Labour Statistics Standards: Conventions and Recommendations

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Room document 22

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INTRODUCTION

International standards on labour statistics:

**Conventions and Recommendations** adopted by the International Labour Conference (ILC)
- **Convention 63** – Statistics of Wages and Hours of Work (1938)
- **Convention 160** – Labour Statistics (1985)

**Resolutions and Guidelines** adopted by the International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS)
- Resolutions: Non-binding, technical but general
- Guidelines: Non-binding, more specific topics

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INTRODUCTION

In Sept. 2018 the ILO Standards Review Mechanism Tripartite Working Group considered:

**C160 and R170 fit for purpose and up-to-date**
- Call on the Office to promote ratification of C160

**C63 outdated and to be abrogated**
- Countries bound by C63 to consider ratifying C160
Labour Statistics Convention - C160

**Relevant**
- «Automatically» updated via link to ICLS (article 2)
- Covers data availability, production, methodology and dissemination

**Comprehensive**
- Covers numerous topics of labour statistics and all the main sources
- Valid in all countries

**Flexible**
- Allows for the progressive development of the NSS
- Possible to accept some articles only

**Not too demanding**
- It is a development tool, not a means of coercion
- Decreased reporting burden

Labour Statistics Recommendation - R170

**Periodicity of data collection**
- Desired frequency of data per topic

**Data disaggregation**
- Main desired breakdowns per indicator

**Infrastructure**
- Major elements needed for an appropriate national statistical system
Ratification of C160

50 COUNTRIES HAVE RATIFIED IT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Article</th>
<th>Employment and unemployment (Article 7)</th>
<th>Time-related under-employment (Article 7)</th>
<th>Labour force by sex and age (Article 8)</th>
<th>Hours of work (Article 9.1)</th>
<th>Earnings by sex and age (Article 10)</th>
<th>Labour cost (Article 11)</th>
<th>Consumer price indices (Article 12)</th>
<th>Occupational injuries (Article 14.1)</th>
<th>Strikes and lockouts (Article 15)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of ratifying countries having accepted the corresponding article</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>119</td>
<td>185</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>176</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>61</td>
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<td>Number of countries for which post-2010 data is available in ILOSTAT</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ratification of C160: Why?

**It is relevant and valid**
- Basic framework for the (gradual) development of a comprehensive NSS

**It legitimizes labour statistics**
- Guarantees involvement of social partners and empowers NSOs
- Formal commitment by the country to develop the NSS

**It mobilizes resources and assistance**
- Country-level and ILO

**In many cases, it requires no big effort**
Conventions and recommendations

Next steps

- 14 countries bound by C63 to consider ratifying C160

- Countries already complying with C160 to consider ratifying it

- Countries facing special challenges to seek ILO assistance in implementing (and ratifying) it

THANK YOU

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#ICLS20