

**FOR INFORMATION****Approved symposia, seminars,
workshops and similar meetings ¹***Contents*

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¹ All Employer and Worker participants to be invited to the events in this paper would be nominated in accordance with the usual procedure.

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Part I. Submissions approved in March 2009

Bureau for Gender Equality

I/1. Subregional Workshop on Knowledge Sharing for the Creation of a Gender Focal Point Network in the Central American Region

Proposed date:	30 March–3 April 2009
Place:	San José, Costa Rica
Financing:	Government of United Kingdom (US\$21,000) ILO regular budget (US\$21,000)
Geographical coverage:	Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and Panama
Composition of participants:	
(a) Governments:	7
(b) Employers:	7
(c) Workers:	7
Purpose of the workshop:	(i) To train gender focal points of employers' organizations, representatives of union women's committees and gender offices of labour ministries in basic gender concepts and to provide them with guidance on gender mainstreaming within their organizations; (ii) to enable country representatives to meet and initiate discussions on the situation in their countries; (iii) to start a process resulting in the establishment of tripartite committees on gender equality in all countries.
Relevance to international labour standards:	Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87), Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98), Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100), Maternity Protection Convention (Revised), 1952 (No. 103), Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111), Workers with Family Responsibilities Convention, 1981 (No. 156), Maternity Protection Convention, 2000 (No. 183)
Working language:	Spanish

Part II. Submissions approved between November 2008 and February 2009

Standards and Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work Sector

Labour standards

II/1. Interregional Workshop on Progress and Future Prospects for the Project to Support the Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work

Proposed date:	23–26 February 2009
Place:	Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso
Financing:	Government of France (US\$160,000)
Geographical coverage:	Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Gabon, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Madagascar, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal and Togo
Composition of participants:	
(a) Governments:	17
(b) Employers:	17
(c) Workers:	17
Purpose of the workshop:	(i) To present the activities of the project to support the Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (PAMODEC); (ii) to analyse the problems encountered and make proposals and explore avenues to increase efficiency.
Observers:	Two representatives of the Government of France
Relevance to international labour standards:	Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29), Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87), Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98), Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100), Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105), Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111), Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138), Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182)
Working language:	French

II/2. Subregional Workshop on Achieving Rapid and Widespread Ratification and Effective Implementation of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 (MLC), in CAEMC² Countries

Proposed date:	30 March–2 April 2009
Place:	Douala, Cameroon
Financing:	ILO regular budget (US\$82,000)
Geographical coverage:	Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo, Equatorial Guinea and Gabon
Composition of participants:	
(a) Governments:	12 (one representative from the Ministry of Transport, and one from the Ministry of Labour)
(b) Employers:	6
(c) Workers:	6
Purpose of the workshop:	(i) To deepen the understanding of participants about the MLC and, in the light of existing law and practice in CAEMC countries, to identify issues arising in the process of ratification and implementation and to discuss solutions; (ii) to discuss regional cooperation within CAEMC; (iii) to provide an overview of the Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188).
Resource persons:	One specialist in the laws of the CAEMC countries and in maritime law
Observers:	International Transport Workers Federation (ITF) International Shipping Federation (ISF)
Relevance to international labour standards:	Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 (MLC), Seafarers' Identity Documents Convention (Revised), 2003 (No. 185), Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188)
Working language:	French

² Central Africa Economic and Monetary Community.

Employment Sector

Skills development

II/3. ILO/SKILLS–AP/Japan Regional Workshop and Study Programme on Skills Development in the Workplace

Proposed date:	27 January–6 February 2009
Place:	Chiba, Japan
Financing:	Government of Japan (US\$97,000)
Geographical coverage:	Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam
Composition of participants:	
(a) Governments:	6
(b) Employers:	6
(c) Workers:	6
Purpose of the workshop:	(i) To explore how human resources development systems and workplace learning support collaboration between private sector organizations or industries; (ii) to discuss strategies to strengthen the partnerships between organizations of the regional skills network.
Resource persons:	One international resource person One representative of Human Resource Development Korea (HRD Korea) at their own cost
Observers:	Asia–Pacific Economic Cooperation Human Resources Development Working Group (APEC HRDWG) Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Human Resource Development Korea (HRD Korea) Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
Relevance to international labour standards:	Human Resources Development Convention, 1975 (No. 142) and Human Resources Development Recommendation, 2004 (No. 195)
Working language:	English

Employment policy

II/4. *Interregional Research Planning Workshop on “Microfinance for Decent Work”*

Proposed date:	5–6 February 2009
Place:	Geneva, Switzerland
Financing:	RBSA (US\$150,000)
Geographical coverage:	Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Egypt, Honduras, India, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Mali, Morocco, Nicaragua, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Senegal, Tajikistan, Tunisia and Viet Nam
Composition of participants:	
(a) Governments:	7
(b) Employers:	7
(c) Workers:	7
(d) Other:	20 representatives of microfinance institutions (MFIs)
Purpose of the workshop:	<p>(i) To present the findings of client surveys carried out in October and November 2008 on decent work;</p> <p>(ii) to communicate the decent work concept to the representatives of MFIs;</p> <p>(iii) to elicit suggestions and ideas on how to improve decent work within MFIs and their stakeholders;</p> <p>(iv) to structure the baseline survey for March 2009.</p>
Observers:	<p>Minister of Labour, Germany</p> <p>Consultative Group to Assist the Poor (CGAP)</p> <p>Regional coordinators of the Governing Body Government group</p>
Relevance to international labour standards:	<p>Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29), Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 97), Social Policy (Basic Aims and Standards) Convention, 1962 (No. 117), Employment Promotion and Protection against Unemployment Convention, 1988 (No. 168), Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169), Seamen’s Welfare in Ports Recommendation, 1936 (No. 48), Vocational Rehabilitation (Disabled) Recommendation, 1955 (No. 99), Plantations Recommendation, 1958 (No. 110), Workers’ Housing Recommendation, 1961 (No. 115)</p>
Working languages:	English, French and Spanish

II/5. Regional Meeting on Responding to the Economic Crisis – Coherent Policies for Growth, Employment and Decent Work

Proposed date:	18–20 February 2009
Place:	Manila, Philippines
Financing:	Government of Norway (US\$170,000)
Geographical coverage:	Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand and Viet Nam
Composition of participants:	
(a) Governments:	22 (one representative from the Ministry of Finance/Planning and one representative from the Ministry of Labour)
(b) Employers:	11
(c) Workers:	11
Purpose of the meeting:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) To discuss the employment and social consequences of the global financial and economic crisis in developing Asia; (ii) to share knowledge of recent national responses and their preliminary assessment; (iii) to identify priority areas for the ILO to support the development of coherent national policy responses; (iv) to develop an action plan for a regional response to the crisis and explore mechanisms for greater collaboration among regional and international organizations to enhance its implementation.
Resource persons:	<p>Vice-President of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and other ADB officials</p> <p>UN Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development</p> <p>Senior representatives of the International Organisation of Employers (IOE) and the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)</p> <p>Chairperson of UNCTAD's Trade and Development Board</p> <p>One representative of the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD)</p> <p>One representative of the World Bank</p> <p>Representatives of academic think-tank institutions</p>

Observers:	Asian Development Bank United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific Association of Southeast Asian Nations United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) International Monetary Fund Governments of Australia, Japan, Republic of Korea and Singapore
Relevance to international labour standards:	Employment Policy Convention, 1964 (No. 122) and Tripartite Consultation (International Labour Standards) Convention, 1976 (No. 144)
Working language:	English

II/6. *Regional Preparatory Meeting of Experts on the First African Decent Work Symposium on “Together addressing the implications of the financial crisis for Africa’s peoples”*

Proposed date:	26–27 February 2009
Place:	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Financing:	ILO regular budget (US\$95,000)
Geographical coverage:	Algeria, Angola, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Egypt, Kenya, Mali, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa and Tunisia
Composition of participants:	
(a) Governments:	10 (Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Egypt, Kenya (2 representatives), Nigeria, South Africa (2 representatives) and Tunisia)
(b) Employers:	5 (Cameroon, Egypt, Kenya, Mali and Nigeria)
(c) Workers:	5 (Algeria, Angola, Kenya, Senegal and South Africa)
Purpose of the meeting:	(i) To strengthen the technical preparations for the First African Decent Work Symposium by discussing the implications of the crisis in Africa; (ii) to review draft documents to be presented at the Symposium and to provide input for the High-level Technical Meeting, to be held in Geneva on 23 March, 2009.

Observers:	Pan African Employers' Confederation (PEC) International Organisation of Employers (IOE) ITUC African Regional Organisation (ITUC–Africa) Organisation of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU) African Union Commission United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
Working languages:	English and French

Social Protection Sector

HIV/AIDS

II/7. Interregional Workshop for Instructors on the Use of the “Driving for Change” Training Toolkit on HIV/AIDS for the Road Transport Sector

Proposed date:	1–3 December 2008
Place:	Geneva, Switzerland
Financing:	International Road Transport Union (IRU) Academy (US\$10,000) and International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF) (US\$10,000)
Geographical coverage:	Bosnia and Herzegovina, Ghana, India, Kenya, Lithuania, Namibia, Nigeria, Sweden, United Kingdom and Zimbabwe
Composition of participants:	
(a) Employers:	10
(b) Workers:	10
Purpose of the workshop:	To build the capacity of employers and workers in the road transport sector to provide sector-specific training on HIV/AIDS
Resource person:	One instructor/trainer
Relevance to international labour standards:	Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111), Termination of Employment Convention, 1982 (No. 158), Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (Disabled Persons) Convention, 1983 (No. 159)
Working language:	English

Social Dialogue Sector

Social dialogue

II/8. Subregional Meeting on Lessons Learnt in Labour Force Restructuring: Process and Measures to be Put in Place for Socially Responsible Restructuring

Proposed date:	2–3 December 2008
Place:	Belgrade, Serbia
Financing:	Government of Czech Republic (US\$38,000)
Geographical coverage:	Croatia, Czech Republic, Montenegro, Serbia, Slovakia and Slovenia
Composition of participants:	
(a) Governments:	8 (one from each country, plus 2 local)
(b) Employers:	8 (one from each country, plus 2 local)
(c) Workers:	8 (one from each country, plus 2 local)
Purpose of the meeting:	<p>(i) To share with the social partners lessons learnt from assistance given to the Serbian Railways;</p> <p>(ii) to share experiences in other sectors in countries of the region in order to enlarge the knowledge base on the experience of labour force restructuring and the support provided to workers who have been made redundant;</p> <p>(iii) to formulate guidelines and recommendations on labour force restructuring and strengthen the capacity of the social partners to fully participate in the design and implementation of plans for the reintegration of redundant workers.</p>
Resource persons:	<p>Three local representatives of ILO constituents (one Government representative, one employer, one worker)</p> <p>Six representatives of academic institutions</p>
Relevance to international labour standards:	Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87), Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98), Collective Bargaining Convention, 1981 (No. 154)
Working languages:	English and Serbian

II/9. Subregional Meeting on Dialogue between the Social Partners on Responding to the Crisis: Growth, Decent Work and Stability

Proposed date:	24 February 2009
Place:	Lima, Peru
Financing:	ILO regular budget (US\$16,000)
Geographical coverage:	Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Peru
Composition of participants:	
(a) Employers:	6
(b) Workers:	6
Purpose of the meeting:	(i) To present the ILO's proposals for combating the financial and economic crisis; (ii) To collect input from the social partners with the aim of strengthening the ILO's proposals.
Relevance to international labour standards:	ILO core Conventions ³
Working language:	Spanish

II/10. ILO Seminar on Industrial Relations in the ASEAN Region

Proposed date:	26–27 February 2009
Place:	Bogor, Indonesia
Financing:	Government of Japan (US\$73,227)
Geographical coverage:	Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam
Composition of participants:	
(a) Governments:	10
(b) Employers:	10
(c) Workers:	10

³ Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29); Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87); Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98); Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100); Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105); Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111); Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138).

Purpose of the seminar:	(i) To provide the opportunity for ASEAN member States to discuss and share good industrial relations practices with a view to promoting ASEAN integration; (ii) to improve industrial relations in the region.
Resource persons:	Two resource persons
Observers:	Governments of China and the Republic of Korea
Relevance to international labour standards:	Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87), Protection of Wages Convention, 1949 (No. 95), Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98), Tripartite Consultation (International Labour Standards) Convention, 1976 (No. 144), Labour Relations (Public Service) Convention, 1978 (No. 151), Collective Bargaining Convention, 1981 (No. 154)
Working language:	English

II/11. Southern African Subregional Workshop on Social Dialogue in the Public Service

Proposed date:	2–4 March 2009
Place:	Pretoria, South Africa
Financing:	ILO regular budget (US\$55,000)
Geographical coverage:	Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Zambia and Zimbabwe
Composition of participants:	
(a) Governments:	9
(b) Workers:	9
Purpose of the workshop:	(i) To share experiences and discuss strengths and weaknesses of social dialogue in national public services; (ii) to share international experience of public service social dialogue; (iii) to discuss and develop an agreed plan of action for the improvement of public service social dialogue in the participants' countries.
Resource persons:	One representative of the Public Service Coordinating Bargaining Council of South Africa One representative of a regionally-based employers' organization
Observers:	Public Services International (PSI) One local employer representative

Relevance to international labour standards:	Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87), Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98), Workers' Representatives Convention, 1971 (No. 135), Labour Relations (Public Service) Convention, 1978 (No. 151), Collective Bargaining Convention, 1981 (No. 154), Holidays with Pay Recommendation, 1954 (No. 98), Workers' Representatives Recommendation, 1971 (No. 143), Labour Relations (Public Service) Recommendation, 1978 (No. 159), Collective Bargaining Recommendation, 1981 (No. 163)
Working language:	English

Employers' activities

II/12. Subregional Workshop for the Southern Cone of Latin America on Training in the Management of Employers' Organizations: Communication, an Effective Tool for Employers' Organizations

Proposed date:	25–27 March 2009
Place:	Santiago, Chile
Financing:	Turin Centre (US\$8,000) ILO regular budget (US\$27,000)
Geographical coverage:	Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay
Composition of participants:	
Employers:	25
Purpose of the workshop:	(i) To train representatives of employers' organizations in the use of communications media and to show them how this will benefit their organizations; (ii) to strengthen the institutional capacities of employers' organizations in the Southern Cone through the appropriate and effective use of the media.
Resource persons:	Three facilitators: one communications expert, one expert in the management of employers' organizations and one journalist
Relevance to international labour standards:	ILO core Conventions ⁴
Working language:	Spanish

⁴ Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29); Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87); Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98); Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100); Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105); Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111); Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138).

Workers' activities

II/13. ILO/RENGO⁵–JILAF⁶ Regional Workshop for Capacity Building in Trade Union Rights and Labour Standards for Productivity Improvement in Africa

Proposed date:	24–28 November 2008
Place:	Dakar, Senegal
Financing:	RENGO–JILAF (US\$40,100) ILO regular budget (US\$55,000)
Geographical coverage:	Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Côte d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo
Composition of participants:	
Workers:	16
Purpose of the workshop:	(i) To strengthen the capacity of African trade union organizations to contribute to the social dimension of globalization while ensuring the fair distribution of the benefits of globalization, the creation of sustainable jobs and poverty reduction; (ii) to learn from the experience of other countries of the subregion.
Resource persons:	One representative of the Government of Senegal Two representatives of Senegalese employers' organizations Six representatives of trade union organizations
Observers:	Three Senegalese trade union administrations ITUC–Africa Organisation of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU)
Relevance to international labour standards:	ILO core Conventions ⁷
Working languages:	English and French

Geneva, 23 March 2009.

Submitted for information.

⁵ Japanese Trade Union Confederation.

⁶ Japan International Labour Foundation.

⁷ Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29); Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87); Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98); Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100); Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105); Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111); Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138).

Timetable of approved symposia, seminars, workshops and similar meetings

Date	Title of meeting	Place
AFRICA 2009		
23–26 February	Interregional Workshop on Progress and Future Prospects for the Project to Support the Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights and Work (No. 67) (Government of France)	Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso
26–27 February	Regional Preparatory Meeting of Experts on the First African Decent Work Symposium on “Together addressing the implications of the financial crisis for Africa’s peoples” (No. 2) (ILO regular budget)	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
2–4 March	Southern African Subregional Workshop on Social Dialogue in the Public Service (No. 65) (ILO regular budget)	Pretoria, South Africa
30 March–2 April	Subregional Workshop on Achieving Rapid and Widespread Ratification and Effective Implementation of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 (MLC), in CAEMC ¹ Countries (No. 4) (ILO regular budget)	Douala, Cameroon
ASIA AND THE PACIFIC 2008		
1–3 December	ILO/IOE ² /CAPE ³ Regional Meeting on Human Resources Development for Productivity and Competitiveness (No. 57) (ILO regular budget)	Bangkok, Thailand
2009		
27 January–6 February	ILO/SKILLS–AP/JAPAN Regional Workshop and Study Programme on Skills Development in the Workplace (No. 69) (Government of Japan)	Chiba, Japan
18–20 February	Regional Meeting on Responding to the Economic Crisis – Coherent Policies for Growth, Employment and Decent Work (No. 68) (Government of Norway)	Manila, Philippines
26–27 February	ILO Seminar on Industrial Relations in the ASEAN Region (No. 66) (Government of Japan)	Bogor, Indonesia
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN 2009		
24 February	Subregional Meeting on Dialogue between the Social Partners on Responding to the Crisis: Growth, Decent Work and Stability (No. 1) (ILO regular budget)	Lima, Peru

¹ Central Africa Economic and Monetary Community.

² International Organisation of Employers.

³ Confederation of Asia Pacific Employers.

Date	Title of meeting	Place
25–27 March	Subregional Workshop for the Southern Cone of Latin America on Training in the Management of Employers' Organizations: Communication, an Effective Tool for Employers' Organizations (No. 3) (International Training Centre, Turin, and ILO regular budget)	Santiago, Chile
30 March–3 April	Subregional Workshop on Knowledge Sharing for the Creation of a Gender Focal Point Network in the Central American Region (No. 5) (Government of United Kingdom and ILO regular budget)	San José, Costa Rica
EUROPE 2008		
1–3 December	Interregional Workshop for Instructors on the Use of the "Driving for Change" Training Toolkit on HIV/AIDS for the Road Transport Sector (No. 62) (International Road Transport Union Academy and International Transport Workers' Federation)	Geneva, Switzerland
2–3 December	Subregional Meeting on Lessons Learnt in Labour Force Restructuring: Process and Measures to be Put in Place for Socially Responsible Restructuring (Government of Czech Republic)	Belgrade, Serbia
9–10 December	Subregional Conference on Promoting Effective Mechanisms for the Amicable Settlement of Labour Disputes at the Workplace in the Countries of Western Balkans and Moldova (No. 58) (Government of Austria)	Podgorica, Montenegro
2009		
5–6 February	Interregional Research Planning Workshop on "Microfinance for Decent Work" (RBSA)	Geneva, Switzerland
18–20 February	Regional Conference to Address All Forms of Human Trafficking in the Caucasus and Related Destination Countries (No. 47) (European Community, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, International Centre for Migration Policy Development, United Nations Development Programme, Armenia)	Tbilisi, Georgia