



Governing Body

312th Session, Geneva, November 2011

GB.312/LILS/7

Legal Issues and International Labour Standards Section
International Labour Standards and Human Rights Segment

LILS

SEVENTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Joint ILO–UNESCO Committee of Experts on the Application of the Recommendations concerning Teaching Personnel (CEART): Interim report on allegations submitted by teachers’ organizations

Overview

Summary

This paper provides an overview of the functioning of the Joint ILO-UNESCO Committee of Experts on the Application of the Recommendations concerning Teaching Personnel (CEART) in relation to allegations concerning non-observance of the provisions of the Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers, 1966, and specifically an ongoing dialogue with the Government and teachers’ organizations of Japan.

Policy implications

None.

Legal implications

None.

Financial implications

None.

Decision required

Paragraph 5.

Follow-up action required

Dispatch of CEART Interim report to the Government and teachers’ organizations of Japan.

Author unit

Sectoral Activities Department (SECTOR).

References to other Governing Body documents and ILO instruments

GB.276/LILS/9, appendix; GB.276/10/2; GB.306/LILS/8(&Corr.); GB.306/10/2(Rev.) GB.307/LILS/6/1; GB.307/10/2(Rev.); the ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers, 1966.

1. The Joint ILO–UNESCO Committee of Experts on the Application of the Recommendations concerning Teaching Personnel (CEART) was established by parallel decisions of the Governing Body and the Executive Board of UNESCO in 1967. Its mandate is to monitor and promote application of the international Recommendations on teachers of 1966 and 1997,¹ and to report thereon to the Governing Body of the ILO and to the Executive Board of UNESCO. As part of its mandate,² the CEART examines communications in the form of allegations from international and national teachers' organizations that provisions of one or both standards are not being applied in member States. It meets every three years in either Paris or Geneva for its work, including consideration of such cases. Its procedures also allow for the preparation of interim reports on cases between the regular meetings so as to ensure a more timely response in the treatment of allegations and their resolution in support of constituents in member States based on principles of social dialogue.
2. The interim report³ before the Governing Body contains the CEART's examination of the case from Japan since the last review of these allegations at its Tenth Session held at UNESCO, in Paris, on 28 September–2 October 2009. The Governing Body examined the relevant parts of the report of the Tenth Session that concerned allegations presented by teachers' organizations at its 306th Session (November 2009).⁴ On the recommendation of the Committee on Legal Issues and International Labour Standards, the Governing Body, at its 307th Session (March 2010)⁵ authorized their transmission to the International Labour Conference at its 99th Session (June 2010) for examination in the first place by the Committee on the Application of Standards. The Conference approved the report of the Committee on the Application of Standards, which commented on and noted the CEART's report.⁶
3. The interim report examines further information and developments in the case concerning Japan that remains under consideration by the CEART since its fact-finding mission to Japan in April 2008 and the review of new developments in 2009. The matters under consideration concern teacher assessment, competence and disciplinary measures and merit assessment, and especially forms of social dialogue, notably consultation and negotiation, used to decide on these questions, matters which are central to policies and practice on education and the teaching profession. The interim report takes account of information supplied by the Government of Japan, Ministry of Education, Sports, Culture, Science and Technology and, through it, the views of prefecture boards of education, by the All Japan Teachers and Staff Union (ZENKYO) and several of its affiliates at prefecture or municipal level, and by the Japan Teachers' Union (JTU).
4. Accordingly, the attached interim report is submitted for consideration to the Governing Body. The report will also be submitted to the Executive Board of UNESCO.

¹ The ILO/UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Teachers, 1966, and the UNESCO Recommendation concerning the Status of Higher-Education Teaching Personnel, 1997.

² GB.276/LILS/9, appendix, and GB.276/10/2, para. 47.

³ CEART/INT/2011/1.

⁴ GB.306/LILS/8(&Corr.) and GB.306/10/2(Rev.), paras 84–89.

⁵ GB.307/PV, para. 222.

⁶ ILO: *Report of the Committee on the Application of Standards, Provisional Record No. 16, Part One*, International Labour Conference, 99th Session, Geneva, 2010, paras 180–195.

5. The Governing Body may wish to:

- (a) take note of the situation and findings set out in the CEART's interim report and the recommendations contained in paragraph 17 therein;**
- (b) authorize the Director-General to communicate the report of the CEART to the Government of Japan, ZENKYO, JTU, and to other representative teachers' organizations in Japan, and to invite them to take the necessary follow-up action as recommended in the report.**

Geneva, 2 September 2011

Point for decision: Paragraph 5