

-
69. A few countries shared their experience related to measuring work-related violence either through administrative sources (main source) or household surveys. One of the delegates mentioned their experience in measuring violence against migrant workers, including economic violence against women, where women would be deprived of their right to use the wages they had earned.
 70. Delegates indicated that work-related violence was an important topic and deserved to be further developed, in particular the harmonization of the concept and its consistency for comparison over time and across countries. They noted that there was great a deal of work to be done in the future with respect to developing technical guidance. It was deemed necessary to gather more country experiences in survey implementation, as this was a sensitive issue that was not easy to capture in practice.

Statistics on labour migration

71. A representative of the Secretary-General, Ms M. Leighton, introduced the topic “Statistics on labour migration”. She recognized that comprehensive official national and international statistics on the economically active migrant population were still lacking, in part due to varying definitions of “international migration” and “international labour migration” used by agencies collecting data, and to different approaches and methodologies in data collection efforts at national, regional and international levels. She emphasized that harmonized labour migration statistics were needed to inform labour market and migration policies and noted that the main obstacle to making international comparisons of labour migration statistics was the lack of international statistical standards and common methodologies. Given the ILO’s constitutional mandate to protect migrant workers, she stressed that the ILO should play a key role in promoting the development of common methodologies and approaches on labour migration statistics. Finally, she invited delegates to express their interest to discuss this topic in more depth at the next ICLS and to volunteer to join a working group coordinated by the ILO to discuss a workplan for defining international standards on labour migration statistics.
72. Delegates voiced appreciation for the inclusion of this topic on the agenda and for the information communicated in the presentation. Several delegates described their countries’ methodologies to measure migration beyond household surveys, including data collection activities on remittances, surveys at transit points, immigration records from border crossings and embassy surveys. Among the challenges cited were how to account for temporary, permanent, recurrent and seasonal migrants and to better understand the profile of migrants and their work status. Many delegates stated their interest in a more in-depth discussion on the topic of labour migration at the next ICLS. Several also volunteered to join the working group. The need for guidance from the ILO on the inclusion of a labour migration module in household surveys and censuses was also expressed.
73. In her response to the discussion, the representative expressed her appreciation for the great show of interest by delegates in the ILO proposal. She noted that, for smaller countries, the use of labour force surveys with added labour migration questions may not adequately capture a representative picture of labour migration given that there would be only a small number of migrants or migrant workers within the sampling frame, hence the need to consider alternative methods. She recognized the need to consider methodologies and standards for skills classifications, as well as methodologies to support the counting of labour migrants abroad using domestic surveys. She also acknowledged the need to coordinate the timing of work on common definitions and methodologies with the next population census round being developed at the international level. Finally, she pointed to the need to coordinate information on migrant stocks and flows with relevant employment statistics.

-
74. The Chairperson closed the session on labour migration by suggesting that an in-depth discussion be held at the next ICLS on promoting the development of methodologies and common approaches to statistics that could inform labour market and migration policy, and requested the secretariat to draft a resolution to that effect.
75. The full text of the proposed resolution is provided in Appendix I, Resolution IV of this report.

1.3. Data collection, estimation and dissemination

Dissemination of data by the ILO Department of Statistics

76. A representative of the Secretary-General, Mr E. Greising-Wildmer, provided delegates with an overview of the progress made in developing the ILO's statistical portal ILOSTAT. He described the context that was driving the demand for more up-to-date labour statistics and dissemination and highlighted the need to apply harmonized concepts and methodologies related to labour statistics. He recalled how ILOSTAT provided centralized access to official labour statistics from a unified data interface and noted its capacity to accommodate data produced by other ILO departments. In terms of the process of data collection, he stressed the ILO's country specific approach. The ILO had a special interest in compiling all available data on labour and decent work and in helping countries to boost their own information systems. Care needed to be taken to avoid overburdening countries' data reporting systems, however, which was why increasing the use of automatic data capture would be important.
77. Another representative of the Secretary-General, Ms M.-C. Sodergren, provided an overview of the functionalities of the system, recalling that it provided two regular data compilations: short-term indicators collected from official websites and yearly indicators collected from questionnaires sent to countries. In a brief tutorial of the system, she showed that there were three ways to browse – by country, subject and classification breakdown. The website also offered individual country profiles. She explained how ILOSTAT was an integral part of the ILO Knowledge and Information Gateway. Upcoming improvements to the platform included data mappers for all datasets, improved navigation and metadata, "save query" functions and expanded download formats. Other tools included an application programming interface that would facilitate development of mobile applications and third-party dissemination.
78. In the discussion, delegates welcomed the ILOSTAT and its convenience and user-friendliness and looked forward to participating in tutorials or other training. The improvement of data questionnaires to capture data in a more standardized way was also appreciated, and the importance of reaching out to the appropriate ministries for data in addition to the NSOs was stressed.
79. In response to the requests for training in the discussion, it was noted that in addition to regional workshops for NSOs, webinars were being considered. With reference to the points made about data collection, an ILO representative hoped that the current list of indicators would remain stable and progress could be made on the automatic transfer of data.

Chapter 2: Statistics on decent work

80. A representative of the Secretary-General, Ms N. Pagès, provided an introduction to the topic of monitoring and measuring progress towards decent work, as outlined in Chapter 2 of the general report and room document 4. She reviewed resolution IV of the 18th ICLS, noting that it had made a number of recommendations to the Office, namely that it should

Resolution IV

Resolution concerning further work on labour migration statistics

The 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians,

Recognizing the need to promote the development of international standards, common methodologies and approaches on labour migration statistics,

Taking note of the ILO's constitutional mandate to protect "the interests of workers employed in countries other than their own" (ILO Constitution, 1919, Preamble, recital 2), and the ILO-specific international standards for the governance of labour migration and protection of migrant workers, the Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 97), and the Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975 (No. 143), and the ILO Action Plan for Migrant Workers, adopted at the 2004 International Labour Conference, that identifies as a priority improving the information and knowledge base on global trends in labour migration, as reaffirmed in the ILO Multilateral Framework on Labour Migration (2006), "knowledge and information are critical to formulate, implement and evaluate labour migration policy and practice" (Principle III – Global knowledge base), and the Declaration of the UN High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (2013) which emphasizes "the need for reliable statistical data on international migration, including when possible on the contributions of migrants to development in both origin and destination countries ...",

Having reviewed the work undertaken by the ILO on the subject,

Recommends that the Office:

- (a) set up a working group with the aim of sharing good practices, discussing and developing a workplan for defining international standards on labour migration statistics that can inform labour market and migration policy,
- (b) prepare a progress report for discussion to the next ICLS.