



SIXTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

**Sectoral activities 2010–11: Proposals
for activities under the Sectoral
Activities Programme****Meeting of Experts to Adopt a Code of
Practice on Safety and Health in Agriculture**
(Geneva, 23 November–1 December 2009)

1. The Office has prepared a draft code of practice for consideration by the above Meeting, the intended purpose of which was to adopt a code of practice on safety and health in agriculture.¹ Since the text covers a broad range of complex social and technical issues, however, the Office believes, following consultations with the Officers of the Committee, that a more extensive consultation process than originally foreseen would be beneficial. For this reason, it is proposed that the purpose of the Meeting of Experts be amended to allow it to provide guidance to the Office to further develop a text that would fully meet the needs of constituents. This would provide experts with the opportunity to deliberate more fully on the structure, orientation and coverage of the proposed code and to review and discuss all sections of the draft text without the need to reach agreement on the exact wording of the text in the limited time available. The title of the Meeting would accordingly change to “Meeting of Experts to Consider a Draft Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Agriculture”.
2. The output of the Meeting would be a brief summary of the discussions, noting areas of consensus and divergence, and an annotated draft text for distribution to participants following the Meeting. A revised draft text would be circulated to constituents in March 2010 for wider consultation and comments. A smaller Meeting of Experts to adopt a code of practice on safety and health in agriculture would be held from 25 to 29 October 2010.
3. This proposal is put forward on the understanding that the second discussion would not affect decisions already taken in relation to the Programme and Budget for 2010–11 and would not require additional resources.

¹ See GB.298/PV, para. 256.

4. *The Committee may wish to recommend that the Governing Body approve:*

(a) the revised purpose and title of the Meeting of Experts to be held in 2009;

(b) the convening of a Meeting of Experts to Adopt a Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Agriculture, to be held from 25 to 29 October 2010.

Geneva, 6 November 2009.

Point for decision: Paragraph 4.