



► Minute Sheet

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To: Mr F Hagemann, RELMEETINGS – *For transmission to Committee Coordinators*

CC: Ms D Dimitrova, RELMEETINGS
Ms A Muller, RELMEETINGS
Ms M Varela, RELMEETINGS
CABINET
NORMES
PROTOCOLE
RELOFF

From: Mr George Politakis, JUR

Subject: 111th ILC Session – Guidance for Conference committees

Groupings (regional and economic) of Member States

1. In the interest of brevity and simplification of Conference committee reports, JUR advises that speakers making statements in technical committees on behalf of a grouping of States identified as members of an intergovernmental organization (e.g. European Union or the African Union) or of one of the informal regional groupings of the Governing Body, should be deemed to speak on behalf of all Governments, members of the grouping in question, who are members of the ILO and are attending the Conference.
2. As successfully implemented in recent sessions of the Conference, it is suggested that this understanding should be clearly reflected in a footnote to be inserted at the beginning of the Committee report (possibly under "Introduction" or "Opening statements") which could read as follows:

"Unless otherwise specified, all statements made by Government members on behalf of regional groups or intergovernmental organizations are reported as having been made on behalf of all Governments, members of the group or organization in question, who are members of the ILO and are attending the Conference".

3. The same should also be orally announced by the Chairperson or the Committee Coordinator at the beginning of the work of the committee. Consequently, it is suggested that there is no need for Committee secretariats to ask speakers to clarify whether they speak on behalf of those Government members who are registered members of the Committee

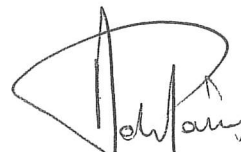
concerned or on behalf of all Government members of the grouping who are attending the Conference.

4. In case a speaker specifies that the statement is made only on behalf of those Government members registered in the Committee who are Member States of an organization or regional group (for instance, "the Government member of Oman, speaking on behalf of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries registered in the Committee"), or on behalf of a certain number of Member States (for instance, "the Government member of Brazil, speaking on behalf also of the Government Members of Argentina, Chile and Ecuador"), it should be so stated in the report without any further explanation.
5. As per established practice, the first reference in a Conference committee report to a group of States (e.g. GRULAC, IMEC) or organization (e.g. OECD) should be made in full followed by the acronym in parenthesis.

Territorial and other disputes – Recommended terminology

6. The question of representation of **Myanmar** at ILO meetings remains unresolved pending guidance from the United Nations General Assembly. The decision of the Credentials Committee of the 110th Session of the ILC (June 2022) still applies and therefore no delegates from Myanmar have been accredited to the Conference. Competing credentials have been received from separate entities claiming to represent the legitimate government of Myanmar and have been transmitted to the Credentials Committee for its consideration. No speaker representing Myanmar should be granted the right to speak (in the highly unlikely event of remote or physical attendance).
7. The term "government" should not be used with reference to the Taliban regime in **Afghanistan** since the United Nations does not recognize the Taliban as the representative government. Instead, the terms "de facto authorities" or "Taliban authorities" may be used.
8. The Resolution on **Russian Federation's** aggression against Ukraine, adopted by the Governing Body at its 344th Session (March 2022), provides *inter alia* that the GB "decides to suspend invitations to the Russian Federation to attend all discretionary meetings, such as technical meetings and meetings of experts, conferences and seminars whose composition is set by the Governing Body". However, participation in the annual session of the International Labour Conference is a constitutional right and obligation of all Members under article 3 of the Constitution, which cannot be suspended. Accordingly, tripartite delegates from the Russian Federation have full participation rights to committees and the plenary.
9. Guidance with respect to the status of **Crimea** is given in UNGA Res. 68/262, which provides that the United Nations proceed on the basis that the "Autonomous Republic of Crimea" and the "city of Sevastopol" remain a part of Ukraine. The term to be used in all documents for this territory is "Crimea" or "the Autonomous Republic of Crimea". In case of doubt, please contact JUR. As regards the Donetsk, Kherson, Luhansk and Zaporizhzhia regions of **Ukraine**, UNGA Res. ES-11/4 provides that the "attempted illegal annexation of these regions has no validity under international law" and calls upon UN specialized agencies "not to recognize any alteration by the Russian Federation of the status of any or all of [those] regions of and to refrain from any action or dealing that might be interpreted as recognizing any such altered status."

10. The status of **Taiwan** in the United Nations is regulated by General Assembly resolution 2758 (XXVI) of 25 October 1971, in which the GA decided to recognize the representatives of the People's Republic of China (PRC) as the only legitimate representatives of China in the United Nations. Since this resolution, the UN has considered Taiwan for all purposes to be an integral part of the PRC, without any separate status. The authorities of Taiwan are not considered to be a government or to enjoy any form of government status or to exercise any government powers. The expression to be used for any reference to Taiwan is "Taiwan, China".
11. The term **Kosovo** should be accompanied by a footnote to read: "As defined in United Nations Security Council resolution No. 1244 of 1999."
12. In the ILO, the term **Palestine** is used exclusively for the Palestine Liberation Movement and is not applied to a geographical State. It should not be used in an alphabetic list of States. The adjective "Palestinian" can be used for the territory, and the proper use is "*Occupied Palestinian Territory*". This term covers the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip. When there is a need to refer to the occupied Syrian Golan in addition to those territories, the term "*occupied Arab territories*" should be used. The term "Palestinian Authority" denotes the administration responsible for the territory under its jurisdiction, which may be referred to as "Palestine" or "territory under the Palestinian Authority", but not as "State of Palestine".
13. More generally, questions of recognition of States or governments may give rise to different forms of protest such as formal objection to the government credentials, a single or joint statement, a walk-out, etc. The Office response to those situations has to be consistent with relevant UNSC or UNGA decisions, if any, as recommended in UNGA Res. 396 of 1950. For more specific guidance, Committee Coordinators should contact JUR.
14. Thank you.



George Politakis
Legal Adviser