

The Director-General
International Labour Organization
Route des Morillon 4
CH-1211 Geneva 22
NORMES@ilo.org

Reykjavik, 6 November 2023

Dear Director General

With regard to letter dated 11 October 2023 concerning the request of Employer's group to urgently include a standard-setting item on the right to strike on the agenda of the 112th Session of the International Labour Conference.

The Confederation of Icelandic Enterprise supports the Employer's group proposal on the matter.

We are strongly convinced that standard setting is the most obvious, appropriate and logical step towards defining authoritative ILO rules on the right to strike, and thus resolving the dispute over interpretation. Standard-setting is linked to the ILO's core mandate and reflects the ILO's core values of tripartism and social dialogue. Only standard-setting will ensure that all ILO constituents can actively engage in the process, that any solution achieved is based on consensus or at least a broad majority, and that any outcome adopted is universally relevant and accepted.

Adoption of a legally binding instrument such as a Protocol to Convention 87 on the right to strike or more broadly on industrial action would determine the scope and limits of the right to strike at the international level, as far as is possible, and fill the regulatory gap that currently exists in the ILO body of standards. In doing so, the Protocol would make it clear once and for all that rules on the right to strike that have the support of ILO's tripartite constituents are only contained in the Protocol, and not in Convention 87.

Best regards



Sigríður Margrét Oddsdóttir, CEO

Samtök atvinnulífsins/Confederation of Icelandic enterprise