



## Second sitting

Tuesday, 4 June 2002, 10 a.m.

President: Mr. Elmiger

### REPORT OF THE OFFICERS OF THE CONFERENCE

*Original French:* The PRESIDENT — It is my pleasure to open the second sitting of the 90th Session of the International Labour Conference.

The first item on our agenda is the report of the Officers of the Conference.

The fact that the next plenary sitting will not be held before 10 June implies that the everyday tasks related to the organization of the Conference will be carried out by the Officers of the Conference if the Conference wishes to confer on them the necessary powers to do so. For this reason, it is also proposed that we confer the necessary powers on the Officers of the Conference until the next plenary session. As there are no objections, I submit for your approval the delegation of authority which the Clerk of the Conference will now read out.

*Original French:* The CLERK OF THE CONFERENCE — 1. The General Conference of the International Labour Organization hereby delegates to its President and three Vice-Presidents authority to take any decisions or perform any functions within the power of the Conference with respect to any matter that needs to be dealt with before the Conference resumes its plenary sittings, unless any of the aforementioned Officers consider that the Conference should hold a sitting to discuss such matters.

2. Decisions taken under this authority shall be announced in a special issue of the *Provisional Record* of the Conference.

3. This delegation of authority shall take effect at the end of this sitting, and shall terminate as soon as the Conference resumes its plenary sittings.

*Original French:* The PRESIDENT — If there are no objections, I take it that the report of the Officers of the Conference is adopted.

*(The report is adopted.)*

### COMPOSITION OF CONFERENCE COMMITTEES

*Original French:* The PRESIDENT — The second item on our agenda is the composition of the Conference committees. The nominations made by the groups for the composition of these committees appear on a list that has been made available to you. If there are no objections, I take it that these nominations are approved.

*(The nominations are approved.)*

### SUSPENSION OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE STANDING ORDERS OF THE CONFERENCE (*cont.*)

*Original French:* The PRESIDENT — The third item on our agenda concerns the suspension of certain provisions of the Standing Orders of the Conference in accordance with the unanimous recommendations made by the Officers of the Conference yesterday.

In accordance with article 76 of the Standing Orders of the Conference, the Conference is called upon to adopt the following proposals:

- (a) that the time limit for speeches in plenary on the Director-General's Report be set at five minutes and that, to that extent the Conference suspend article 14, paragraph 6, of the Standing Orders;
- (b) that the Conference delegate to the Selection Committee — with authorization to sub-delegate to its Officers — authority to approve non-controversial invitations to non-governmental international organizations to be represented in Conference committees, and that the Conference, to that extent, suspend article 4, paragraph 2, and article 56 of the Standing Orders;
- (c) that the Conference decide that the discussion of the Global Report should not fall under the limitation concerning the number of statements by each speaker in the plenary but that within each Government delegation, interventions be made either by the minister or by the Government delegate and that, to that extent, article 12, paragraph 3, of the Standing Orders should be suspended; and that the Conference decide that the discussion should not be governed by the provisions regarding time limits to speeches and, to that extent, suspend article 14, paragraph 6, of the Standing Orders; and that the Conference decide not to apply to the discussion of the Global Report, to the extent required, the provisions of article 14, paragraph 2, of the Standing Orders on the sequence with which the floor is given to speakers;
- (d) that the Conference decide that the Government Electoral College should be authorized to proceed to the election of members of the Governing Body for the period 2002-05 using electronic means and, to that extent, suspend article 52, paragraphs 2 and 3, of the Standing Orders;
- (e) that the Conference decide that changes to the initial composition of committees should be made every day on the basis of proposals of the three groups, received by the secretariat before 6 p.m. and, to that extent, suspend article 9(a) of the Standing Orders.

If there are no objections, I take it that the proposals are adopted.

*(The proposals are adopted.)*

FIRST REPORT OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEE:  
SUBMISSION AND ADOPTION

*Original French:* The PRESIDENT — The fourth item on our agenda is the first report of the Selection Committee, which is contained in *Provisional Record* No. 4-1. I give the floor to Mr. Soltanieh, Government delegate of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Chairperson of the Selection Committee, to submit the report.

Mr. SOLTANIEH (*Government delegate, Islamic Republic of Iran; Chairperson of the Selection Committee*) — May I begin by extending my congratulations to Mr. Elmiger on his election as President of this session of the Conference and by wishing him every success.

I have the honour to submit to the Conference the first report of the Selection Committee, which is contained in *Provisional Record* No. 4-1 and which sets out various decisions concerning the work of the Conference, which I will now summarize.

The Selection Committee has decided, as regards the discussion of the Reports of the Chairperson of the Governing Body and the Director-General, that this should begin next Monday, 10 June, at 10 a.m. The Committee has also decided that the list of speakers should be closed next Wednesday, 12 June, at 6 p.m., under the usual conditions, and that elections for the Governing Body will be held on Monday, 10 June.

The Selection Committee has endorsed the recommendations of the Governing Body for the discussion of the *Global Report under the follow-up to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work*. It recommends that this report be dealt with separately from the Reports of the Chairperson of the Governing Body and of the Director-General in two plenary sittings entirely devoted to it to be held on Wednesday, 12 June.

The Selection Committee has endorsed a general plan of work for the Conference committees, which, although not binding, will enable the committees to organize their work so as to take the maximum possible account of the overall needs and possibilities of the Conference. This plan of work is appended to the Committee's report in Appendix III.

I should like to call the attention of the Conference participants to the suggestions in the report concern-

ing the quorum, punctuality and negotiations in committees, all of which are designed to ensure the smooth working of the Conference.

As regards participation in Conference committees by members who have lost the right to vote, the Selection Committee recommends to the Conference that the practice followed in the past few years by Government members of not applying for regular membership of committees if they are not at the time entitled to vote should be continued. The Selection Committee also recommends to the Conference that should this practice for any reason not be fully respected, the calculation of weighting coefficients for votes in committees will be based on the number of regular Government members entitled to vote. The electronic voting system takes account of this practice.

In another recommendation, the Committee proposes that certain non-governmental international organizations should be invited to be represented in some of the committees.

The Selection Committee has made proposals regarding the composition of the Credentials Committee and the Drafting Committee of the Conference.

At its first sitting this morning, the Conference had before it a proposal by its Officers to suspend the Standing Orders of the Conference so as to delegate to the Selection Committee the authority to approve non-controversial requests for representation in Conference committees submitted by non-governmental international organizations, and also to authorize the Selection Committee to delegate such authority to its Officers.

Subject to the adoption by the Conference of this recommendation at the present sitting, the Selection Committee has delegated to its Officers the authority to approve non-controversial requests for representation in Conference committees submitted by non-governmental international organizations.

Finally, as regards the seventh item on the agenda of the Conference, the withdrawal of 20 Recommendations, the Selection Committee recommends that the Conference refer that item to the Selection Committee for examination and report.

I commend the report of the Selection Committee to the Conference for adoption.

*Original French:* The PRESIDENT — If there are no objections, I take it that the report of the Selection Committee is adopted.

*(The report is adopted.)*

*(The Conference adjourned at 10.20 a.m.)*

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