



Governing Body

326th Session, Geneva, 10–24 March 2016

GB.326/INS/2

Institutional Section

INS

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SECOND ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Agenda of the International Labour Conference

Purpose of the document

In light of the decision taken at the 323rd Session (March 2015), to continue the implementation of the strategic and coherent approach to the setting of the agenda of the 107th (2018) and 108th (2019) Sessions of the Conference (see the draft decision in paragraph 13).

Relevant strategic objective: All four strategic objectives.

Policy implications: Implications for the Conference agenda for 2018 and beyond.

Legal implications: Those arising from the application of the Standing Orders of the Conference and the Standing Orders of the Governing Body.

Financial implications: Those arising from the placing of items on the Conference agenda.

Follow-up action required: Any implications relating to follow-up will be submitted to the Governing Body for consideration at its 328th Session (November 2016).

Author unit: Departments in the Policy Portfolio and in the Field Operations and Partnerships Portfolio.

Related documents: GB.325/INS/2, GB.325/INS/5/1; GB.325/5/2; GB.325/INS/6; GB.325/15/2; GB.323/PV (paragraphs 4–18; 19–33 and 346–360); GB.323/INS/2; GB.322/PV (paragraphs 8–27 and 309–330); GB.322/INS/2; GB.322/INS/3; GB.322/INS/4/1; GB.322/WP/GBC/1; GB.320/PV (paragraphs 6–42 and 342–351); GB.320/INS/15/2; GB.320/INS/13; GB.320/WP/GBC/1; GB.320/POL/3; GB.319/INS/2; GB.319/PV (paragraphs 5–35); GB.319/WP/GBC/1; GB.319/INS/13(Rev.).

Overview of the Conference agenda-setting process

1. The applicable rules concerning the agenda of the International Labour Conference are set out in the ILO Constitution,¹ the Standing Orders of the International Labour Conference² and the Standing Orders of the Governing Body.³ The agenda of the Conference consists of standing and technical items.
2. The following standing items are required to be included by the Governing Body in the Conference agenda each year:
 - reports of the Chairperson of the Governing Body and of the Director-General;
 - financial and budgetary questions; and
 - information and reports on the application of Conventions and Recommendations.
3. It has become the practice to include in the Conference agenda three technical items with a view either to a general discussion or to standard setting. For standard-setting items, while a double discussion remains the norm, the Governing Body may decide to hold a single discussion. The technical items to be placed on the Conference agenda are considered at two successive sessions of the Governing Body.
4. The ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization, 2008 (the Social Justice Declaration), and its follow-up introduced a scheme of recurrent discussions by the Conference designed to improve understanding of the diverse realities and needs of Members with respect to each of the ILO's strategic objectives, respond more effectively to them by using all the means of action at its disposal, and adjust its priorities and programmes of action accordingly.⁴ Recurrent discussions are intended to play a key role in the setting of the overall Conference agenda. The Governing Body decided at its 304th Session (March 2009) that these recurrent discussions would follow a seven-year cycle,⁵ with employment, fundamental principles and rights at work, and social protection being discussed twice, and social dialogue being discussed once,⁶ according to the following sequence: employment (first recurrent discussion, 2010); social protection (social security) (first recurrent discussion, 2011); fundamental principles and rights at work (first recurrent discussion, 2012); social dialogue (first recurrent discussion, 2013); employment (second recurrent discussion, 2014); social protection (labour protection) (second recurrent discussion, 2015); and fundamental principles and rights at work (second recurrent discussion, 2016).
5. This sequence was subsequently adjusted following the Governing Body's decision to place the evaluation of the impact of the Social Justice Declaration on the agenda of the

¹ Articles 14(1) and 16(3).

² In particular, articles 7, 7bis, 8 and 12.

³ Section 5 and article 6.2.

⁴ Social Justice Declaration, Part II(A)(i) and Annex, Part II(B)(i).

⁵ Under Part II(B) of the Annex to the Social Justice Declaration, the modalities of recurrent discussions are agreed by the Governing Body.

⁶ GB.304/PV, para. 183(b).

105th Session (2016) of the Conference, and consequently to defer the second recurrent discussion on fundamental principles and rights at work from the 105th Session (2016) to the 106th Session (2017).⁷ In light of the evaluation of the Social Justice Declaration, the Governing Body decided at its 325th Session (November 2015) to defer the decision on the cycle of recurrent discussions to its 327th (June 2016) or 328th Session (November 2016).⁸

Context for the current consideration of the agenda of future sessions

6. At its 322nd Session (November 2014), the Governing Body approved the concept of a strategic and coherent approach to the setting of the Conference agenda for the 106th (2017), 107th (2018) and 108th (2019) Sessions of the Conference.
7. Having considered proposals for the implementation of the strategic and coherent approach at its 323rd Session (March 2015),⁹ the Governing Body further discussed the Conference agenda at its 325th Session (November 2015).¹⁰ At that session, the Governing Body decided to include: an item allowing for the approval of proposed amendments to the Code of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, and to the annexes to the Seafarers' Identity Documents Convention (Revised), 2003 (No. 185) on the agenda of the 2016 Conference;¹¹ items on labour migration (general discussion)¹² and the abrogation of Conventions Nos 4, 15, 28, 41, 60 and 67 on the agenda of the 2017 Conference;¹³ and a standard-setting item on violence against women and men in the world of work (double discussion) would be included on the agenda of the 2018 Conference, preceded by a tripartite meeting of experts to report to the 328th Session of the Governing Body.¹⁴ The

⁷ GB.320/PV, para. 351; see also GB.322/INS/3.

⁸ GB.325/PV, para. 56.

⁹ GB.323/PV, paras 4–18.

¹⁰ GB.325/INS/PV/Draft, paras 6–35.

¹¹ Subject to the submission of any amendments adopted by the Special Tripartite Committee and as proposed by the Ad Hoc Tripartite Maritime Committee, at meetings to be held in February 2016: GB.325/INS/PV/Draft, para. 34(a) (decision); further discussion at para. 6 (Workers' group), para. 11 (Government of India), para. 12 (Africa group), para. 13 (Government of Turkey), para. 15 (Government of the Republic of Korea) and para. 18 (Government of Italy).

¹² GB.325/INS/PV/Draft, para. 32 (decision); further discussion at para. 6 (Workers' group), para. 7 (Employers' group), para. 8 (ASPAG), para. 9 (Governments of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Netherlands, Norway and Sweden), para. 10 (Governments of Austria, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg and United States), para. 11 (Government of India), para. 12 (Africa group), para. 13 (Government of Turkey), para. 14 (Government of Mexico), para. 16 (Government of Brazil), para. 18 (Government of Italy) and para. 19 (Government of Zimbabwe).

¹³ GB.325/INS/PV/Draft, para. 34(b) (decision); further discussion at para. 6 (Workers' group).

¹⁴ GB.325/INS/PV/Draft, para. 33 (decision); further discussion at para. 6 (Workers' group) para. 7 (Employers' group), para. 8 (ASPAG), para. 9 (Governments of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Netherlands, Norway and Sweden), para. 10 (Governments of Austria, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg and the United States), para. 11 (Government of

Governing Body gave guidance on future stages of the strategic approach. It also discussed consideration of a centenary declaration in 2019, possibly commencing in 2018. Having regard to the need to maintain flexibility in the setting of the agenda of the Conference to enable the selection of topical issues, the Governing Body may consider that at present no selection of a specific item is required.

Status of possible subjects for inclusion in future sessions of the Conference

8. The Office has continued to follow-up nine subjects that are under consideration for inclusion in future sessions of the Conference:

- Effective ILO development cooperation in support of the Sustainable Development Goals
- Resolution of labour disputes
- Transition of the world of work to a low-carbon economy
- Non-standard forms of employment
- Long-term unemployment
- Decent work in the world of sport
- Inequality and the world of work
- Independence and protection in public service (fight against corruption)
- Relationship between employment and social protection

9. With regard to three subjects in particular, the following information can be provided:

- *Effective ILO development cooperation in support of the Sustainable Development Goals.* The Governing Body considered that effective ILO development cooperation in support of the Sustainable Development Goals was an important subject for inclusion in a future session of the Conference.¹⁵ In this context it should be noted that the Director-General's Report to the 2016 Session of the Conference will concern the end of poverty initiative, and that the discussions will no doubt be related to this subject.
- *Resolution of labour disputes.* Comparative research on the performance of labour dispute prevention and resolution mechanisms and processes is continuing. In the course of the 2014–15 biennium over 50 country studies in all regions were commissioned and discussed at national and subregional workshops. Engagement with national dispute resolution agencies facilitated the research in a

India), para. 12 (Africa group), para. 13 (Government of Turkey), para. 14 (Government of Mexico), para. 16 (Government of Brazil) and para. 18 (Government of Italy).

¹⁵ GB.325/INS/PV/Draft, para. 6 (Workers' group), para. 7 (Employers' group), para. 8 (ASPAG), para. 9 (Governments of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Netherlands, Norway and Sweden), para. 11 (Government of India), para. 12 (Africa group), para. 13 (Government of Turkey), para. 15 (Government of the Republic of Korea), para. 16 (Government of Brazil), para. 17 (Government of China) and para. 18 (Government of Italy).

number of countries. Collaboration with the Japan Institute for Labour Policy and Training (JILPT) supported studies on selected Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries,¹⁶ which will appear as a book in 2016. Other types of publications are also considered. The Office will report to the Governing Body at its November 2016 session on the findings from this global research programme, and their implications for future work by the Office, and for the agenda of the International Labour Conference.

- *Transition of the world of work to a low-carbon economy.* A tripartite meeting of experts on sustainable development, decent work and green jobs was held from 5–9 October 2015. At its 325th Session, the Governing Body took note of the *Guidelines for a just transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all*, and requested the Director-General to use those Guidelines as a basis for activities and outreach.

10. In light of the further work that is required to develop these nine possible subjects for inclusion in future sessions of the Conference, and the need to take into account the outcome of the 2016 session of the Conference, notably with regard to the cycle of recurrent discussions, the Office proposes delaying their consideration by the Governing Body until its 328th Session (November 2016), when the Office will submit fuller proposals.

Updated procedural roadmap for the setting of the Conference agenda

11. The procedural roadmap for a coherent and strategic approach to the setting of the Conference agenda from 2017 to 2019, presented in March 2015, aims to bring clarity to the agenda-setting process and, on that basis, to build effective tripartite engagement. An important aspect of this approach is that constituents continue to put forward proposals for future Conference agenda items.¹⁷

12. The updated proposal for the procedural roadmap is as follows:

- 328th Session (November 2016): The Governing Body would continue the process of setting the agenda for the 2018 and 2019 sessions of the Conference and, in that context, would assess the implications of: (i) the outcomes of the evaluation by the Conference in 2016 of the impact of the Social Justice Declaration and of the general discussion on decent work in global supply chains; and (ii) progress in the implementation of the seven centenary initiatives, including the first stage of the implementation of the future of work initiative. It would also address the issue of coordination between the setting of the Conference agenda for 2018 and 2019 and the new Strategic Plan 2018–21, which will also be examined by the Governing Body in November 2016, together with a preview of the Programme and Budget proposals for 2018–19. Finally, it would provide guidance on the other subjects under consideration for inclusion in future sessions of the Conference, beyond the centenary session, including the possibility of a continuation of the strategic and coherent approach to the setting of the agenda aligned with the Strategic Plan 2018–21.

¹⁶ Australia, Canada, France, Germany, Japan, Spain, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States.

¹⁷ GB.323/INS/2, para. 32.

- 329th Session (March 2017): The Governing Body would complete the agenda for the 2018 session of the Conference and continue to consider the agenda of the 2019 centenary session, including possible completion of the first stage of implementation of the future of work initiative and the launching of the second stage; coordination will be ensured with the Director-General's Programme and Budget proposals for 2018–19.
- 331st Session (November 2017): The Governing Body would assess the implications for the setting of the Conference agenda of: (i) the outcome of the discussions at the 106th Session (2017) of the Conference, including the second recurrent discussion on fundamental principles and rights at work; and (ii) progress in the implementation of the centenary initiatives, with particular regard to the future of work initiative. The agenda of the 2019 centenary session would be the main focus of attention.
- 332nd Session (March 2018): The Governing Body would continue to provide guidance on the agenda of the 2019 centenary session of the Conference, as well as on the following sessions within the possible second stage of the strategic and coherent approach to standard setting, so as to ensure adequate follow-up.

Draft decision

13. The Governing Body is invited to:

- (a) request the Director-General to report to its 328th Session (November 2016) on the nine subjects that are under consideration for inclusion in future sessions of the Conference, and on any other new proposals; and to*
- (b) provide guidance on the implementation of the strategic and coherent approach to the setting of the Conference agenda for the 107th (2018) and 108th (2019) Sessions of the Conference.*

Appendix I

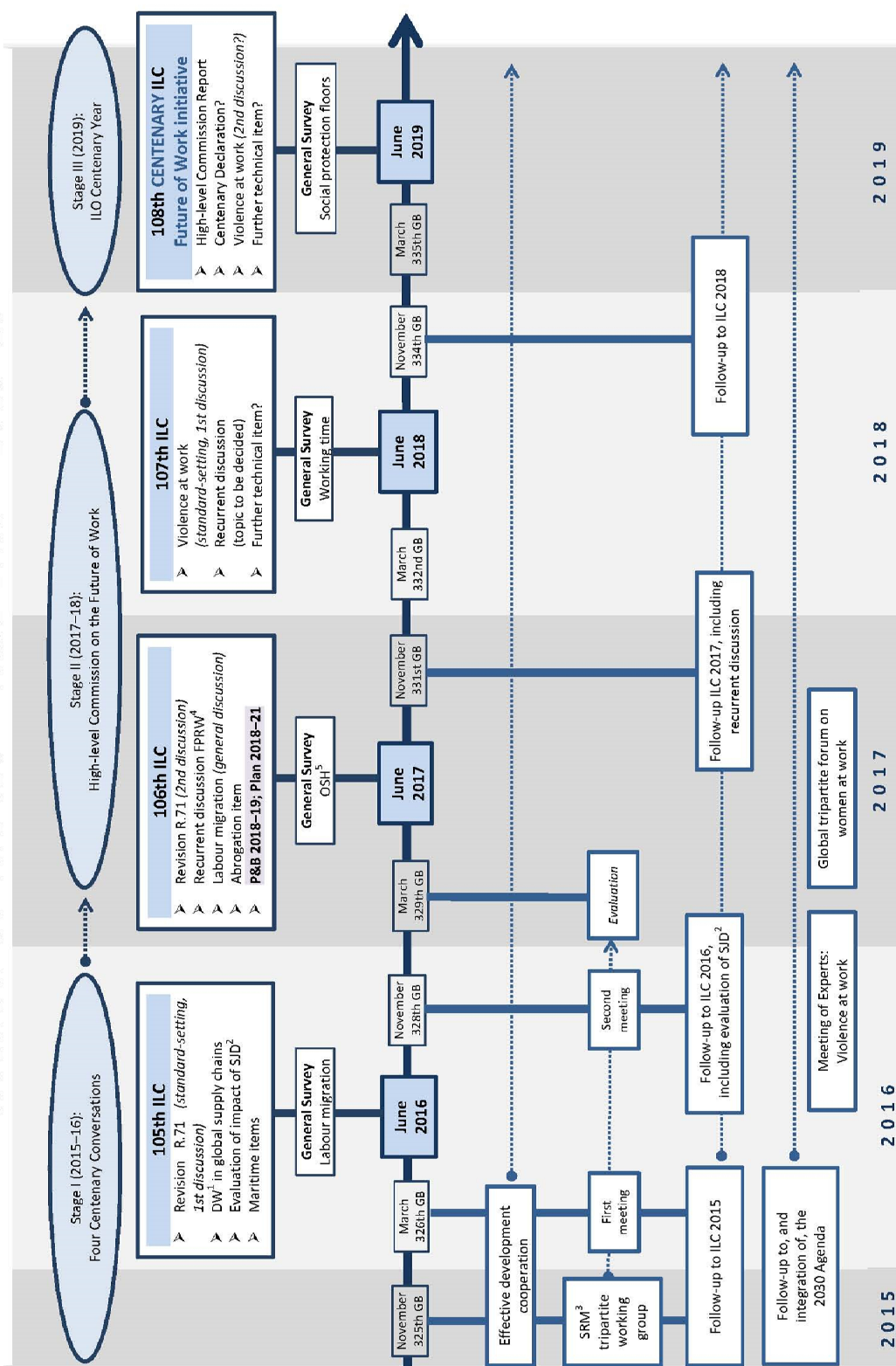
Overview of the technical items selected for the Conference agenda (2010–19)

Session	Technical items			
99th (2010)	Decent work for domestic workers – standard setting, double discussion (first discussion).	Elaboration of an autonomous Recommendation on HIV/AIDS in the world of work – standard setting, double discussion (second discussion).	A recurrent discussion on the strategic objective of employment, under the follow-up to the Social Justice Declaration.	Review of the follow-up to the 1998 Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work.
100th (2011)	Decent work for domestic workers – standard setting, double discussion (second discussion).	Labour administration and labour inspection – general discussion.	A recurrent discussion on the strategic objective of social protection (social security), under the follow-up to the Social Justice Declaration.	
101st (2012)	Elaboration of an autonomous Recommendation on the Social Protection Floor – standard setting, single discussion.	Youth employment crisis – general discussion.	A recurrent discussion on the strategic objective of fundamental principles and rights at work, under the follow-up to the Social Justice Declaration and the follow-up (revised, June 2010) to the 1998 Declaration.	
102nd (2013)	Employment and social protection in the new demographic context – general discussion.	Sustainable development, decent work and green jobs – general discussion.	A recurrent discussion on the strategic objective of social dialogue, under the follow-up to the Social Justice Declaration.	Further review of remaining measures previously adopted by the Conference under article 33 of the ILO Constitution to secure compliance by Myanmar with recommendations of the Commission of Inquiry on forced labour.
103rd (2014)	Supplementing the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29), to address implementation gaps to advance prevention, protection and compensation measures, to effectively achieve the elimination of forced labour – standard setting, single discussion.	Facilitating transitions from the informal to the formal economy – standard setting, double discussion (first discussion).	Second recurrent discussion on the strategic objective of employment, under the follow-up to the Social Justice Declaration.	Approval of amendments to the Code of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as adopted by the Special Tripartite Committee established under Article XIII of the Convention.

104th (2015)	The transition from the informal to the formal economy – standard setting, double discussion (second discussion).	Small and medium-sized enterprises and decent and productive employment creation – general discussion.	A recurrent discussion on the strategic objective of social protection (labour protection), under the follow-up to the Social Justice Declaration.
105th (2016)	Decent work for peace, security and disaster resilience: Revision of Employment (Transition from War to Peace) Recommendation, 1944 (No. 71) – standard setting, double discussion (first discussion).	Decent work in global supply chains – general discussion.	Evaluation of the impact of the Social Justice Declaration. Approval of amendments to the annexes to the Seafarers' Identity Documents Convention (Revised), 2003 (No. 185); and to the Code of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, as adopted by the Special Tripartite Committee.
106th (2017)	Decent work for peace, security and disaster resilience: Revision of Recommendation No. 71 – standard setting, double discussion (second discussion).	A recurrent discussion on the strategic objective of fundamental principles and rights at work, under the follow-up to the Social Justice Declaration.	Abrogation of Conventions Nos 4, 15, 28, 41, 60 and 67.
2018 (To be completed)	Violence against men and women in the world of work – standard setting, double discussion (first discussion).	A recurrent discussion on a topic to be determined.	Labour Migration (general discussion).
2019 (To be completed)			

Appendix II

AGENDA OF THE ILC – TIME LINE – 2015–19

¹ Decent Work² Social Justice Declaration³ Standards Review Mechanism⁴ Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work⁵ Occupational Safety and Health

