INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE

Governing Body

334th Session, Geneva, 25 October-8 November 2018



GB.334/INS/13/2

Institutional Section INS

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THIRTEENTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Report of the Director-General

Second Supplementary Report:
Composition of the Governing Body –
Update on the status of ratification of the
1986 Instrument for the Amendment of the
Constitution of the ILO

Purpose of the document

In the present document, the Governing Body is provided with an update on the status of ratification of the 1986 Instrument for the Amendment of the Constitution of the ILO and an overview of the action taken to promote further ratification since the last report to the Governing Body in March 2018 (see draft decision in paragraph 6).

Relevant strategic objective: All.

Main relevant outcome/cross-cutting policy driver: Enabling outcome B: Effective and efficient governance of the Organization.

Policy implications: None.

Legal implications: No immediate implications.

Financial implications: No immediate implications.

Follow-up action required: None.

Author unit: Office of the Legal Adviser (JUR).

Related documents: GB.332/INS/PV; GB.332/INS/12; GB.332/WP/GBC/1; GB.331/PV; GB.331/INS/17; GB.331/WP/GBC/1; GB.329/PV; GB.329/INS/18; GB.329/WP/GBC/1.

Introduction

- 1. At its 332nd Session (March 2018), the Governing Body continued discussing the question of the composition of the Governing Body a matter of long-standing concern in particular since the category "Members of chief industrial importance", referred to in article 7, paragraph 2, of the ILO Constitution, does not include Members from all geographical regions. The Governing Body requested the Director-General to continue promotional efforts for the ratification of the 1986 Instrument for the Amendment of the Constitution of the ILO (the 1986 Amendment), to organize promotional campaigns on the sidelines of Regional Meetings and to report at future Governing Body sessions on the results obtained and the feedback from Members on the reasons that prevented or delayed ratification. ¹
- 2. Since the last report to the Governing Body in March 2018, no new ratifications or acceptances have been registered. As at 4 September 2018, the number of ratifications thus stands at 108, which include two from Members of chief industrial importance (India and Italy). A further 17 ratifications or acceptances, including at least three from Members of chief industrial importance (from among Brazil, China, France, Germany, Japan, Russian Federation, United Kingdom and United States), are required for the 1986 Amendment to enter into force.
- **3.** The Office has received two further replies from governments to the Director-General's letter of 7 December 2017 inviting them to provide information regarding the reasons which prevent or delay the ratification of the 1986 Amendment. This brings the total number of replies to 27, which represents 33 per cent of the governments to whom letters had been sent.
- **4.** One government (Georgia) informed that it will consider ratification as soon as possible while another government (Islamic Republic of Iran) indicated that it had already initiated national level dialogue and consultations with the participation of social partners.
- **5.** Since the last report to the Governing Body in March 2018, the Office has continued its promotional activities for the ratification of the 1986 Amendment. It has replied to queries from constituents and continued to maintain the dedicated website. ² The Office has reminded the regional and country offices of the need to seize every opportunity to promote further ratification. In addition, it has displayed and distributed promotional materials and showed a media presentation at the 107th Session (2018) of the International Labour Conference and the 19th American Regional Meeting in October 2018. Moreover, the Director-General raises regularly this matter in his bilateral discussions where relevant.

Draft decision

6. The Governing Body requested the Director-General to continue promotional efforts for the ratification of the 1986 Instrument for the Amendment of the Constitution of the ILO and to report at future Governing Body sessions on the results obtained and the feedback from Members on the reasons that prevented or delayed ratification.

¹ GB.332/INS/PV, para. 294; GB.332/INS/12, para. 7.

² Questions and answers about the 1986 Instrument of Amendment to the ILO Constitution.