



Governing Body

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GB.331/LILS/2(Add.)

Legal Issues and International Labour Standards Section
International Labour Standards and Human Rights Segment

LILS

Date: 31 October 2017

Original: English

SECOND ITEM ON THE AGENDA

The Standards Initiative: Report of the third meeting of the Standards Review Mechanism Tripartite Working Group

Report of the Officers, in accordance with paragraph 17 of the terms of reference of the Standards Review Mechanism Tripartite Working Group

Addendum

Financial arrangements for two meetings of the Standards Review Mechanism Tripartite Working Group (2018–19)

1. Pursuant to paragraph 14 of its terms of reference, the Standards Review Mechanism Tripartite Working Group (SRM TWG) “shall meet once per year for one week, unless the Governing Body decides otherwise”.¹
2. The first two meetings of the SRM TWG were held during February and October 2016.² At its third meeting, held from 25 to 29 September 2017, the SRM TWG decided that its fourth meeting would take place from 17 to 21 September 2018 and recommended to the Governing Body that at that meeting it could review 11 instruments contained in its initial programme of work.³ The date and subject matter of the SRM TWG’s fifth meeting, to be held during 2019, will be determined at its fourth meeting.

¹ [GB.325/LILS/3](#).

² [GB.326/LILS/3/2](#) and [GB.328/LILS/2/1\(Rev.\)](#).

³ [GB.331/LILS/2](#), para. 4.

3. As there is no provision in the Programme and Budget for 2018–19 to cover the costs of the meetings of the SRM TWG for that biennium, financial arrangements should be made.
4. The estimated costs of the meetings of the SRM TWG during the biennium 2018–19 are US\$397,600 per meeting, comprising:

	US\$
Travel costs (Chairperson and members)	98 050
Travel costs (representatives of other international organizations)	45 970
Interpretation	103 000
Translation	37 940
Documents	1 110
Follow-up of recommendations	111 530
Total	397 600

5. The increase in the cost for the meetings of the SRM TWG during this biennium, when compared with the estimated budget of the SRM TWG during 2016–17 (US\$176,800), is due to:
- *the previous estimate was based on a meeting of three days*: in comparison, the current estimate is based on a meeting of five days duration, in accordance with terms of reference of the SRM TWG;
 - *the cost of participation by representatives of other international organizations*: pursuant to paragraph 21 of the terms of reference of the SRM TWG, the SRM TWG may decide to invite representatives of relevant international organizations to attend its meetings. During its third meeting, the SRM TWG benefited from the attendance of three representatives of international organizations and agreed that its Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons may decide at a later date whether representatives of relevant international organizations and other ILO bodies should be invited to attend the fourth meeting in 2018.⁴ Given the technical nature of the instruments to be reviewed, this may be beneficial. Provision has been made for the attendance of up to eight such representatives given the breadth of topics to be covered;
 - *translation costs*: the experience of the first three meetings of the SRM TWG has shown that the process requires the production of a large number of preparatory documents, in three languages, to assist in the review of the international labour standards. For this reason, it is necessary to include a provision for their translation;
 - *the cost of follow-up of the SRM TWG's recommendations*: the SRM TWG has requested the Office to prioritize the follow-up to its recommendations, requiring the allocation of additional resources to cover six work-months of professional support.
6. Accordingly, the estimated costs for the two meetings of the SRM TWG to be held during the biennium 2018–19 are US\$795,200.

⁴ GB.331/LILS/2, appendix, para. 30.

Draft decision

7. *The Governing Body decides that the cost of the two meetings of the SRM TWG to be held during the biennium 2018–19, estimated at US\$795,200, should be financed in the first instance from savings in Part I of the budget for 2018–19 or, failing that, through Part II, on the understanding that should this subsequently prove impossible, the Director-General would propose alternative methods of financing.*