



FOR DECISION

SIXTEENTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

**Composition and agenda of standing
bodies and meetings**

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Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations

New appointment

1. *In order to fill one of the five current vacant seats, the Officers of the Governing Body recommend that the Governing Body appoint the following person as a member of the Committee for a period of three years:*
 - *Mr Vitit Muntarbhorn (Thailand): Professor of Law of the Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok.*

A short biography of Mr Vitit Muntarbhorn is reproduced in the appendix.

International Symposium: Celebration of the 60th Anniversary of Convention No. 98 – the Right to Organize and Bargain Collectively in the 21st Century (Geneva, 12–15 October 2009)

2. The Programme and Budget for 2008–09 includes a provision for a workers' international symposium on "The Celebration of the 60th Anniversary of Convention No. 98 – the Right to Organize and Bargain Collectively in the 21st Century". This Symposium is due to be held in Geneva from 12 to 15 October 2009.

Composition

3. It is proposed that, as foreseen in the Programme and Budget, the Symposium should be attended by 30 trade union representatives, nominated after consultation with the Workers' group of the Governing Body and coming from both industrialized and developing countries in Africa, the Americas, Asia and the Pacific, Europe (including Central and Eastern Europe), and the Arab States.
4. Efforts will be made to ensure that at least 30 per cent of the participants selected are women, in compliance with the Workers' group's policy on gender equality.
5. *The Officers of the Governing Body recommend that the Governing Body approve the above composition formula.*

Agenda

6. The Director-General proposes the following agenda:
 - to examine the recent trends and developments in collective bargaining and the protection of the right to organize;
 - to discuss the relationship between collective bargaining and the social and economic objectives of Decent Work;

- to identify policies and strategies that would strengthen the capacity of trade unions to organize and bargain collectively;
 - to identify ways and means of achieving the universal application of the right to organize and to bargain collectively.
7. The Symposium will contribute towards Immediate Outcome 4b1 by increasing the participation of employers' and workers' organizations in the development of social and labour policy.
8. The outputs of the meeting will be a set of practical recommendations – for the ILO, the governments, the employers, and the trade unions – on the ways and means to strengthen the right to organize and to bargain collectively as a prerequisite for the achievement of Decent Work for All in the global economy.
9. *The Officers of the Governing Body recommend that the Governing Body approve the above agenda.*

Invitation of international non-governmental organizations

10. The Director-General proposes to invite the following international non-governmental organizations to be represented at the Meeting as observers:
- Building and Wood Workers' International (BWI);
 - Education International (EI);
 - European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC);
 - General Confederation of Trade Unions (GCTU);
 - International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions (ICATU);
 - International Federation of Chemical, Energy, Mine and General Workers' Union (ICEM);
 - International Federation of Journalists (IFJ);
 - International Metalworkers' Federation (IMF);
 - International Textile, Garment & Leather Workers' Federation (ITGLWF);
 - International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF);
 - International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers' Association (IUF);
 - Public Services International (PSI);
 - Trade Union Advisory Committee to the OECD (TUAC);
 - Union Network International (UNI);
 - Union Syndicale des Travailleurs du Maghreb (USTMA).

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11. *The Officers of the Governing Body recommend that the Director-General be authorized to invite the above international non-governmental organizations to be represented at the Meeting as observers.*

Workshop to promote ratification of the Private Employment Agencies Convention (No. 181) (Geneva, 20–21 October 2009)

Invitation of intergovernmental organizations

12. The Director-General intends to invite the following international intergovernmental organizations to be represented at the Meeting as observers:
- European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions;
 - International Organization for Migration (IOM);
 - The World Bank.

Invitation of international non-governmental organizations

13. The Director-General proposes to invite the following international non-governmental organizations to be represented at the Meeting as observers:
- International Confederation of Private Employment Agencies (CIETT);
 - World Association of Public Employment Services (WAPES).
14. *The Officers of the Governing Body recommend that the Director-General be authorized to invite the above international non-governmental organizations to be represented at the Meeting as observers.*

Geneva, 18 March 2009.

Points for decision: Paragraph 1;
Paragraph 5;
Paragraph 9;
Paragraph 11;
Paragraph 14.

Appendix

Professor Vitit Muntarbhorn (Thailand)

Vitit Muntarbhorn was born in November 1952.

Mr Muntarbhorn was educated in the United Kingdom obtaining his undergraduate and graduate law degrees from Oxford University. He also holds a degree on European law from the Free University of Brussels. He is currently Professor of law at the Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok, teaching international law, human rights, the law of regional organizations, migration and refugee law, child rights, international humanitarian law and European Union law.

Mr Muntarbhorn is a former lecturer of law at Reading University in the United Kingdom as well as at Thammasat University in Bangkok. He has lectured human rights law at various institutions in Austria, Canada, Denmark, France and Switzerland. He has carried out a number of training activities on human rights, including training for border police, the military, prosecutors and judges. He was awarded the UNESCO Human Rights Education Prize in 2004.

Mr Muntarbhorn has served on many United Nations bodies. He is currently United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. He has also been Special Rapporteur of the UN Commission on Human Rights on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography. He has additionally participated in many international fora on the rights of the child. He has also been a member of the UN Voluntary Fund for Technical Cooperation on Human Rights. He has been an expert and consultant to many UN agencies, including the ILO, UN University, OHCHR, UNHCR, UNDP, FAO, WHO, UNICEF and UNESCO. He was a member of the national committee on Thailand's accession to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

Mr Muntarbhorn has performed a substantial amount of work with non-governmental organizations in the field of human rights as well as with the Red Cross and Red Crescent.

Mr Muntarbhorn is the author of many publications on human rights issues, including women, children and human rights and human development.