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Policy Development Section

POL

Multinational Enterprises Segment

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Promotional activities with regard to the Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy, including in the context of relevant developments outside the ILO

Purpose of the document

This document provides an overview of the promotion of the Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy (MNE Declaration), and how constituents are using its principles and operational tools to advance decent work and social justice, including in the context of relevant developments outside the ILO. The Governing Body last provided comprehensive guidance in November 2022 and has taken additional decisions in relation to the MNE Declaration on other agenda items at its 346th, 347th and 349th Sessions. The Office requests further guidance in relation to ongoing and new promotional opportunities and a decision regarding the regional follow-up mechanism (see the draft decision in paragraph 41).

Relevant strategic objective: All.

Main relevant outcome: Outcome 4: Sustainable enterprises as generators of employment and promoters of innovation and decent work.

Policy implications: Strengthened partnerships on responsible business conduct, within and outside the ILO.

Legal implications: This depends on the decision of the Governing Body to suspend the regional follow-up mechanism of the MNE Declaration during the period 2024–28.

Financial implications: None.

Follow-up action required: Yes

Author unit: Enterprises Department (ENTERPRISES).

Related documents: GB.350/INS/7, GB.350/POL/2, GB.350/PFA/1 and [GB.346/POL/5](#).

► Introduction

1. Initiatives to promote sustainable enterprises and facilitate the private sector contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) continue to expand, providing new opportunities to advance decent work and social justice. The Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy (MNE Declaration) is a key instrument for the promotion of sustainable enterprises. It provides direct guidance in the fields of employment, training, conditions of work and life, and industrial relations to governments, social partners and enterprises, encouraging the positive contribution of multinational enterprises to economic and social progress and decent work for all, and minimizing and resolving the difficulties to which their operations may give rise. Its principles, which enterprises are recommended to observe on a voluntary basis, are relevant for all ILO policy objectives and interventions. As a tripartite agreed global instrument, it plays a central role in the ILO's engagement on the fundamental principles and rights at work and responsible business conduct (RBC), which are increasingly included in the trade and investment agenda.
2. The ILO Governing Body is responsible for overseeing the promotion of the MNE Declaration and regularly reviews the strategy and activities. The Governing Body last provided comprehensive guidance in November 2022 ¹ and has taken additional decisions in relation to the MNE Declaration on other agenda items at its 346th, 347th and 349th Sessions. ²
3. This document provides an overview of how the principles and operational tools contained in the MNE Declaration are being promoted by the Office and used by constituents, including in the context of relevant developments outside the ILO.

► A. Increased promotion

1. Supporting constituents to make better use of the MNE Declaration

4. The Office and the International Training Centre of the ILO have [increased awareness-raising and capacity-building activities](#) on the MNE Declaration, including in the [framework of RBC](#). Several recent ILO strategies, ³ outcome documents of ILO regional meetings and tripartite conclusions of ILO sectoral meetings ⁴ reference the MNE Declaration and offer opportunities to support constituents in making better use of the Declaration.

¹ GB.346/PV, paras 793–821.

² See [GB.346/INS/3/3/Decision](#), which led to the [Sixth edition of the MNE Declaration](#), currently available in the seven official languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, German, Russian and Spanish) as well as in Dutch, Italian, Portuguese and Turkish, with other language versions in preparation; [GB.347/PV\(Rev.\)](#), paras 401–440; and [GB.349/INS/9\(Rev.1\)/Decision](#).

³ Including the [ILO strategy on decent work in supply chains](#), the [ILO strategy and action plan to give effect to the resolution concerning a just transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all](#), the [ILO Global Strategy on Occupational Safety and Health 2024–30 and plan of action for its implementation](#), the [ILO Integrated Strategy on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work 2017–2023](#), the [comprehensive and integrated ILO strategy to reduce and prevent inequalities in the world of work](#).

⁴ See for instance the conclusions of the Technical meeting on digitalization in the retail sector as an engine for economic recovery and decent work (25–29 September 2023), paragraphs 15 and 20; the conclusions and recommendations of the

5. ILO support to constituents is demand-driven, as reflected in Decent Work Country Programmes and country priority outcomes in the ILO programme and budget. The outcomes at national level are reflected in ILO programme implementation 2022–23 – see especially outcome 4.⁵
6. Mainstreaming the promotion of the MNE Declaration in relevant development cooperation has allowed the Office to scale up and expand its support to tripartite constituents to make use of its principles and operational tools and further promote it at the national and sectoral levels.⁶

2. Promoting and strengthening the operational tools of the MNE Declaration

7. The Governing Body adopted operational tools⁷ to stimulate the uptake of the MNE Declaration by all parties and their capacity to implement its principles, and has called for the further strengthening of these tools.⁸

I. Regional follow-up

8. The regional follow-up mechanism, outlined in Annex II, “comprises a regional report on the promotion and application of the MNE Declaration in the ILO Member States in the region. The regional reports are based primarily on inputs received from governments and employers’ and workers’ organizations in these Member States on the basis of a questionnaire, and a special session during ILO regional meetings provides a tripartite dialogue platform to discuss further promotional activities at the regional level. The regional reporting is based on a four-year cycle with a report to be presented to the Governing Body at the end of each cycle.”
9. The Governing Body discussed the global report of the first four-year cycle of the regional follow-up at its 332nd Session.⁹ For the second cycle, regional reports have been prepared and tripartite discussions held in special sessions during the [Americas](#), [Africa](#) and [Asia and the Pacific regional meetings](#). The [Panama Declaration for the ILO Centenary: The future of work in the Americas](#)¹⁰ and the [Abidjan Declaration – Advancing Social Justice: Shaping the future of work in Africa](#)¹¹ call for further promotion of the MNE Declaration. The follow-up for the Europe region was put on hold given the postponement of the European regional meeting as well as discussions regarding the future format of ILO regional meetings.
10. Governing Body decision GB349/INS/9(Rev.1) requests the Office “to explore options to maximize the regional follow-up mechanism of the Tripartite Declaration of Principles

Technical meeting on decent and sustainable work in the inland waterways sector (20–24 November 2023), paragraph 19(n); the 2022 ILO code of practice on safety and health in textiles, clothing, leather and footwear, paragraph 11.

⁵ See GB.350/PFA/1.

⁶ See section 3 and section 2(II) of this document.

⁷ See Annex II of the MNE Declaration.

⁸ See [GB.346/PV](#), para. 821.

⁹ See [GB.332/POL/6](#) and [GB.332/PV](#).

¹⁰ Paragraph 11(xii), “Policies to promote a just transition”.

¹¹ Among the actions to strengthen the capacities of all people to benefit from the opportunities of a changing world of work, paragraph 1(b)(xi).

concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy in the context of the new format of future ILO regional meetings".¹²

11. The Office proposes to align the regional follow-up of the MNE Declaration with the trial period 2024–28 for ILO regional meetings so that regions can consider the following options.
 - (a) One of the thematic panels is dedicated to a specific topic on how enterprises, including multinational enterprises, and the private sector could better contribute to decent work and social justice in the region, with the Office preparing a short thematic report (ten pages).
 - (b) One of the high-level segments features a panel with ministers, senior leadership of employers' and workers' organizations, senior officials from the United Nations (UN) system, international financial institutions, regional organizations, enterprises and development partners to discuss policy coherence on stimulating the contribution of sustainable enterprises and the private sector to decent work and social justice in the region.
 - (c) A special session is considered as in previous ILO regional meetings, providing a tripartite dialogue platform to discuss further promotional activities of the MNE Declaration at the regional level.
12. The Governing Body may consider suspending the current regional follow-up mechanism during the trial period to allow regions to decide the most appropriate option for the MNE regional follow-up in line with regional context and priorities. This means each region will decide how it will maximize the regional follow-up to the MNE Declaration in the given regional meeting, how to collect inputs from governments, employers and workers, what would be the topic of the thematic report, and how tripartite constituents will discuss the further promotion of the instrument at the regional level.
13. Suspending the current regional follow-up would mean that the Office would not finalize the global report of the second four-year cycle that started with the 19th American Regional Meeting (2018). Instead, the Governing Body could request the Office to prepare a report for discussion following the trial period for regional meetings 2024–28/2025–29 on how the four regions have maximized the regional follow-up to the MNE Declaration linked to ILO regional meetings.

II. Promotion at the national level/promotion through tripartite appointed national focal points

14. In response to constituents' priorities and demands at country level, the Office continues to support awareness-raising and capacity-building activities. Constituents have held national dialogues using the MNE Declaration as a framework for RBC and decent work in supply chains in Cabo Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Madagascar, Mozambique and Nigeria. Several Member States have adopted national road maps or established round tables to discuss decent work challenges and opportunities in specific sectors. And [Egypt](#), [Ethiopia](#), [Nigeria](#) and [South Africa](#) undertook interministerial processes to closer align trade and investment policies with decent work priorities. In Latin America, activities supported employers' organizations, including Colombian coffee and palm oil producers, Chilean and Argentinian wine producers, and the Costa Rican sugar cane association. They also provided regional capacity-building for workers'

¹² The current session of the Governing Body will also consider proposed arrangements for ILO regional meetings during the trial period 2024–28, see GB.350/INS/7.

organizations, as well as country-level support in Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Panama and Peru.¹³ A [tripartite regional seminar](#) facilitated the exchange of experiences among tripartite constituents from Argentina, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama and Peru. Country case studies capturing some of these experiences have been prepared and ILO programme implementation 2022–23 provides information on outcomes.

15. The MNE Declaration encourages consultations between host and home countries of MNEs,¹⁴ as a means of identifying opportunities for cooperation to advance decent work, as also reflected in the ILO strategy on decent work in supply chains. The Office promotes and supports such dialogues, which are a key means to promote the principles at the national level, including by tripartite appointed national focal points.
16. [Eleven Member States](#) have appointed national focal points for the promotion of the MNE Declaration, making the promotion at the national level more institutionalized. The composition of these national focal points reflects the national context and what they aim to achieve. The national focal points of Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Madagascar, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo, for instance, are using the instrument to strengthen opportunities linked to economic diversification through the attraction of foreign direct investment and trade facilitation, and linked to the transition towards environmentally sustainable production.
17. In other regions, primarily in Europe and Latin America, other mechanisms, in particular the National Contact Points (NCPs) of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), have expressed interest in promoting the MNE Declaration in addition to the [OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises on Responsible Business Conduct](#), especially in countries where these NCPs are positioned as national resource centres on RBC and have interministerial oversight and the involvement of social partners, such as in Belgium and Chile. The ILO and the OECD continue to advance policy coherence on RBC, including through the capacity-building of NCPs on labour rights and the MNE Declaration.

III. Strengthening the ILO Helpdesk for Business

18. The [ILO Helpdesk for Business on International Labour Standards](#) continues to attract very high numbers of users, both through its confidential and free expert advice service (averaging over 140 individual queries per year) and its comprehensive website, attracting approximately 50,000 visitors per month.¹⁵ The website is regularly updated.
19. The ILO strategy on decent work in supply chains foresees the strengthening of the ILO Helpdesk for Business to provide technical advice and products to help companies and workers' and employers' organizations to support efforts to conduct due diligence, in line with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and the MNE Declaration, by making available relevant information from the ILO supervisory mechanism, country data and information on decent work in supply chains. The Office has initiated preparations on the content, which will serve as the basis for consultations.

¹³ The Seminar also included the OECD, the UN Global Compact, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

¹⁴ See MNE Declaration paragraph 12 and Annex II, Operational tool 1(b) "Promotion at the national level/promotion by tripartite appointed national focal points".

¹⁵ See also [ILO Helpdesk for Business: Update report on the expert advice service and website](#). An overview of numbers for the period March 2023 to February 2024 is being prepared.

IV. Company-union dialogue

20. The [company-union dialogue](#) is a service available to a multinational enterprise and a union that jointly request ILO dialogue facilitation on issues of common concern. It is promoted primarily through the ILO Helpdesk for Business and the secretariats of the Employers' and Workers' groups, including through the jointly developed [Q&A document](#). The company-union dialogue is based on consensus of the parties, and its content shall not be used for any binding procedure.
21. The social partners have invited the Office to present the procedure at various meetings. The ILO strategy on decent work in supply chains also calls for the active promotion of the company-union dialogue. The Office has facilitated six such voluntary and confidential procedures to date and is currently handling another request.

3. Further mainstreaming of the MNE Declaration in relevant development cooperation programmes and ILO engagement with enterprises

22. The ILO action programme on decent work outcomes in supply chains coordinates mainstreaming of the MNE Declaration in relevant development cooperation to support constituents in making better use of its principles and operational tools. Such mainstreaming is already happening, with the potential to further expand, given the relevance of the MNE Declaration for all ILO policy objectives and continued developments on RBC, trade and investment as outlined in Part B of this document. The promotion of the fundamental principles and rights at work, ILO business networks, the Global Coalition for Social Justice and upcoming UN summits ¹⁶ provide additional opportunities to encourage the contribution of enterprises to decent work and social justice, guided by the principles of the MNE Declaration.
23. Projects to advance the fundamental principles and rights at work, such as the [Accelerating action for the elimination of child labour in supply chains in Africa](#) (ACCEL AFRICA) project, assist constituents and enterprises in using the MNE Declaration to address decent work deficits in supply chains and to tackle the root causes of child labour. Other opportunities are offered through the country-level projects linked to the [Child Labour Platform](#). The 2024–28 [Vision Zero Fund](#) global strategy lists the mainstreaming of the MNE Declaration in the Fund as one of its strategic priorities, and supports tripartite national dialogues and home-host country dialogues to assist developing countries in implementing international labour standards to address occupational safety and health challenges in line with the provisions of the MNE Declaration.
24. The [Trade for Decent Work project](#) aims to improve the application of the ILO fundamental Conventions in European Union trading partner countries, including through the promotion of the MNE Declaration. The [Mainstreaming Employment into Trade and Investment in the Southern Neighbourhood \(METI\)](#) project promotes the MNE Declaration and its principles in regional workshops, bringing together government officials from ministries of labour, trade and investment with social partners and specialized national agencies. The [Advancing Decent Work and inclusive industrialization in Ethiopia](#) project and the [Advancing the Decent Work Agenda in North Africa \(ADWA\)](#) project also supported constituents in using the MNE Declaration to advance decent work.

¹⁶ Such as the 2024 UN Summit of the Future and the 2025 UN World Social Summit.

25. The European Union-ILO-Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)-OECD [Responsible Business Conduct in Latin America and the Caribbean \(RBCLAC\)](#) project has stimulated collaboration among the implementing agencies and synergies with other international organizations and other ILO regional projects and initiatives, for example, [Latin America and the Caribbean Free of Child Labour](#). The success of RBCLAC motivated constituents in Guatemala and Honduras to request similar support. A regional project on RBC is being developed for sub-Saharan Africa, to be implemented by the ILO, the OECD, the OHCHR, the UNDP and the International Trade Centre. Both regional programmes are part of measures to accompany the upcoming European Union corporate sustainability due diligence directive, and offer opportunities to support constituents and enterprises outside the European Union towards more sustainable business practices in line with the MNE Declaration, for example, the new global project [Human Rights Due Diligence in support of Decent Work](#).
26. Sectoral projects include the ILO-International Finance Corporation [Better Work](#) programme that promotes the MNE Declaration and its tools, including home-host country dialogues and the company-union dialogue. Better Work is present in many of the countries where efforts to mainstream the MNE Declaration in development cooperation are taking place, including Egypt, Ethiopia and Madagascar. It has also promoted the MNE Declaration and the ILO Helpdesk for Business in Better Work partner forums in Europe and North America. In Asia, the [project on inclusive and responsible supply chains](#) supported constituents in Bangladesh and Viet Nam in using the MNE Declaration to advance national decent work priorities. Guided by the MNE Declaration, the [Sustainable Supply Chains to Build Forward Better](#) and [Supply Chains for a Sustainable Future of Work](#) projects advance sectoral approaches to decent work in Colombian coffee, Namibian fisheries, Malaysian rubber gloves, Vietnamese electronics, and Malagasy textiles and clothing production by facilitating the establishment of social dialogue mechanisms and the development of policies and measures to create sustainable and resilient supply chains and sustainable enterprises.

► B. Relevant developments outside the ILO

27. Implementing the SDGs and delivering decent work and social justice can only be realized with and through sustainable enterprises. Initiatives to augment their contributions continue to expand in the context of increased action to address climate change, changing demographics, migration, impacts of conflict and fragilities, and so on. The increased use of digital technologies and artificial intelligence continues to impact enterprises and their operations, stimulate new business models, and provide new employment and income opportunities. It will be important to ensure that such developments benefit from the guidance and good practices promoted by the MNE Declaration to create decent employment opportunities. Promoting sustainable enterprises, including through the MNE Declaration, is central to the ILO's engagement in these agendas and initiatives to realize decent work and social justice.
28. The [resolution concerning a just transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all](#), for instance, notes the role of the MNE Declaration and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights in just transition and decent work,¹⁷ while the [strategy and action plan](#) also call for the strengthening of "the ILO Helpdesk for Business to promote sustainable, responsible and inclusive business practices to support a just transition,

¹⁷ Paragraph 21(i).

and develop products and resources to assist enterprises”. The action programme on just transitions towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies is coordinating a pilot to support governments, social partners, enterprises and the financial sector on the basis of the MNE Declaration and the ILO Guidelines for a just transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all, in the context of broader discussions and developments on environmental, social and governance (ESG) frameworks, as well as the development of specific tools for enterprises and the financial sector.

29. The UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, the MNE Declaration and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises on Responsible Business Conduct are the three key references¹⁸ on the business contribution to inclusive economic growth, decent work and the SDGs. The Office promotes their alignment, coherence and uptake by other international organizations and actors in the broader context of trade, investment, supply chains, sustainable finance, disclosure and transparency. The overview below highlights developments in major policy areas – some in which the ILO plays an active role and others which it monitors closely.

1. Business and human rights

30. The Office provides inputs to the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights (UNWG) in its [country visits](#) and the thematic reports it submits to the Human Rights Council and UN General Assembly, such as the 2024 thematic report on [Investors, ESG and Human Rights](#), to reinforce the central role of the fundamental principles and rights at work in the effective implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. The ILO and its constituents also participate in the [UN Forum on Business and Human Rights](#).
31. The UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights have inspired government-led initiatives to enhance respect for human rights in business operations and supply chains, which will significantly impact enterprises of all sizes, particularly small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), which face a steeper learning curve with more limited resources. For the Office, this implies increasing support to SMEs on compliance with national laws, respect for human rights, formalization and productivity improvement.
32. In collaboration with the OHCHR and the UNDP, the ILO has helped constituents in Africa, Asia and Latin America to participate in the development and/or implementation of national action plans on business and human rights. For instance, the recently adopted National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights in Peru highlights the relevance of labour rights for the business and human rights agenda and includes specific commitments to promote and realize decent work.
33. The [open-ended intergovernmental working group on transnational corporations and other business enterprises with respect to human rights](#), established by the UN Human Rights Council, continued negotiations on an international legally binding instrument to regulate, in international human rights law, the activities of transnational corporations and other business enterprises. The [ninth session](#) (2023) discussed amendments to the draft text of the instrument that references the MNE Declaration.

¹⁸ To celebrate the 75th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948, the International Organisation of Employers (IOE) pledged to “Raise awareness of the core international instruments, initiatives, and policies that impact companies, such as the UNGPs, the ILO MNE Declaration, and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises”.

2. Responsible business conduct

34. The OECD updated the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises on Responsible Business Conduct in 2023. At the launch during an OECD Ministerial Meeting, the [Declaration on Promoting and Enabling Responsible Business Conduct in the Global Economy](#) welcomed the promotion of RBC in international and regional forums, including the United Nations, the ILO, the World Trade Organization (WTO), the G7, the G20, the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and called for coherence among international partners in promoting robust RBC. OECD Member States also committed to further strengthen the NCPs as the national mechanism to advance implementation of the OECD Guidelines through promotion and specific instances. The ILO provided technical inputs during the [revision process](#) and participated at senior level in the OECD Ministerial Meeting on Responsible Business Conduct.
35. To enhance accountability and transparency, the UN Global Compact¹⁹ launched its new Communication on Progress with a set of mandatory questions, including on the labour principles. The new reporting scheme – on which the Office provided technical inputs – is supported by tools, including [the Joint UN Global Compact-ILO learning plan for companies “Advancing decent work through the UN Global Compact Labour Principles”](#). In September 2023, the Global Compact launched its [Forward Faster initiative](#), in which the ILO collaborates in respect of living wages, gender equality and just transition, as part of its broader support to the UN Global Compact on the labour principles, including at the national level with the Global Compact Local Networks.

3. Trade, investment and supply chains

36. Under the Japanese presidency, the [G7 trade ministers reaffirmed](#) the importance of promoting respect for human rights and international labour standards in business activities and global supply chains, recalling the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, the MNE Declaration and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises on Responsible Business Conduct. They also welcomed the dialogue with Asian countries, co-organized by Japan and the ILO.²⁰
37. Negotiations were concluded by 110 Members of the WTO on the [Investment Facilitation for Development Agreement](#) that the 13th WTO Ministerial Conference (February 2024) is expected to adopt. The Agreement encourages the uptake of RBC principles and standards by investors and enterprises to help Members attract better, higher quality investment that contributes to sustainable development.
38. Investment agreements, such as the recently adopted [Investment Protocol to the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement](#), increasingly include higher expectations and, at times, obligations, for investors in respect of social responsibilities, human rights protection and the sustainable use of natural resources.
39. The ILO, the World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Industrial Development Organization and the OECD collaborate closely to enable investment promotion agencies to

¹⁹ The ILO is one of the four “Guardians” of the ten Principles of the UN Global Compact; and the IOE and the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) are members of the UN Global Compact Board.

²⁰ [ILO and METI co-host dialogue event on RBC in Jakarta, Indonesia.](#)

align investment attraction with the SDGs and national decent work priorities.²¹ The ILO participated at senior management level in the [8th World Investment Forum](#) convened by UNCTAD and launched the brief [Assessing the Impact of FDI on Decent Work: Exploring KPIs for Foreign Direct Investment Impact Assessment](#) during the World Investment Conference in a joint session with the World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies. The ILO became a member of the World Investment for Development Alliance (WIDA), which leverages partnerships between international organizations to create a conducive global environment for sustainable investments. The UNCTAD-led Global Alliance of Special Economic Zones (GASEZ) is advancing [SDG model zones](#). The Office will build on these collaborations to continue enabling constituents to attract sustainable investment, based on the guidance of the MNE Declaration.

4. Sustainability reporting and disclosure

40. Enterprises and, increasingly, also the financial sector, face disclosure requirements regarding their social and environmental performance, in addition to their financial performance. The Office, together with the IOE and the ITUC, form the technical committee on the [revision of GRI labour topic standards](#); and provided feedback on a newly developed Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) [Climate Change Standard](#) to ensure its greater alignment with the ILO Guidelines for a just transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all and the principles of the MNE Declaration. It also submitted inputs to the European Commission consultation on the [Sustainable Finance Disclosure Regulation](#) and is part of the technical committee of the [Social Performance Task Force](#) that formulates performance standards for financial inclusion stakeholders, including on safe and equitable working conditions and occupational safety and health. The ILO is also assisting the UNDP with scoping the approach of a task force on inequality and social-related financial disclosures.

► Draft decision

41. The Governing Body:

- (a) **requested the Director-General to take into account its guidance to strengthen the promotion of the Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy (MNE Declaration) and its operational tools, including in the context of relevant developments outside the ILO; and**
- (b) **decided to:**
 - (i) **temporarily suspend the regional follow-up of the MNE Declaration as outlined in Annex II of the MNE Declaration;**
 - (ii) **align the regional follow-up with the new format of ILO regional meetings during the 2024–28/2025–29 trial period; and**

²¹ The more intensive work with investment promotion agencies from the least developed countries (LDCs) has been aided by financial support from the WTO Enhanced Integrated Framework. During the Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDC5) [the Director-General of the ILO, Gilbert F. Houngbo](#), emphasized the role of the MNE Declaration in helping LDCs to attract investment that provides opportunities for decent work.

- (iii) assess, based on a report, how the regions have maximized the regional follow-up of the MNE Declaration during the trial period and decide how to proceed with the regional follow-up mechanism.**