



THIRD ITEM ON THE AGENDA

**Effect to be given to the
recommendations of sectoral
and technical meetings**

**Global Dialogue Forum on
Vocational Education and Skills
Development for Commerce
Workers, 24–25 November 2008**

1. The Global Dialogue Forum on Vocational Education and Skills Development for Commerce Workers was held in Geneva from 24 to 25 November 2008. It was moderated by Ms Elizabeth Thobejane (Government of South Africa).
2. The Forum considered an Issues paper prepared by the Office.¹ It unanimously adopted a set of points of consensus on vocational education and skills development for commerce workers on which all parties could move forward together with ILO assistance, including at the national and regional levels. This text, together with a brief summary of the proceedings of the Forum and the list of participants, appears in the final report, which is attached to the present paper.² Paragraphs 25, 26 and 29 of the points of consensus call for certain action by the ILO.
3. As the first experience of the ILO holding a sectoral meeting of this type, it is worth noting that the Global Dialogue Forum format encouraged more open discussion among all participants and maximized the exchange of views, while largely avoiding the formal negotiations approach of traditional tripartite sectoral meetings.

¹ ILO: *Vocational education and skills development for commerce workers*, Issues paper for discussion at the Global Dialogue Forum on Vocational Education and Skills Development for Commerce Workers, Geneva, 2008, GDFCW/2008.

² GDFCW/2008/7.

4. The Committee may wish to recommend that the Governing Body:

- (a) authorize the Director-General to communicate the final report containing the texts mentioned in paragraph 2 above to governments of member States, requesting them to communicate the report to the employers' and workers' organizations concerned; to the international employers' and workers' organizations concerned; and to the international organizations concerned; and**
- (b) request the Director-General to bear in mind, when drawing up proposals for future work of the Office, the wishes expressed in paragraphs 25, 26 and 29 of the points of consensus.**

Geneva, 12 January 2009.

Point for decision: Paragraph 4.