



Governing Body

318th Session, Geneva, 21 June 2013

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Institutional Section

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SIXTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Report of the Director-General

Obituary

Mr Vikas

1. The Director-General announces with deep regret the sudden death of Shri Vikas, during the 102nd Session of the Conference (June 2013), who was attending as adviser to the Government of India.
2. Born on 11 June 1963, Mr Vikas held a degree in mechanical engineering from a prestigious institute in India. He spent the first 20 years of his career in the world of factories, first as an Operations Engineer at the National Thermal Power Corporation, and later moving into a managerial role at the Cordite Factory, as Deputy General Manager. From 2003 to 2007, he was Director of the Indian Ordinance Factories at its headquarters in Calcutta. He joined the Ministry of Labour and Employment of India in December 2007 as Director of International Labour Affairs, a position which he held until his untimely death. He dealt with many international labour issues, and participated in multilateral meetings such as the G20 and the Asia–Europe meetings.
3. Mr Vikas attended the past five sessions of the International Labour Conference, as well as several Governing Body sessions. In 2009, during the 98th Session of the Conference, he spoke about the impact of HIV/AIDS on the world of work. He declared that it was the right time to bring about an international instrument to address this issue, highlighting its adverse impact on labour market efficiency. He supported the adoption of a Recommendation, demonstrating that his country was already developing a national policy on HIV/AIDS and the World of Work. He was convinced that it was possible to provide effective prevention, care and support for HIV/AIDS in an environment without stigma and discrimination. With Mr Vikas' support and that of other delegates, the HIV and AIDS Recommendation, 2010 (No. 200) was adopted at the 99th Session of the Conference (2010).
4. Mr Vikas was most popular among his fellow delegates, described by many as being very affable and pleasant to work with. He provided excellent support to his Government. He was a staunch defender of the International Labour Organization in many different areas of

work. During its 102nd Session, the President of the International Labour Conference made a statement concerning the sad news of his death, followed by a similar statement made by the Secretary-General of the Conference.

Draft decision

- 5. The Governing Body invites the Director-General to convey its condolences to the family of Mr Vikas and to the Government of India.***