



International
Labour
Organization

► Sectoral Advisory Bodies

18 – 20 January 2023

INFORMATION NOTE

Sectoral Policies Department

Introduction

1. The purpose of this note is to inform tripartite constituents on the process of preparing proposals for the programme of global sectoral meetings for the biennium 2024–25 for discussion at the Sectoral Advisory Bodies (SABs), which will be held from 18 to 20 January 2023.

Mandate of the Sectoral Advisory Bodies

2. The Sectoral Advisory Bodies (SABs), composed of tripartite constituents, were established by the Governing Body at its [298th Session \(March 2007\)](#) with the mandate to review sectoral developments and to make recommendations to the Governing Body on the programme of sectoral meetings. Sessions of the SABs are held every two years in January of the second year of a biennium, and they are typically chaired by the Chairperson of the Government group of the GB.
3. At its session in January 2023, the SABs are requested to make recommendations on global sectoral meetings to be held in the biennium 2024–25, and on preparatory work for sectoral meetings in future biennia. These recommendations will be submitted to the Governing Body at its 347th session in March 2023. The SABs may also make comments and suggestions on recurrent and statutory sectoral work to be undertaken as part of the implementation of the Programme & Budget for 2024–25.
4. Recurrent and statutory sectoral work include:
 - the promotion of sector-specific standards, codes of practice, guidelines and other tools;
 - the implementation of the outcomes of sectoral meetings and of decisions, resolutions and Declarations adopted by the International Labour Conference and Governing Body;
 - development and dissemination of policy-oriented research and statistics on labour and social trends at sectoral and industry levels;
 - development cooperation and capacity building on priorities established in Decent Work Country Programmes and UN Cooperation Frameworks; and,
 - fostering and leveraging policy coherence through strategic partnerships with other United Nations agencies and multilateral organizations.
5. Sitzings of the SABs are grouped by clusters of related sectors in order to promote optimal presence of sectoral constituents such as Global Union Federations and sectoral employers' representatives as well as Government representatives. A summary sitting will be convened on the final day to allow tripartite constituents to assess all proposals together. Cross-sectoral issues will also be discussed during the summary sitting.
6. A draft timetable for the January 2023 session of the SABs is attached (Annex 1).

Proposals for sectoral meetings

7. When drawing up proposals for the programme of sectoral meetings for the biennium 2024–25, tripartite constituents are kindly requested to take the following into account:

- ▶ The maximum number of technical meetings and meetings of experts per biennium is eight (8). In addition, resources will be kept in reserve for one additional meeting to address emerging developments in a specific sector or industry.
 - ▶ In addition, a session of the Joint ILO UNESCO Committee of Experts on the Application of the Recommendations concerning Teaching Personnel (CEART) is scheduled to be convened in October 2024 in Paris. The CEART, a standing commitment under the ILO programme of sectoral meetings, meets every three years and is hosted on an alternating basis by UNESCO in Paris and the ILO in Geneva.
 - ▶ The Sub-Committee on Wages of Seafarers of the Joint Maritime Commission will meet in the first half of 2025, in principle back-to-back, to the session of the Special Tripartite Committee of the Maritime Labour Convention 2006.
 - ▶ The postponed¹ Meeting of experts to produce joint ILO-IMO guidelines for medical examinations of fishers, which will be scheduled in the first quarter of 2024.
 - ▶ The [Resolution concerning the establishment of a Joint ILO-IMO Tripartite Working Group to identify and address seafarers' issues and the human element](#), adopted by the Special Tripartite Committee of the Maritime Labour Convention 2006 (MLC, 2006), calling for the establishment of a joint ILO-IMO Tripartite Working Group (JTWG), which was approved by the Governing Body in November 2021 ([GB.3437/LILS/4](#)). The first meeting of the JTWG (on the abandonment of seafarers) will take place on 13-15 December 2022, and a second meeting (on harassment and bullying) will be convened in 2023. A third meeting of the JTWG (on criminalization) will be held in 2024.
 - ▶ The SABs of January 2021 proposed, as noted in the 341st Session of the Governing Body² (March 2021), research on the circular economy and e-waste with a view to considering a meeting of experts at the next meeting of the sectoral advisory bodies. A summary note will be presented on the status of the research at the relevant sitting of the SAB to facilitate considerations.
8. The Office has undertaken an in-depth review of conclusions and recommendations adopted by sectoral meetings convened since January 2000 (Annex 2). The aim of the review was to map recommendations, which have thus far not been fully implemented. When considering proposals for sectoral meetings, constituents are invited to take into consideration the attached table of GB endorsed outstanding recommendations of previous meetings.
 9. Proposals for sectoral meetings should be submitted on the attached form (Annex 3 – one form per proposal) and to include their recommended format, scope and purpose in accordance with the [Standing Orders](#) for Meetings of Experts and Technical Meetings. Proposals should be submitted by **16 December 2022**.
 10. A consolidated table detailing all the proposals received by the Office will be communicated to the constituents at least one week prior to the start of the SABs on 18 January 2023.

¹ [GB.346/POL/3](#)

² [GB.341/POL/3\(Rev.1\)](#)