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Institutional Section

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THIRTEENTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Report of the Director-General

First Supplementary Report: Follow-up to the ILO Centenary Initiatives

Purpose of the document

The document provides the annual report on progress with respect to implementation of the Centenary Initiatives presented in the Director-General's Report to the 102nd Session (2013) of the International Labour Conference, in accordance with the decision taken by the Governing Body at its 319th Session (October 2013). See draft decision in paragraph 26.

Relevant strategic objective: All.

Policy implications: Related to the follow-up to the Women at Work Initiative.

Legal implications: None.

Financial implications: None.

Follow-up action required: Implementation of the Initiatives in the light of the guidance provided by the Governing Body.

Author unit: Office of the Director-General (CABINET).

Related documents: ILC.102/DG/IA: *Towards the ILO centenary: Realities, renewal and tripartite commitment*; ILC.104/DG/I: *The future of work centenary initiative*; ILC.105/DG/IB: *The End to Poverty Initiative: The ILO and the 2030 Agenda*; ILC.106/DG/I: *Work in a changing climate: The Green Initiative*; ILC/107/DG/IB: *The Women at Work Initiative: The push for equality*; GB.319/INS/3/1; GB.322/INS/2; GB.322/INS/13/2; GB.325/INS/15/2; GB.328/INS/17/1; GB.329/INS/6; GB.329/INS/21/1; GB.331/INS/17; GB.334/INS/2/1; GB.334/INS/2/2; GB.334/INS/3/1; GB.334/INS/5; GB.334/LILS/3; GB.334/WP/GBC/2; GB.334/WP/GBC/3.

Introduction

1. At each of its October–November sessions since 2013, the Governing Body has discussed the seven Centenary Initiatives proposed by the Director-General in his Report to the 102nd Session (2013) of the International Labour Conference.¹ The Governing Body has provided suggestions on the substance of the Initiatives and has emphasized the importance of their effective implementation. It has drawn attention to the close interlinkages between the different Initiatives and the need to continue to ensure their full integration into the ILO's programming instruments.
2. The Governing Body has requested the Director-General to continue providing annual progress reports and this document covers all seven Initiatives, with a principal focus on those not covered under other agenda items. More detailed information on all seven Initiatives can be accessed through the ILO's dedicated Centenary Initiatives web pages.²

The Governance Initiative

3. The Governance Initiative involves the examination of the functioning of the ILO's governance structures to ensure that they are fit for purpose for its second century. Following earlier decisions with respect to structural reforms of the Governing Body and the Conference, in October–November 2018 the Working Party on the Functioning of the Governing Body and the International Labour Conference will continue the comprehensive review of the Standing Orders of the Conference and the Introductory Note to the *Rules for Regional Meetings*.³ Furthermore, the Governing Body will discuss both the agenda of the 108th Session (June 2019) of the Conference, and the setting of the agenda of Conference sessions from 2020 onwards on the basis of the strategic and coherent approach adopted at its 322nd Session.⁴
4. The Governance Initiative also incorporates the follow-up to the evaluation of the impact of the 2008 ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization undertaken at the 105th Session (2016) of the International Labour Conference. In line with decisions taken by the Governing Body in that regard, the Office has been implementing its programme of work and other action points to give effect to the resolution on Advancing Social Justice through Decent Work adopted by the Conference in 2016. Follow-up discussions by the Governing Body are scheduled to be held at its 335th Session (March 2019) on a strategy for developing the institutional capacity of constituents, and at its 337th Session (October–November 2019) for a mid-term review and report on progress in order to adjust the programme of work in the light of lessons learned and the outcomes of the 108th Session (2019) of the International Labour Conference.

¹ ILO: *Towards the ILO centenary: Realities, renewal and tripartite commitment*, Report of the Director-General, International Labour Conference, 102nd Session, Geneva, 2013.

² <http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/history/centenary/lang--en/index.htm>.

³ GB.334/WP/GBC/2 and GB.334/WP/GBC/3.

⁴ GB.334/INS/2/1 and GB.334/INS/2/2.

The Standards Initiative

5. The objective of the Standards Initiative is to consolidate tripartite consensus on an authoritative standards supervisory mechanism and to enhance the relevance of international labour standards. The Initiative will be the subject of discussion under two agenda items at the 334th Session of the Governing Body.⁵

The Enterprises Initiative

6. The Enterprises Initiative aims to realize fully the potential for ILO engagement with enterprises so as to contribute to achieving the Organization's goals, including the promotion of sustainable enterprises. In line with the decision of the Governing Body following its review of the Enterprises Initiative at its 329th Session (March 2017), the Office has continued to implement its three main strategic components: enterprise and supply chain policies and practices; international initiatives on enterprise behaviour; and knowledge building and outreach. The Governing Body will receive a full progress report on the Enterprises Initiative at its 335th Session (March 2019).
7. The ILO has continued engaging at headquarters and in the field with enterprises of all sizes. This has included the existing ILO business networks on disability, social protection floors and child labour, as well as the new Global Business Network on Forced Labour and Human Trafficking that was launched in June 2018. The ILO is also a partner in the Global Apprenticeship Network. A variety of ILO programmes engaging with the private sector are ongoing, including the Better Work Programme in the apparel sector, the Vision Zero Fund on occupational safety and health, the Start and Improve Your Business (SIYB) programme on business development, the Sustaining Competitive and Responsible Enterprises (SCORE) programme on productivity and the Social Finance Programme on access to finance, in addition to the activities of the ILO Cooperatives Unit to promote cooperatives. The ILO is working jointly with the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) to promote corporate social responsibility in six countries in Asia and will be extending that cooperation to nine countries in Latin America. In the field of social finance, the ILO is currently collaborating with financial institutions to test new approaches that enable the financial sector to contribute to the Decent Work Agenda. In addition, the Office has been implementing the programme of action on decent work in global supply chains adopted by the Governing Body at its 328th Session (October–November 2016), which involves all ILO policy departments.

The End to Poverty Initiative

8. The End to Poverty Initiative is the ILO's vehicle for contributing to the implementation of the United Nations (UN) 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda). It was the subject of the Director-General's Report to the 105th Session (2016) of the Conference, at which delegates expressed strong support for the Initiative. The 2030 Agenda was a key reference point for the ILO Strategic Plan for 2018–21 and the Programme and Budget for 2018–19, and should constitute a central element of the Programme and Budget for 2020–21.
9. The ILO has continued to engage in a combination of national and global activities under this Initiative. A Decent Work for Sustainable Development (DW4SD) Resource Platform was launched in May 2018 in four languages (English, French, Russian and Spanish).

⁵ GB.334/INS/5 and GB.334/LILS/3.

Conferences have been held with tripartite constituents in various countries to help prepare inputs to national strategies for sustainable development. Building on technical and communication material prepared earlier, a number of notes on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were added to the SDGs Notes Series, on thematic areas such as skills for employment, engaging the private sector on decent work and international labour standards. Further technical assistance has been provided to help countries to submit relevant data for the monitoring of SDG indicators. As part of the common approach of the UN Development Group to support implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the country level (the Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support (MAPS) strategy), the ILO has participated in interagency missions to Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Gambia, Mali, Sudan and Ukraine.

10. At the global level, the ILO has further developed its participation in several partnerships to further the 2030 Agenda, including: Alliance 8.7 to eradicate forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking and child labour, which now includes some 200 formally signed-up partners; the Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth, which has launched an engagement platform for its 43 partners and is focusing on action and impact at the country level, initially in West Africa; the Global Partnership for Universal Social Protection, which brings together more than 17 UN agencies Delivering as One UN in many countries, and has established a social protection window in the new UN Joint Policy Fund to Advance the 2030 Agenda through Integrated Policy; the High-level Commission on Health Employment and Economic Growth, which has set up a Working for Health programme and a Multi-Partner Trust Fund; the Equal Pay International Coalition (EPIC), referred to in more detail below; and the Global Deal which, among other activities, published a flagship report entitled *Building Trust in a Changing World of Work*. In July 2018, the ILO participated in a large number of events at the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development's annual review of progress towards the SDGs, held under the auspices of the UN Economic and Social Council. In 2018, the theme was "Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies", with a particular focus on Goal 6 (water and sanitation for all), Goal 7 (energy for all), Goal 11 (sustainable cities), Goal 12 (sustainable consumption and production patterns), Goal 15 (ecosystems, forests and combating desertification, land degradation and biodiversity loss) and, as is the case every year, Goal 17 (means of implementation).
11. The general discussion at the 107th Session (2018) of the International Labour Conference on effective ILO development cooperation in support of the SDGs underscored the interlinkages between decent work and the 2030 Agenda and also the need for capacity building and the involvement of constituents. Accordingly, in the coming months, the ILO intends to further intensify and carry forward its efforts in respect of effective ILO development cooperation in support of the SDGs, in the light of the guidance to be provided by the Governing Body on implementation of the Conference conclusions on that subject.⁶ At the time of writing, these efforts are expected to include a presentation of advances in respect of Tier III SDG indicators (those for which methodology and standards are being developed) to the 20th International Conference of Labour Statisticians (10–19 October 2018), building on the work and tripartite discussions carried out on indicator 8.b.1 on youth employment, indicator 8.8.2 on labour rights and indicator 10.7.1 on recruitment costs for migrant workers. A statistical methodological manual on Tier I and Tier II SDG indicators (those for which internationally established methodology and standards are already available) under the ILO's custodianship is to be launched during that Conference. National consultations and capacity building have taken place in several

⁶ GB.334/INS/3/1.

countries on reporting for SDG indicators and on linkages with national repositories of data.

The Green Initiative

12. The Green Initiative aims to give practical application to the decent work dimension of achieving a “just transition” to a low-carbon, sustainable development path and to facilitate the tripartite contribution to it, in the context of the Paris Agreement on Climate Change adopted in 2015. The Initiative was the subject of the Director-General’s Report to the 106th Session (2017) of the Conference, during which delegates expressed strong support for it. Since the Governing Body’s discussion on the Initiative at its 331st Session (October–November 2017), the ILO has strengthened its role as a reference on the connections between climate change, decent work and a just transition for all, helping to shape the global agenda while according due attention to regional priorities. In November 2017, the ILO worked closely with Fiji, which held the presidency of the 23rd Session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 23) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), in order to deliver technical advice and promote tripartite dialogue for integrating decent work dimensions into climate change policies. In December 2017, the ILO and the UNFCCC secretariat jointly convened the first Global Forum on Just Transition, hosted at the ILO headquarters, bringing together tripartite representatives from over 30 countries and leading policy research institutions to review lessons learned from national experiences, research and technical cooperation programmes. In addition, the ILO provided technical advice for a high-level informal dialogue convened at the 107th Session (2018) of the International Labour Conference by Fiji with representatives of Pacific countries, Australia and New Zealand, as well as Poland, which will hold the presidency of COP 24, to prepare for COP 24 in December 2018.
13. Policy advice to support national implementation of the 2015 ILO *Guidelines for a just transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all* has continued, with a focus on the countries most vulnerable to environmental change and facing significant decent work deficits. In June 2018, the ILO formally joined the NDC Partnership, a network of organizations engaged in supporting the implementation of nationally determined contributions under the Paris Agreement on climate change. The ILO’s annual flagship report *World Employment and Social Outlook for 2018* took “*Greening with jobs*” as its theme. It provided new evidence on the potential to achieve net job gains in the transition towards low-carbon, resource-efficient economies and illustrated important policy innovations in the areas of social protection and skills for green jobs.
14. The decision of the Governing Body to include a just transition to environmental sustainability as a new cross-cutting policy driver in the Programme and Budget for 2018–19 contributed to the further mainstreaming of environmental considerations in ILO programmes and projects, and virtually all ILO policy outcomes now include specific outputs on a just transition to environmental sustainability. Capacity-building activities for constituents and staff continue to expand in response to the growing demand for practical tools and approaches, and a new training programme on energy transition was introduced at the International Training Centre of the ILO in 2018, complementing existing training courses on waste management and recycling, green buildings and a just transition to environmental sustainability. Within the UN system, the ILO has participated actively in the formulation of a UN common framework on environmental and social sustainability.
15. Over the coming year, the ILO will continue to provide national policy advice, tools and technical knowledge to expand and scale up the national-level application of the just transition framework. It will contribute to the research and analytical capacity of ILO

member States, making use of a new training guidebook entitled: *How to measure and model social and employment outcomes of climate and sustainable development policies*; highlight the labour and social dimensions of the growing global and national efforts to achieve a circular, resource-efficient economy; and deepen strategic partnerships with UN agencies and lead initiatives to give prominence to issues of decent work and just transition in common UN approaches in support of the Paris Agreement, including under the Partnership for Action on Green Economy (PAGE) with four other UN agencies and programmes.

The Women at Work Initiative

16. The purpose of the Women at Work Initiative is to identify the continuing obstacles to the achievement of gender equality at work and the effective and innovative action required to overcome them. Tripartite constituents were engaged directly in the discussions at the World of Work Summit held during the 106th Session (2017) of the International Labour Conference, and in the discussions on the Director-General's Report to the 107th Session (2018) of the Conference entitled: *The Women at Work Initiative: The push for equality*. The Report set out five building blocks for action and proposed that the ILO mark the beginning of the second century of the Organization with the adoption of a new push for equality. The Report was the subject of 205 statements in plenary by Conference delegates, who acknowledged that a "business as usual" approach would not be enough to achieve gender equality, and generally supported the five building blocks proposed. Many reported on their national experiences in relation to one or several of the building blocks, emphasizing that the blocks were interrelated and should be addressed in an integrated manner. There was a call for commitment and concrete actions.
17. During the period up to and since the 2018 Conference discussion, the ILO has maintained its activities under the Women at Work Initiative, including its Women in Business and Management programme, most recently with publications from Honduras, India and Panama. These reports will feed into a forthcoming global report on women in business and management. A manual on collective bargaining and the promotion of gender equality is being finalized. The views and experiences of constituents were the focus of an ILO Regional Conference on Women and the Future of Work in Asia and the Pacific, held in Bangkok in early 2018 and co-hosted by the Government of Australia.
18. The ILO report: *Care work and care jobs for the future of decent work*, published in June 2018 and grounded in extensive data and research, highlights the nature and extent of unpaid and paid care work and the relationship between them, and sets out a framework for a high road to care work. Two training manuals, on women migrant domestic workers and women refugees, are being finalized for use at the country level, initially in Jordan and Lebanon. With a view to accelerating action on equal pay, the Equal Pay International Coalition (EPIC), a multi-stakeholder coalition, was globally launched in September 2017 in partnership with the OECD and UN Women. Regional launches were undertaken in Latin America and in Asia and the Pacific, and the EPIC Steering Committee held its first meeting in Geneva in May 2018, where it agreed upon its terms of reference, criteria for engagement, and a workplan. A high-level pledging event for EPIC is scheduled for September 2018 in New York, to coincide with the opening of the 73rd session of the UN General Assembly. With a view to deepening the knowledge base on equal pay, the ILO *Global Wage Report 2018/19* will focus on gender wage and earnings inequalities.
19. Country- and regional-level activities have been undertaken to address the issues of care, equal pay and violence and harassment, as well as the interactions between them, including in Latin America, Cambodia, Côte d'Ivoire and Jordan. Further country-level activities are being planned to continue to address the structural barriers to gender equality in the world

of work. ILO constituents held a first discussion on violence and harassment in the world of work at the 107th Session of the International Labour Conference, which is a subject with a strong gender dimension. A second discussion, with a view to the adoption of a Convention supplemented by a Recommendation, will take place at the 108th Session (2019) of the Conference.

20. The ILO will release a further report in 2019 on the future of women at work, based on the data collated regarding the quantity and quality of women's jobs, income inequality, care, violence and representation. The report will refine the guiding principles, thematic components and related actions and timelines of the new push for equality.

The Future of Work Initiative

21. The Future of Work Initiative is centred on an in-depth examination of the future of work in order to provide the analytical basis for the delivery of the ILO's social justice mandate in its second century. Building on the first stage of implementation of the Initiative, when some 110 countries organized tripartite national dialogues on the subject, the Governing Body, at its 329th Session (March 2017), authorized the Director-General to constitute the Global Commission on the Future of Work, to be composed of eminent individuals with outstanding personal achievements and vision, participating in their individual capacity. The 28-member Global Commission was duly established in August 2017 and has since held three meetings, with the fourth and last meeting scheduled to take place in mid-November 2018.
22. At its meetings, the Global Commission has considered many aspects of the future of work. The meetings have been complemented by a series of policy dialogues organized by the ILO with experts, institutes and agencies to explore in greater depth specific issues considered important by the Commission. These dialogues were on the themes of "Lifelong learning: Who pays, who delivers?" (12 April 2018); "The future of work in the rural economy" (16 April 2018); "Leveraging big data, algorithms, artificial intelligence, blockchain and other digital technologies for decent work and sustainable enterprises" (27 April 2018); "Beyond GDP: The measurement and value of work and well-being" (10 May 2018); and "Inclusive growth and development: Aligning practices in the private sector with the 2030 Agenda" (14 May 2018). The ILO has sought interaction with other international organizations working on the future of work, and held information sessions with ILO member States during the 332nd Session (March 2018) of the Governing Body and the 107th Session (2018) of the International Labour Conference.
23. The report of the Global Commission will be launched on 22 January 2019. It will be concise, strategic and action-oriented in nature. Member States are encouraged to organize events following its publication, to allow for the full tripartite examination and discussion of its content at the national level, in preparation for their participation in the 108th Session (2019) of the International Labour Conference. Depending on national circumstances, these events may perhaps be combined with events to mark and celebrate the shared history and achievements of each member State's involvement with the ILO.
24. The 108th Session (2019) of the International Labour Conference will be the high point of the centenary year. The Governing Body has decided that the Conference should be given over in large part to consideration of the future of work and to other aspects of the Centenary. The Conference will receive the report of the Global Commission and is expected to adopt an important outcome document on the future of work, as the key output

of the Future of Work Initiative. The organization of the discussions at the Conference is the subject of a separate discussion at the 334th Session of the Governing Body.⁷

Conclusion

25. At its 319th Session (October 2013), the Governing Body endorsed the implementation of the Centenary Initiatives with a view to assisting the ILO in arriving at its Centenary with a strong identity, clear strategic direction and messages and tools appropriate to the conjuncture. Since then, activities have taken place in the range of areas detailed above and in previous reports to the Governing Body. The Initiatives have been integrated into the ILO's programming instruments. In the light of the decisions that will be taken by the International Labour Conference at its 108th Session (2019), it would seem appropriate to incorporate their subsequent follow-up into the Programme and Budget for the 2020–21 Biennium, and to thus conclude the process of providing annual reports on their implementation.

Draft decision

26. *The Governing Body requested the Director-General:*

- (i) to take account of its guidance with regard to the Centenary Initiatives, and to facilitate the strong involvement of constituents in their implementation; and*
- (ii) to incorporate the continued implementation of the Centenary Initiatives into the follow-up to the 108th Session (2019) of the International Labour Conference.*

⁷ GB.334/INS/2/2.