



Governing Body

310th Session, Geneva, March 2011

GB.310/PFA/9/2

Programme, Financial and Administrative Committee

PFA

FOR DECISION

NINTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Other financial questions

Financial arrangements for a Commission of Inquiry concerning the non-observance by the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela of the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87), and the Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98)

1. At its present session (March 2011), the Governing Body will have before it a document on the possible implementation of the procedure set out in article 26.4 of the Constitution, and the appointment by the Governing Body of a Commission of Inquiry to consider the complaint submitted against the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. Should the Governing Body decide to exercise its powers under article 26.4 of the Constitution to appoint a Commission of Inquiry, financial arrangements will need to be made to enable such a Commission to proceed with its work.
2. The Programme and Budget for 2010–11 contains no provision for inquiries under article 26 of the Constitution. According to article 4.1.3 of the Standing Orders of the Governing Body, the Governing Body can take no decision regarding any proposal involving new expenditure until the proposal has been referred to the Programme, Financial and Administrative Committee (PFAC). The PFAC shall make a report, including an estimate of the cost and the measures to be made for the necessary expenditure.
3. The procedures of such a Commission normally involve initial sessions to settle procedural matters, such travel as is necessary to gather further information, and a final session for the adoption of the Commission's report. Resources thus need to be provided for travel, for the production and publication of the Commission's report, and for supporting staff. It is also proposed to make provision for the payment to the three members of the Commission of an honorarium of US\$300 per day. On the basis of this pattern of work, it is estimated that the cost of the Commission will amount to some \$756,930, comprising:

	US\$
Travel	111 347
Translation, printing and miscellaneous	29 953
Honoraria	27 000
Staff costs	582 780
Miscellaneous	5 850
Total	756 930

It is proposed that the costs expected to be incurred for this Commission would in the first instance be financed, in the respective financial periods, from savings that might arise under Part I of the budget or, failing that, through the use of the Provision for unforeseen expenditure, Part II.

- 4. *The Committee may wish to recommend to the Governing Body, should it decide to establish a Commission of Inquiry concerning the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, that: (a) an honorarium at the rate of \$300 per day be paid to each member of the Commission of Inquiry; and (b) the cost of the Commission, which is estimated at \$756,930, be financed from the appropriate budgets for 2010–11 and 2012–13. In the first instance, this would be from savings that might arise under Part I of the budget or, failing that, through the use of the Provision for unforeseen expenditure, Part II. Should this subsequently prove impossible, the Director-General would propose alternative methods of financing at a later stage in the biennium.***

Geneva 10 March 2011

Point for decision: Paragraph 4