



Governing Body

323rd Session, Geneva, 12–27 March 2015

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FOR INFORMATION

Request of an intergovernmental organization to be invited to future sessions of the International Labour Conference and the Governing Body

1. On 28 October 2014, the Director-General received a letter from the Director of the European Public Law Organization (EPLO), Professor Spyridon Flogaitis, by which he requested that its organization “be granted observer status in the Governing Body of the ILO and in the International Labour Conference”. The founding agreement entitled “Agreement for the establishment and statute of the European Public Law Organization” was attached to the letter.
2. Article 12(2) of the Constitution of the ILO provides that “the International Labour Organization may make appropriate arrangements for the representatives of public international organizations to participate without vote in its deliberations”. On that basis, the ILO has invited, either on a standing or ad hoc basis, several public international organizations to participate in ILO governance bodies meetings such as the International Labour Conference or Governing Body sessions.
3. In accordance with article 2(3)(b) of the Standing Orders of the International Labour Conference and article 1.9 of the Governing Body Standing Orders, and pursuant to the delegation of authority provided under article 2.3.1(c) of the Governing Body Standing Orders regarding the invitation of official international organizations, the Officers may authorize the Director-General to invite the EPLO to be represented at future meetings of the International Labour Conference and the Governing Body.
4. According to Article I of the Agreement for the Establishment and Statute of the EPLO, this organization “is established as an international organization” with “full international legal personality”. The EPLO therefore is “a public international organization” in the meaning of article 12(2) of the ILO Constitution.
5. The mandate of the EPLO is defined in article II of its founding agreement as “the creation and dissemination of knowledge in the area of public law *lato sensu*, including, inter alia, national, comparative and European law, human rights law, environment law, etc.”. In his letter to the Director-General, the Director of the EPLO further stresses the importance that the EPLO attaches to cooperating with the ILO and notes that it “can contribute to the debate on the relation between labor rights and human rights, in particular on how the regional human rights courts have, in practice, considered ILO instruments and jurisprudence when interpreting and applying the regional human rights treaties”.

- 6. The Officers of the Governing Body have authorized the Director-General to invite the European Public Law Organization (EPLO) to be represented at future sessions of the International Labour Conference and the Governing Body.***

Geneva, 13 March 2015