



Governing Body

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Programme, Financial and Administrative Section

PFA

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Update on the premises for the ILO Regional Office for Africa and Country Office for Côte d'Ivoire, Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and Togo in Abidjan

1. At its 349th Session (October–November 2023), the Office informed the Governing Body of progress made in the project to redevelop the ILO-owned premises in Abidjan.¹
2. The governance structure of the project is now in place and international competitive bidding for the construction works is ongoing.

Project management

3. The project management team, which is composed of representatives of the Office at headquarters and the Regional Office and the project management services company (the National Office of Technical Studies and Development (BNETD) of Côte d'Ivoire), is responsible for the management and supervision of the renovation works.

Governance Committee

4. The project management team is guided by a Governance Committee made up of the Treasurer and Financial Comptroller, the Deputy Regional Director, the Director of the Internal Services and Administration Department, the Director of the Information and Technology Management Department, the Director of the ILO Country Office, a representative of the Procurement Bureau and, on an ex officio basis, the Project Manager of the Facilities Management Unit.

¹ GB.349/PFA/INF/3.

5. The Governance Committee meets on a quarterly basis and discusses the different policy and practical issues related to the project. These include project planning, reviewing the risk register, monitoring progress on the building permit, supervising major construction changes and monitoring the project budget in the framework of the Governing Body decisions and ILO regulations.

Liaison Committee

6. A Liaison Committee has been established, which is composed of the Minister of Employment and Social Protection of Côte d'Ivoire, the Director-General of the National Company for the Management of State-Owned Real Estate and the Director of the ILO Country Office. Its role is to ensure that the renovation works comply with the regulations of Côte d'Ivoire and the objectives approved by the Governing Body and that they are within the approved budget.

Construction services

7. The Office launched an international competitive bidding process for the construction services in November 2023. It is expected that the building permit will be received and contractual arrangements with the general contractor concluded in April 2024, with construction works beginning in May 2024. A review by the architects and the construction management company, as well as initial feedback from the bidders, indicate that, given the complexity of the renovation, the works might take longer than the estimated 18 months. This will be established once the detailed bids and planning are concluded.

Project costs and schedule of works

8. Once the technical and commercial bids for the construction services have been received and analysed, the costing of the project and its schedule of works will be reviewed and updated accordingly. Should the estimated cost exceed the budget of US\$ 7.2 million approved by the Governing Body at its 340th Session (October–November 2020,² the Office will immediately inform the Governing Body.
9. The Office will provide the Governing Body with a further update at its 352nd Session (October–November 2024).

² GB.340/PV, para. 760(b).