



FOR DECISION

FIFTEENTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Reports of the Officers of the Governing Body

Ibero–American Conference

1. The ILO maintains close relations with the Ibero–American Conference, an intergovernmental organization grouping the 22 States of Spanish and Portuguese language of Latin America and the Iberian Peninsula, and has actively participated in the annual Ibero–American Summit of Heads of State and Government.
2. The highest body of this organization is the Ibero–American Summit of Heads of State and Government which meets on an annual basis.
3. During its most recent session, held in San Salvador in October 2008, the Ibero–American Conference approved specific modalities for participation at the Ibero–American Conference of non-member States and international organizations under the *Consenso de San Salvador sobre modalidades de participación en la Conferencia Iberoamericana*. A detailed procedure to that effect is established in a *Boletín del Secretario General* dated 22 December 2008.
4. This development has been brought to the attention of the Director-General by a letter of the Secretary-General of the organization, dated 5 March 2009, which refers to the possibility of granting the ILO the status of “*Observador Consultivo*” to the Ibero–American Conference (attached).
5. The Director-General would wish, after consultation with the Officers of the Governing Body, to continue cooperation with the Ibero–American Conference, and therefore to start the formal procedure for granting the ILO the status of “*Observador Consultivo*” to that body.
6. ***The Officers recommend that the Governing Body request the Director-General to start the formal procedure for granting the ILO the status of “Observador Consultivo” to the Ibero–American Conference.***

Geneva, 24 March 2009.

Point for decision: Paragraph 6.

Appendix

(Translated from Spanish)

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Madrid, 5 March 2009

HE Mr Juan Somavia
Director-General
International Labour Office (ILO)
Geneva

Dear Sir,

I have the pleasure to inform you about certain agreements that were reached recently by Ibero–American Heads of State and Government, which may be of interest to the International Labour Office (ILO).

As you are aware, the Ibero–American General Secretariat is the international body that provides institutional and technical support for the Ibero–American Conference, which brings together the 22 Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking sovereign States of Latin America and the Iberian Peninsula. The general objectives of the Conference are coordinated political action and cooperation among its members, and its highest body is the Ibero–American Summit of Heads of State and Government, which meets on an annual basis.

At the 18th Ibero–American Summit, held in El Salvador last October, approval was given to the *Consenso de San Salvador sobre modalidades de participación en la Conferencia Iberoamericana*. This document provides for the role of “*observador consultivo*” which is a status reserved for international intergovernmental bodies that can contribute towards strengthening, promoting and extending the influence of the Ibero–American area and make a significant contribution to it.

Considering the possible interest, the capacity of your Organization to make a significant contribution, and the importance given to its relations with the Ibero–American countries, I am pleased to draw this matter to your attention and to send you a copy of the texts of the *Consenso de San Salvador* and the *Boletín* establishing the procedure for granting the status of “*observador consultivo*”.

Please, Sir, accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Enrique V. Iglesias
Ibero–American Secretary-General