richesse des échanges, renforce la transparence, la crédibilité et l'efficacité du système de contrôle de l'OIT.

Le Canada demeure un fervent défenseur de ce système. Nous sommes convaincus que la commission constitue un mécanisme à la fois efficace et crédible, ayant permis des avancées concrètes dans la protection des droits des travailleurs et des employeurs à l'échelle mondiale.

Depuis 1926, le Canada participe de manière active et constructive aux travaux de la commission afin de promouvoir le respect des droits fondamentaux au travail, condition indispensable à la réalisation de la justice sociale pour toutes.

Notre engagement repose sur une conviction claire: le dialogue social est indispensable. La collaboration entre gouvernements, employeurs et travailleurs est la clé d'une mise en œuvre effective et durable des normes internationales du travail et, en définitive, de la concrétisation des idéaux qui ont présidé à la fondation même de l'OIT, à savoir que «la paix universelle et durable ne peut être fondée que sur la base de la justice sociale».

Enfin, à l'heure où le monde du travail connaît des transformations rapides et profondes, il est essentiel de préserver la pertinence et la solidité du système de contrôle de l'OIT. Le Canada demeure résolument engagé à le soutenir afin qu'il continue de répondre efficacement aux défis actuels et à venir dans le monde du travail.

Presidenta – Le doy la palabra ahora a la representante del Gobierno de China, Sr. Zhijie.

*Interpretation from Chinese: **Government member (Mr Zhijie)*** –Madam Chairperson, I congratulate you, as well as the two Vice-Chairpersons, on your election. This Committee is one of the most important components of the supervisory mechanism. We welcome this thematic discussion at the centenary of this Committee. A century ago, this mechanism was born out of

the post-World War I reconstruction, as part of the workers' aspiration for fairness, dignity and justice.

Over these hundred years, the mechanism has played a remarkable and unique role in promoting Member States' compliance with international obligations, improving domestic labour legislation and safeguarding workers' rights and interests, making positive contribution to the development of international labour governance. Today, the world is undergoing accelerated changes unseen in a century, and the international landscape is fraught with turbulence. Multilateralism is facing headwinds. International labour governance stands at new crossroads. It has become an issue of our time to promote this institutional design from a century ago, adapt to new trends and challenges in the world of work, including technological transformation, climate change and demographic shifts.

More importantly, it is our shared responsibility and mission to ensure that the mechanism refrain from politicization, instrumentalization and weaponization and return to its original aspiration.

China is a founding Member of the ILO and has actively and responsibly participated in labour governance, promoting the mechanism to fulfil its role. We earnestly practice true multilateralism, implement ratified Conventions, engage in frank technical discussions and continuously improve our domestic legal regulatory framework, achieving effective alignment between international labour standards and domestic systems. We actively draw upon valuable elements of international labour standards to improve our mechanism for coordinating labour relations, strengthening labour inspection and law enforcement, demonstrating the real world value of international labour standards through China's best practices. We have advocated that the supervisory mechanism must remain objective and

impartial, respect the development approaches and national conditions, oppose politicization, instrumentalization and weaponization.

Last September, Chinese President Xi Jinping put forward the Global Governance Initiative, pointing out that to reform and improve global governance, we must adapt to the evolving situation, respond promptly and effectively to various global challenges and better serve the interests of all countries, especially developing nations. The reform and improvement of the supervisory mechanism should also uphold the same principles.

First, we must uphold fairness and inclusiveness, respect different stages of development and diverse models, refrain from double standards and ensure that the mechanism reflects characteristics of our times. Second, we must uphold equality and integrity, ensure equal participation and decision-making of all tripartite constituents, prioritize the appeals and voice of developing countries. Third, we must advocate pragmatic cooperation, strengthen technical support and the sharing of experiences, mobilize more resources to support developing countries to improve their capacity.

Chairperson, standing at this historic juncture, the Chinese Government stands ready to work with all parties to strive for the reform and improvement of the supervisory mechanism, make it more fair, effective and inclusive. We are of the view that such a mechanism that respects differences, focuses on tangible results and serves development, can truly bring decent work and social justice for all.

Presidenta – Paso ahora la palabra al Sr. Johan Denys representante del Gobierno de Bélgica.

Membre gouvernemental, Belgique (M. DENYS) – La Belgique s'associe à la déclaration de l'Union européenne et de ses États membres. C'est pour moi un honneur de m'exprimer aujourd'hui au nom de la Belgique, membre fondateur de cette Organisation, en cette année

du centenaire de cette commission à laquelle les composantes tripartites de mon pays ont toujours accordé une grande importance.

La Belgique demeure profondément attachée au mandat normatif de l'OIT et à l'établissement de normes fondées sur le dialogue et le tripartisme, qui permettent de concilier croissance économique et progrès social.

Cet engagement se reflète dans le nombre élevé de ratifications par la Belgique, qui s'élève à 119 conventions, plaçant ainsi notre pays au troisième rang des États Membres ayant ratifié le plus grand nombre de conventions. Au-delà de la ratification, nous accordons une attention particulière à leur mise en œuvre effective, en étroite concertation avec les partenaires sociaux au niveau national, qui jouent un rôle central dans le suivi et l'application des normes.

À l'occasion du centenaire, nous souhaitons réaffirmer notre plein soutien au système de contrôle de l'OIT, véritable pierre angulaire de l'effectivité de l'application des normes internationales du travail.

Depuis plus d'un siècle, les orientations formulées par notre commission ainsi que par la commission d'experts, les deux piliers du système de contrôle régulier de l'OIT, ont guidé les États Membres dans la définition et la mise en œuvre de leurs législations et pratiques nationales en vue de la réalisation de la justice sociale et du travail décent. La commission d'experts est un organe indépendant et impartial, dont l'expertise juridique constitue une référence essentielle pour l'interprétation des normes internationales du travail.

Dans un contexte international en mutation, les normes de l'OIT demeurent un socle indispensable pour établir des règles du jeu équitables et ainsi garantir des conditions de travail décentes et assurer une concurrence loyale. Toutefois, il importe qu'elles soient ratifiées et, une fois ratifiées, pleinement mises en œuvre. À cet égard, le respect des normes

internationales du travail et la mise en œuvre des recommandations des organes de contrôle sont essentiels au maintien de la crédibilité et de l'efficacité du système.

Néanmoins, ces normes doivent également continuer à évoluer pour rester adaptées aux nouvelles réalités du monde du travail et ainsi conserver toute leur utilité pour l'ensemble des mandants. À cet égard, nous saluons la Déclaration du centenaire de la commission d'experts qui souligne, à juste titre, l'attention portée aux mutations rapides du monde du travail et la nécessité que les commentaires de la commission continuent d'être pertinents, clairs, fiables et adaptés aux changements en cours. Cette approche tournée vers l'avenir contribuera à renforcer le dialogue entre les États Membres et la commission et à orienter au mieux les mandants dans leur application effective des normes internationales du travail.

Les travaux menés par le Groupe de travail tripartite du mécanisme d'examen des normes sont également essentiels pour s'assurer que l'OIT dispose d'un corpus de normes internationales du travail solide, clairement défini et à jour lui permettant de répondre aux mutations du monde du travail, aux fins de la protection des travailleurs et compte tenu des besoins des entreprises durables.

La Belgique reste résolument engagée à poursuivre sa collaboration avec l'ensemble des mandants tripartites, afin de garantir que le système de contrôle de l'OIT, un système unique au niveau international, demeure à la fois solide, stable et pleinement pertinent pour les années à venir.

Presidenta - Paso ahora la palabra a la Sra. Myrto Gkouva que habla en nombre del Gobierno de Grecia.

Government member, Greece (Ms GKOUVA) – It is a true honour to take the floor today on behalf of the Government of Greece on the occasion of the centenary of the Committee in alignment with the statement delivered already by the EU and its Member States. Greece as a

founding member of the ILO is particularly proud to have participated in the ILC of 1926 which established the Committee on Application of Standards as well as the Committee of Experts. Over the years, the membership and work of the Committee have expanded, reflecting the evolution of the ILO itself and the achievements of this unique tripartite supervisory body. In this time, Greece has also had its share of the Committee's attention like many other countries.

Our engagement with the Committee has been an opportunity for an open and constructive engagement and exchange, leading to an enhanced compliance with international labour standards and strengthened collaboration with the ILO. The world is currently going through challenging transformations at the social, economic and multilateral level. In this context, we are encouraged to see that the Committee continually improves its working methods and its collaboration with the Committee of Experts, leading to an advanced level of supervision and assistance to the ILO's constituency in our common goal for decent work and social justice.

Presidenta - Paso la palabra ahora a la Sra. Ute Ghola, quien habla en nombre del Gobierno de Alemania.

*Interpretation from German: **Government member (Ms GOHLA)*** – I am speaking on behalf of the German Government. We speak in line with the statement of the European Union. I would like to begin by taking the opportunity to congratulate the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons of the Committee, as well as the Reporter. I would like to wish you all the very best in carrying out your work.

Work is not a commodity. This sentence is over 100 years old. Since 1944 it has been enshrined in the Philadelphia Declaration. What it means is that work is not a random product that can be traded on an abstract market according to supply and demand. Rather it goes hand in hand with dignity and the life of people. This is a proud sentence that needs to be protected

if we are to breathe life into it rather than allow us to just pay lip service to it. It is for this reason that the ILO was founded.

Since 1924, Germany has been a member of the ILO, and shortly after entering the Organization my country unleashed suffering on the world and we also experienced repression and restrictions of human and civil rights. It was from 1933 to 1954 that Germany was not a member of this Organization. Yet, after World War II, we were welcomed back into the international community and strongly integrated into the international community. We have been able to grow economically and socially and to prosper. These experiences have left their mark on my country and our population.

With hindsight, we are now able to say, from this positive development, that, first of all, a seed was planted, and this seed bore fruit. And there are reasons for this. There were very clever people who, back in the 1930s, drew on their experience and their expertise, and were able to craft the German Constitution. They coined a very core aspect, reflected in article 1 of our Constitution, which says that human dignity shall be inviolable, and that to respect all shall be the duty of all state authorities. This is something that gives us the principle of the social market economy, which has as its objective: to bring harmony between the ideas of individual and economic freedom and social justice. The social welfare state principle is also anchored in our Constitution, and this requires that the State must guarantee social justice and social security for all citizens and, therefore, that we need to work together, with rules and laws as a basis, and that all of this needs to draw on dialogue and cooperation. In Germany, we know that it is rules and laws that make it possible for us to work together to move in a positive direction and create trust. The German policies are underpinned by standards and laws, including international standards.

For many decades, Germany has been a reliable partner in the ILO, and we are committed to the Organization's principles and rules, as well as to dialogue and cooperation. For this reason, we call on everybody present here to continue to work based on the rules that the constituents in the ILO have signed up to, so that we can continue to work for decent work and social justice by abiding by rules. Through common dialogue and cooperation, we can move forward.

The Committee and the Committee of Experts are the heart of this Organization, and we would like to take the opportunity to underscore and pay tribute to the excellent job by the members of the Committee of Experts, and also the excellent job done by members of the ILO standards department, and want to express our gratitude to them.

In Germany, we say that we stick together through thick and thin. What this means is that we will stand together in good and in bad times because our objective must be that we work together for a better future, and that means that we can have social justice because for us it is clear that our compass is pointing forward. We want progress and positive developments for people and our environment for generations today and for future generations. This Committee is at the same time a pillar and a bridge for a common future, and we all have a responsibility to create that.

Presidenta - Voy a pasar ahora la palabra a la Sra. Natalia Andreou Panayiotou que va a hablar en nombre del Gobierno de Chipre.

Government member, Cyprus (Ms Panayiotou) – Cyprus aligns itself with the statement of the EU and its Member States. We are honoured to participate in the commemoration of the centenary of the Committee and Committee of Experts, a cornerstone of the ILO and a unique forum for tripartite dialogue. For 100 years, the Committee has made a significant contribution to the promotion and effective application of international labour standards.

Through its work, it has supported the realization of the ILO's mandate and contributed to advancing social justice through decent work. Its discussions and conclusions have helped strengthen the implementation of labour standards and encouraged continuous progress across Member States. This centenary provides an opportunity to reflect on the qualities that have defined the Committee's work throughout its history. We recall that throughout its first century, the Committee has indeed been guided by the principles of dialogue and cooperation as mentioned yesterday.

Through dialogue, it has enabled a better understanding of national circumstances and challenges.

Through cooperation, it has fostered constructive engagement among governments, employers and workers in support of the effective application of international labour standards. Over the course of its history, the Committee has addressed a wide range of complex and sensitive issues. While views have not always converged, the Committee has consistently demonstrated its capacity to advance its work through constructive dialogue and a shared commitment to the objectives of the Organization. This ability to engage across different perspectives remains one of its defining strengths. Chair, the centenary is both a celebration of past achievements and an opportunity to look ahead.

At a time of profound transformations in the world of work and increasing complexity in the international environment, we reaffirm that the principles that have guided the Committee for the past century remain as relevant as ever. Cyprus welcomes this occasion to reaffirm its commitment to the values of tripartism, social dialogue and the effective application of international labour standards. We pay tribute to all those who have contributed to the Committee's work over the past century and express our confidence that it will continue to serve as a trusted forum for advancing decent work and social justice in the years to come.

Presidenta - Voy a pasar ahora la palabra a la Sra. Kim, quien va a hablar en nombre de la Oficina del Alto Comisionado para los Derechos Humanos de las Naciones Unidas.

Observer, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) (Ms Kim) – It is a great honour to address you on this landmark occasion, the centenary anniversary of the Committee. I am deeply grateful for this opportunity to reflect together on our shared mission of defending and advancing the dignity, rights and livelihoods of workers around the world, especially those in precarious situations. The work of this Committee is an important intersection between international human rights laws and international labour standards. Both frameworks are grounded in a common objective to protect human dignity and ensure equality, fairness and opportunity for all.

While international human rights laws provide the universal framework of rights, including the rights to equality, to work and to social security, ILO standards translate these rights into practical and concrete protections in the world of work. This relationship is one of complementarity. Human rights norms and labour standards reinforce each other with regard to core protections, such as prohibiting forced labour, child labour, discrimination at work and ensuring the freedom of association and collective bargaining, safe and healthy working conditions and social security. The ILO's instruments and supervision have to operationalize these rights in law and in practice. While the human rights framework strengthens accountability mechanisms and provides broader norms and principles to guide the implementation.

The ILO's unique tripartite structure also reflects key human rights principles, such as participation, dialogue and transparency. Meanwhile, the conclusions of this Committee and UN human rights mechanisms, including the Universal Period of Review, are becoming increasingly coherent and mutually reinforcing in their guidance to States. Together, they have

to shape labour policies that are more effective and inclusive. Through this shared normative ecosystem, the two mechanisms together support the legislative reform, stronger labour protections, access to representation and redress and more effective social security systems. The Committee's work is also closely linked to the broader vision of human rights economies, which support human dignity, equality, social justice and decent work at the heart of economic policy-making.

In an increasingly unequal, fragmented, politically and economically insecure world, the Committee's supervisory role helps ensure that labour market reforms and economic policies remain firmly grounded in international human rights and labour standards. By doing so, the Committee not only improves the labour conditions but also advances more inclusive, equitable, sustainable economies that leave no one behind. Therefore, synergies between this Committee and the UN human rights mechanisms and between OHCHR and ILO have become increasingly important. I am very pleased to note the increased cooperation and collaboration between the two entities in recent years. Through regular dialogue, joint initiatives, technical assistance and coordinated engagement with Member States within the framework of the global coalition, we aim to ensure that labour governance is informed by human rights norms and at the same time, labour standards strengthen the implementation of human rights obligations.

In the field, this collaboration provides concrete support to governments and social partners in areas such as labour law reform, labour inspections, social dialogue and social protection. We have seen some encouraging examples of this cooperation in Cambodia, Ethiopia, Liberia, Rwanda and South Africa, just to name a few. Ultimately, however, the true measure of success lies not in reports or recommendations but in daily realities. Whether people can work with dignity on a decent living, enjoy safe and healthy working conditions and

have a meaningful say in decision-making that affects their lives. As we celebrate this centenary, you will also look to the future.

The world of work is being reshaped by informality, inequality, technological transformation, climate impact, migration, and conflict. In this context, strengthening the cooperation and collaboration between the ILO supervisory mechanisms and the wider human rights system will be essential to address emerging challenges and strengthen protection for all, especially those who are invisible, excluded, and left behind. On behalf of OHCHR, I would like to reaffirm our strong commitment to continuing and strengthening our collaboration with the ILO and all our partners to promote decent work, human dignity and social justice for everyone.

Presidenta - No habiendo más solicitudes de palabra y dado que se trata del último orador inscrito, se da por concluido este punto del orden del día de hoy.

Se interrumpe la sesión a las 11.19 horas.

The sitting was suspended at 11.19 a.m.

La séance est suspendue à 11 h 19.