

Government Group Statement
At the Working Party to Review the Functioning of the Governing Body

1. Madam Chair, I thank you for this opportunity to speak on behalf of the Government group of the ILO. This statement reflects the importance the Government members attach to the initiative to establish this working party.
2. Mr Chairman, you will have noticed a great deal of commonality in the interventions just presented by the regional groups. Government members have agreed to make this consolidated statement to reinforce the following points covered in those statements.
3. The Government group submits that the role of the Working Party must be to consider the functioning of **both** the Governing Body **and** the ILC, and their respective committees. We submit that the review must be comprehensive and consider the wide range of issues raised by members. We must all ensure that there is follow up and implementation of decisions arising from the Working Party recommendations.
4. The over-riding objectives must be to ensure the most effective functioning of the ILO, through the ILC and GB.
5. In particular the Working Party should consider issues relating to:
 - a. The establishment of agendas, time management and administration of meetings.
 - b. The timely availability of documents, including consultative drafts, to all constituents.
 - c. The status of GB committees and their role, function and frequency of meetings.
 - d. The transparency of decision making and the follow-up and implementation of decisions.
 - e. Enhanced Office support for the improved functioning of the Government Group.
6. Madam Chair, Government members submit that there must be open and widespread consultation with members on the issues to be considered by

the Working Party and that appropriate support be provided for the functioning of the Working Party.

7. We consider the following constitutes a realistic timeframe and process for the review:
 - a. An issues paper be prepared based on the papers and issues raised here today, and circulated to members
 - b. A meeting of the Working Party be convened during the March 2010 GB for discussion of the issues paper.
 - c. ILO members be invited to make written submissions for consideration of the Working Party.
 - d. The working party submit an interim report to be considered at the GB in June 2009.
 - e. The Working Party submit a final report, containing recommendations and an implementation plan to the GB in November 2010 for decision.
 - f. This procedure should not impede the implementation of any agreed changes during this period.

I thank you.