Resolution III

Resolution concerning the development of measures of labour underutilization

The 18th International Conference of Labour Statisticians,

Aware of the limitations of the unemployment rate as the main labour market indicator for many countries,

Considering that the unemployment rate may not adequately reflect the labour market situation, especially of women,

Recognizing the need to develop, at the international level and as part of the measurement of decent work, measures of labour underutilization complementary to the unemployment rate,

Having reviewed the methodological work already undertaken by the ILO in this area;

Recommends that:

- the ILO, in cooperation with interested countries and organizations, continue work on the development of a methodology for the measurement in particular of labour slack, low earnings and skills mismatch;
- (ii) the methodology developed build on relevant existing international concepts, definitions and classifications;
- (iii) efforts be undertaken by the ILO to promote understanding of these measures relative to the unemployment rate;
- (iv) the topic be considered for inclusion on the agenda of the 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians with a view to adopting an international standard.

Resolution IV

Resolution concerning further work on the measurement of decent work

The 18th International Conference of Labour Statisticians,

Recognizing the need to measure decent work and its four strategic objectives, namely productive and freely chosen employment; social protection; social dialogue; and standards and fundamental principles and rights at work,

Taking note of the 2008 ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization that states that ILO member States may consider the establishment of appropriate indicators or statistics, if necessary with the assistance of the ILO, to monitor and evaluate progress made,

Having reviewed the work undertaken by the ILO and the guidance provided by the Tripartite Meeting of Experts on the Measurement of Decent Work (September 2008);

Recommends that:

- (i) the Office, in cooperation with the ILO's constituents and interested national statistical offices, prepares pilot decent work country profiles based on the outcome of the Tripartite Meeting of Experts on the Measurement of Decent Work and in accordance with the guidance by the Governing Body;
- (ii) the definitions of statistical decent work indicators be based, in as far as possible, on existing ICLS resolutions and guidelines and other relevant international statistical standards in order to ensure the greatest possible degree of consistency and international comparability;
- (iii) the Office carries out further developmental work on statistical indicators in areas highlighted by the Tripartite Meeting of Experts on the Measurement of Decent Work and during the proceedings at this 18th International Conference of Labour Statisticians;
- (iv) a full report on progress and outcomes be prepared for the 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians, in accordance with its agenda and taking account of decisions taken by the Governing Body, to provide further guidance on the measurement and monitoring of decent work.

Resolution VI

Resolution concerning organization, frequency and duration of the ICLS

The 18th International Conference of Labour Statisticians,

Recognizing the rapidly changing circumstances in labour markets of all States and the need for national statistical systems to effectively, consistently and quickly measure such changes,

Affirming the technical standard-setting role of the International Conferences of Labour Statisticians,

Aware of the competing demands on the time commitment of senior staff of national statistical systems as well as of employers' and workers' organizations,

Sensitive to the financial challenges of participation in the International Conference of Labour Statisticians as presently organized,

Cognizant of the recommendation of the United Nations Statistical Commission at its 39th Session in March 2008 to the International Conference of Labour Statisticians to review its method of operation, in particular the frequency and duration of its sessions,

Aware of the power that the Governing Body of the International Labour Office has pursuant to article 1 of the Standing Orders for International Conferences of Labour Statisticians;

Recommends to the Governing Body that:

- the periodicity of the International Conferences of Labour Statisticians be every three years, starting with the 19th International Conference of Labour Statisticians that could be held in 2011;
- (ii) the duration of each Conference should be five working days;
- (iii) each Conference be guided by the work of tripartite meetings of experts and other expert groups of statisticians at international and regional levels in order to facilitate and increase the efficiency of its proceedings by reducing the time required to establish, revise or approve international standards in labour statistics;
- (iv) the number of items on the agenda of the Conference take into consideration its reduced duration and the complexity of topics to be discussed;
- (v) a stable source of financing of the Conferences be identified within the regular budget of the Organization;
- (vi) the present level of interpretation and translation services be maintained;
- (vii) the date of the Conference be determined, as far as possible, taking into account days of significance in member States.