



Governing Body

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THIRTEENTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Report of the Director-General

Addendum

Obituaries

Mr Ali Ibrahim

1. The Director-General announces with deep regret the death, on 1 May 2018, of Mr Ali Ibrahim, former member of the ILO Governing Body and Director of the ILO Area Office for Eastern Africa.
2. Mr Ali Ibrahim began his career in 1963, working for the Ministry of Justice of Somalia, as a Registrar at the Regional High Court in Hargeisa. He continued working in the Somali Government for several years, as Executive Assistant to the Cabinet of the Ministry of Justice and Religious Affairs in 1965, and Head of the Trade Unions Division in the Ministry of Justice and Labour in 1970. In addition, he served as Assistant Secretary-General of the Confederation of Somali Trade Unions between 1966 and 1969.
3. In 1968, Mr Ali Ibrahim went to the United States to pursue his studies. He obtained a number of Certificates in Advanced Community Development, Cooperative Training and Trade Union Studies from the University of Missouri, the University of Wisconsin and Harvard University respectively. In 1972, he completed a Postgraduate Diploma in Industrial Relations from the Institute of Social Studies in The Hague, Netherlands. Later returning to the United States, he obtained a BSc Degree in Public Administration (Industrial Relations) from the Pacific Western University. Moreover, he obtained a Certificate in Global World Economy and Development Strategies from the Centre for Applied Studies in International Negotiations (CASIN) in Geneva.
4. He spent over two decades working for the Organization of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU), first as Director of Political Affairs in 1975, and then as Deputy Secretary-General, a position he held until 1990. One of his notable achievements was organizing the Third OATUU Congress in Mogadishu in 1981.

5. Throughout his extensive studies and his fruitful career, Mr Ali Ibrahim demonstrated his deep commitment to workers' rights and the trade unions movement. He served as a Worker member of the ILO Governing Body between 1984 and 1990. In 1991, Mr Ali Ibrahim joined the ILO Bureau for Workers' Activities (ACTRAV) as Desk Officer for English-speaking countries in Africa and the Arab States, based at ILO headquarters. Thereafter, he was appointed Director of the ILO Area Office for Eastern Africa, based in Dar es Salaam in July 1998.
6. Mr Ibrahim retired from the ILO in 2006 and was immediately appointed Minister for Planning and Coordination in his home country.

Draft decision

7. *The Governing Body paid tribute to the memory of Mr Ali Ibrahim and invited the Director-General to convey its condolences to the family of Mr Ibrahim and to the Organization of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU).*

Mr Birahima Nacoulma

8. The Director-General announces with deep regret the death, on 23 August 2018, of Mr Birahima Nacoulma, former member of the Governing Body and President of the National Council of Employers of Burkina Faso.
9. Mr Nacoulma completed his tertiary education in Senegal and Switzerland, studying diplomacy at the Graduate Institute of International Studies of the University of Geneva. Thereafter, he returned to Burkina Faso and began his career working in the Government, where he took on various roles in the postal and telecommunications services, the Ministry of Public Service and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. After 17 years in government, Mr Nacoulma dedicated himself to entrepreneurship. He established his own business, Nacoulma Transit, and subsequently ran various businesses in trade and export, property management, and also set up a private secondary school, *Lycée Dimdolobsom*, in Ougadougou.
10. Mr Birahima Nacoulma was a fierce defender of entrepreneurship, deeply committed to supporting the interests and development of the private sector in Burkina Faso. He was a founding member of the National Council of Employers of Burkina Faso, established in 1974, in which he also served as Chairperson of the Council's statutory committee, Vice-President, and in 2012, was appointed President – a post which he held until his death. Throughout his work as President of the Burkina Faso *Maison d'entreprise*, Chairperson of the Shippers' Council, and Chairperson of the special delegation for improving governance in the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Mr Nacoulma contributed to improving the business environment. A man of dialogue and consensus, Mr Nacoulma developed good relations with workers' organizations over the years. He left an institutional mark by promoting social dialogue in Burkina Faso, where he established bi- and tripartite consultation and negotiation frameworks.
11. His influence also reached beyond national borders. On a regional level, he was Chairperson of the Federation of West African Employers' Associations and the Pan African Employers' Confederation (later known as Business Africa), and was thereafter made an Honorary Chairperson. On an international level, he was strongly engaged in organizing major events in his home country. These included the Extraordinary Summit on Employment and Poverty Alleviation in Africa, in 2004; as well as the Second African Social Partners' Forum on

Mobilizing Social Dialogue for the Implementation of the Global Jobs Pact in Africa and the First African Decent Work Symposium in 2009.

12. In recognition of his valuable contributions towards the work of the International Labour Organization, Mr Nacoulma was elected a member to the Governing Body, from 2001 to 2011. He was a member of the International Organisation of Employers and served as a member on various boards associated with the ILO such as the International Institute for Labour Studies, Geneva, and the International Training Centre, Turin. Throughout his fruitful professional career, Mr Birahima Nacoulma was committed to promoting ILO values and was a strong advocate for the Decent Work Agenda.

Draft decision

13. *The Governing Body paid tribute to the memory of Mr Birahima Nacoulma and invited the Director-General to convey its condolences to the family of Mr Nacoulma, to Business Africa and to the International Organisation of Employers (IOE).*

Mr Bernard Boisson

14. The Director-General announces with deep regret the death, on 27 August 2018, of Mr Bernard Boisson, former Employer member of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office and Employer delegate to the International Labour Conference and to the 7th European Regional Meeting (Budapest, 14–18 February 2005) of the ILO.
15. During his tenure as Employer member of the Governing Body, from 1999 until 2007, Mr Boisson was also Adviser to the President of the Movement of French Enterprises (MEDEF). Within this business confederation, Mr Boisson played an important role in major institutions managed by the French social partners, including the National Union for Employment in Industry and Commerce (UNEDIC) and the Union of National Social Security Funds (UCANSS).
16. Mr Boisson was a strong believer in social dialogue and maintained close relations with all trade unions, even at a time when labour relations were tense. He was also a member of the French Economic and Social Council. He became involved in ILO activities late in his life and was convinced of the relevance of the Organization's mandate in today's world of work. Mr Boisson's significant contribution to the work of the ILO and of the French business community, as well as the graceful manner in which he engaged in social dialogue, will prevail in the institutional memory of the Organization and that of the colleagues who had the privilege of working with him.

Draft decision

17. *The Governing Body paid tribute to the memory of Mr Boisson and invited the Director-General to convey its condolences to the family of Mr Boisson, to the International Organisation of Employers (IOE), and to the Movement of French Enterprises (MEDEF).*