
Appendix IX

Consultation by correspondence on the agenda of the 109th Session of the International Labour Conference (2021)

1. *Extracts from the communication sent to Governing Body members on 15 October 2020 for decision-making by correspondence on several topics*

Dear members of the Governing Body,

The tripartite Screening Group has recommended to submit for your consideration by correspondence the following proposals:

- Election of Mr Apurva Chandra (Secretary of Labour in the Ministry of Labour of India) as Chairperson of the Governing Body for the remainder of the current term, following the recent retirement of his predecessor Mr Heeralal Samariya who had been elected by correspondence on 31 July 2020. Mr Chandra's nomination by the Asia and the Pacific Group has been endorsed by the Government Group.
- Draft decisions concerning items GB.340/INS/7(Rev.1) (Mid-term report on the implementation of the ILO Action Plan for Gender Equality 2018-21), GB.340/INS/8(Rev.1) (Report of the 14th African Regional Meeting), GB.340/PFA/8(Rev.1) (Report of the Independent Oversight Advisory Committee) and GB.340/PFA/9(Rev.1) (Report of the Chief Internal Auditor for the year ended 31 December 2019) on the agenda of the 340th Session of the Governing Body.¹
- Agenda of the 109th Session of the Conference (June 2021).

The proposed draft decisions are contained in the table below.

In accordance with the special procedures for consultations by correspondence just approved (paragraphs 27 to 30 of the appendix to [GB.340/INS/1](#)), all Governing Body members are hereby invited to express their views on these six draft decisions. **To be accounted for, responses must be received by midnight (Geneva time) on Wednesday, 21 October 2020.** The absence of a response to a draft decision shall be considered support for the decision. Comments not exceeding 700 words may be submitted in respect of each draft decision in English, French or Spanish.

If there is no obstacle to consensus, the decisions made will be announced to all Governing Body members, and published on the website of the Governing Body together with any comment or explanation in the language of submission. Those comments will be included subsequently in summary form in the minutes of the session.

Should consensus not be reached on any of these six decisions, the Officers, after consulting the tripartite Screening Group, will determine whether the draft decision should be referred to the Governing Body or submitted to a majority vote of the regular members only, also by correspondence.

Yours sincerely,

The Secretariat of the Governing Body

¹ The texts of these four draft decisions are not reproduced in this appendix as they will be included in the Minutes of the 340th Session.

6. Draft decision concerning the agenda of the 109th Session of the International Labour Conference (June 2021)

Recalling its decision of 3 April 2020 to defer to 2021 the 109th Session of the International Labour Conference, the Governing Body:

(a) decided by correspondence to approve the following adjustments to the agenda of the 109th Session of the International Labour Conference (2021):

- (i) under item I (Reports of the Chairperson of the Governing Body and of the Director-General), the Conference will consider: the Director-General's programme implementation report for 2018–19, the report of the Director-General (devoted to the impact of the COVID-19 crisis), the reports concerning the situation of workers of the occupied Arab territories for 2019 and for 2020, and the report of the Chairpersons of the Governing Body covering the 2019–20 and 2020–21 periods of office;*
- (ii) under item II (Programme and Budget and other questions), the Conference will consider: the draft programme and budget for 2022–23, the audited and consolidated financial statements for 2019 and for 2020; and other administrative matters, including the composition of the Administrative Tribunal of the ILO and of the ILO Staff Pension Committee;*
- (iii) under item III (Information and reports on the application of Conventions and Recommendations), the reports as specified in its earlier decision of 10 June 2020;*
- (iv) under items IV (a general discussion on Inequalities and the world of work), V (a recurrent discussion on the strategic objective of social protection - social security-, under the follow-up to the ILO Declaration on social Justice for a Fair Globalization) and VI (a general discussion on Skills and lifelong learning), the reports will be updated to reflect the developments emerging from the COVID-19 crisis and its impact on the world of work; and*
- (v) under item VII, the Conference will consider the withdrawal of the Fee-Charging Employment Agencies Convention, 1933 (No. 34) in addition to the abrogation of eight international labour Conventions and withdrawal of nine international labour Conventions and 11 international labour Recommendations.*

(b) requested the Office to prepare proposals on arrangements for the 109th Session of the Conference (June 2021), including a programme of work for the Plenary and committees, for consideration at its 341st Session (March 2021).

Agree

Do not agree but without blocking consensus

Do not agree and block consensus

2. Comments received from Governing Body members

**Group of industrialized
market economy
countries (IMEC)**

IMEC welcomes the recognition by all constituents that the 2021 session of the ILC should take into account the COVID-19 crisis, and we look forward to productive discussions in the High-Level Section on COVID-19 and the World of Work. In our view, the ILO, with its unique tripartite membership and mandate, has a responsibility to provide leadership in the recovery from a pandemic that is having such a significant impact on the world of work.

To that end, IMEC considers it extremely important for the Conference to adopt at its 2021 session a document that sets out practical, concrete measures, policies and actions that constituents, the Office, and the international community can draw on to promote recovery and decent work. We encourage the Office to include proposals for achieving such an outcome when we consider the plans for the ILC in March, and we look forward to working closely with our tripartite colleagues between now and then to consider how to achieve that outcome, for example in intersessional consultations. We trust the ILC next year will reach an outcome that will serve all constituents and fulfil the ILO's important mandate.

**United Kingdom
Regular Government
member**

The United Kingdom supports the IMEC statement on this point. The United Kingdom strongly supports the adoption of an outcome document at the 109th Session of the ILC, given the ILO's unique mandate in relation to social and employment issues. We would like to thank the Office for preparing the paper for the High-Level Section, in which it proposes an ILO COVID-19 initiative. We believe it important to hold intersessional consultations between the 340th (November 2020) and the 341st (March 2021) sessions of the Governing Body to prepare recommendations on how, in practice, an outcome on this important initiative can be achieved at the 2021 session of the ILC.
