

minute sheet

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To: Mr. C. Ramos, RELOFF

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cc: Mr. C. Perrin, RELMEETINGS
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From: Mr. G. Politakis, JUR

Subject: Statements made on behalf of groups of States in Conference committee reports

Groupings (regional and economic) of member States

1. Further to discussions at the pre-ILC training session of 13 May (Chateau de Bossey) and in the overall interest of brevity, economy and the necessary simplification of Conference committee reports in view of the two-week Conference in 2015, JUR advises that speakers making statements in technical committees on behalf of a grouping of States identified as members of an intergovernmental organization (e.g. European Union or the African Union) or of one of the informal regional groupings of the Governing Body, should be deemed to speak on behalf of all Governments members of the grouping in question who are members of the ILO and are attending the Conference.
2. It is recommended that this understanding should be clearly reflected in a footnote to be inserted at the beginning of the Committee report (possibly at the end of the section entitled "Introduction") which could read as follows: "Unless otherwise specified, all statements made by Government members on behalf of regional groups or intergovernmental organizations are reported as having been made on behalf of all Governments members of the group or organization in question who are members of the ILO and are attending the Conference". The same should also be orally announced by the Chairperson or the coordinator of the Conference committee at the beginning of the work of the committee.
3. Consequently, it is suggested that there is no need for Committee secretariats to ask speakers to clarify whether they speak on behalf of Government members who are registered members of the Committee concerned or on behalf of all Government members of the grouping who are attending the Conference. Similarly, there is no need for report writers to list in a footnote the member States to whom speakers are referring after having verified that all member States so listed are in fact attending the current session of the Conference.

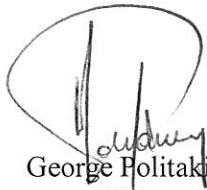
4. In case a speaker specifies that the statement is made only on behalf of those Government members registered in the Committee who are member States of an organization or regional group (for instance, “the Government member of Oman, speaking on behalf of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries registered in the Committee”), or on behalf of a certain number of member States (for instance, “the Government member of Brazil, speaking on behalf also of the Government Members of Argentina, Chile, Ecuador and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela”), it should be so stated in the report without any further explanation.
5. As per established practice, the first reference in a Conference committee report to a group of States (e.g. GRULAC, IMEC) or organization (e.g. OECD) should be made in full followed by the acronym in parenthesis.

States Members of the ILO

6. In the ILO, only States, not groupings of States, can be Members. However, EU member States can speak on behalf of EU Member Governments. The EU itself may only speak as an accredited international organization. In case of doubt about the status of an organization, please contact JUR.

Other issues

7. In the ILO, the term **Palestine** is used exclusively for the Palestine Liberation Movement and is not applied to a geographical State.¹ It should not be used in an alphabetic list of States.² The adjective **Palestinian** can be used for the territory, and the proper use is **Occupied Palestinian Territory**. This term covers the West Bank, including East Jerusalem, and the Gaza Strip. When there is a need to refer to the occupied Syrian Golan in addition to those territories, the term **occupied Arab territories** should be used. The term **Palestinian Authority** denotes the administration responsible for the territory under its jurisdiction, which may be referred to as **Palestine** or **territory under the Palestinian Authority**.
8. The term **Kosovo** should be accompanied by a footnote stating as follows: “As defined in United Nations Security Council resolution No. 1244 of 1999”.
9. Guidance with respect to the status of **Crimea** is given in UN General Assembly resolution 68/262.³ Based on the provisions of this resolution, the United Nations proceed on the basis that the “Autonomous Republic of Crimea” and the “city of Sevastopol” remain a part of Ukraine. The term to be used in all documents for this territory is “Crimea” or “the Autonomous Republic of Crimea”. In case of doubt, please contact JUR.



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¹ Although the UN General Assembly has recognized Palestine as an observer non-member State, the recognition of Palestine as a State has not yet come before the ILO governing organs.

² List available at <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/relm/country.htm>. List of other countries, territories and areas is available at <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/relm/countryb.htm>.

³ Text available at http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/68/262