



## SIXTEENTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

**Report of the Director-General****Tenth Supplementary Report: ILO Guidelines on occupational safety and health management systems (ILO-OSH 2001)**

1. At its 281st Session, the Governing Body authorized the publication of the *ILO Guidelines on occupational safety and health management systems (ILO-OSH 2001)* adopted by a tripartite meeting of experts.<sup>1</sup> Since the publication of the *Guidelines*, the Office has promoted them widely and has continued to receive requests from a number of member States for support in their implementation, including for the development of more detailed guidance.
2. In recent discussions with the Office, the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) secretariat, together with an ISO member, have raised the question of a possible collaboration with the ILO for further development of international guidance in this area. This request arises within the context of a growing interest in promoting voluntary private initiatives in the field of occupational safety and health. Among other developments, a private standard called OHSAS 18000, although not an ISO standard, is being promoted in a number of countries, mainly for certification of OSH management systems. In addition, the European Committee for Standardization (CEN) has established a working group to develop a European standard on OSH management systems which is awaiting, for the time being, the outcome of any discussion between the ILO and the ISO on the matter.
3. Against this background, the Office organized an informal tripartite consultation with interested members of the Governing Body on 23 March 2006. On the basis of the various views expressed, there appeared to be interest on examining this question within the framework of the Governing Body and in the meantime for the Office to continue consultations with the constituents while obtaining more precise information from the ISO.
4. ***The Governing Body may wish to invite the Office to submit a document at its 297th Session (November 2006) on this matter based on consultations with the constituents and any discussions that it would have with the International Organization for Standardization.***

Geneva, 27 March 2006.

*Point for decision:* Paragraph 4.

<sup>1</sup> GB.281/205, para. 4.