



Second item on the agenda: Programme and budget and other questions

First report of the Finance Committee of Government Representatives

1. The Finance Committee of Government Representatives met on 3 June 2008 with Mr G. Kristinsson (Iceland) as Chairperson and Reporter and Dr P. Klekner (Hungary) as Vice-Chairperson.

Request of the Government of Comoros, under paragraph 4 of article 13 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization, for permission to vote

2. The Committee had before it a request (document C.F./D.2) from the Government of Comoros for permission to vote at the Conference. This request was referred to the Finance Committee as a matter of urgency in accordance with paragraph 1 of article 31 of the Standing Orders of the Conference. The text of the request, received on 7 April 2008, is as follows:

Ministry of Economics, Trade,
Labour, Employment and
Promotion of Women's Entrepreneurship,
Moroni, Comoros

Sir,

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of the Union of the Comoros wishes to settle the arrears on its contributions to the International Labour Organization and recover its right to vote in order to participate actively in the work of the Organization.

I should like to state the principal reasons why Comoros has accumulated such arrears on its contributions to the ILO. As you are no doubt aware, our country has been through a long political and institutional crisis, a dominant feature of which has been political instability.

These ongoing problems reached their height in the separatist crisis involving the Comoran island of Anjouan. Assistance from the international community was required to resolve it and move into an era of institutional stability. It is thanks to the concern of the international community that our country has been able to resolve the separatist crisis in Anjouan, achieving a favourable outcome just a few weeks ago.

This crisis, which threatened the Comoros as a nation in the global community, has had a significant impact on its international relations and has been the reason for its absence from many international meetings. Furthermore, our country's long absence from the international

organizations has been due to its inability to meet its obligations regarding contributions to those organizations, as a result of major budgetary changes required to cover new domestic priorities and urgencies in a climate of severe financial constraints and reduced public development aid.

With the recent resolution of the situation in Anjouan strengthening the stability and democracy of our country, we have begun the work of consolidation to achieve a stable institutional framework with the continuation of democratic political processes.

Failing outright cancellation of the debt to the ILO, we request that it be rescheduled over a period of ten years from 2008.

I should therefore be grateful if you would submit to the competent bodies of the International Labour Organization the following proposal for payment of the contribution arrears of the Union of the Comoros:

- (a) For 2008, the Union of the Comoros will pay the whole of its contribution fixed at 3,947 Swiss francs as an indication of the Government's willingness to settle its debts.
- (b) The Union of the Comoros will pay its accumulated arrears – corresponding to contributions for 27 years amounting to 518,849 Swiss francs – by 2018. It will make nine equal annual payments of 51,885 Swiss francs, plus a final transfer of 51,884 Swiss francs.
- (c) The Union of the Comoros will also pay the contributions for the following years during the year in which each respective payment falls due.

I request you to transmit to the 97th Session of the International Labour Conference my Government's request to be authorized to vote and also enjoy its other rights within the International Labour Organization, in accordance with article 13, paragraph 4, of the ILO Constitution.

Please accept, Sir, the assurance of my highest consideration.

p.p. the Minister

(Signature and stamp) Said Abdou SALIME
Secretary-General

3. The Committee noted the provisions of paragraph 4 of article 13 of the Constitution of the ILO, also articles 31 and 32 of the Standing Orders of the Conference, the texts of which appear in the appendix to this report.
4. In examining the financial relations between Comoros and the ILO, the Committee noted that the following payments had been made by Comoros in respect of its assessed contributions:

Date of payment	Amount in Swiss francs	Details of payment
10 April 1984	5 983	Part 1980 contribution
5 June 1986	8 750	Part 1980 contribution
12 September 2007	21 661	Balance 1980 and part 1981 contributions

Contributions outstanding at 31 December 2007 amounted to 518,849 Swiss francs (CHF), covering the assessed contributions from 1981 to 2007. The 2008 contribution of CHF 3,947 has also not been paid.

5. ***The Committee, being satisfied that the failure of Comoros to pay its arrears was due to conditions beyond its control, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 4 of article 31 of the Standing Orders of the Conference, reports to the Conference as follows:***

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- (a) *that the failure of Comoros to pay in full the amounts owing was due to conditions beyond its control as explained in the letter in paragraph 2 above;*
- (b) *that the financial relations between Comoros and the Organization have been set out in paragraph 4 above; and*
- (c) *that measures would be taken to settle the arrears along the lines set out in the letter appearing in paragraph 2 above.*
6. *The Committee accordingly recommends the adoption by the Conference of the resolution concerning the granting to Comoros of permission to vote under paragraph 4 of article 13 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization, the text of which appears at the end of this report.*

Request of the Government of the Central African Republic, under paragraph 4 of article 13 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization, for permission to vote

7. The Committee had before it a request (document C.F./D.3) from the Government of the Central African Republic for permission to vote at the Conference. This request was referred to the Finance Committee as a matter of urgency in accordance with paragraph 1 of article 31 of the Standing Orders of the Conference. The text of the request, received on 22 May 2008, is as follows:

Minister of the Public Service, Labour,
Social Security and Integration of Young
Persons into the Workforce

To The Director-General of the
International Labour Office (ILO),
Geneva, Switzerland

Re: Proposed financial arrangement for the
settlement of contributions of the
Central African Republic

Bangui, 19 May 2008

Dear Director-General,

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of the Central African Republic wishes to settle the arrears of contributions which it owes to the International Labour Organization, in order to participate actively in the Organization's work.

I would draw your attention to the fact that the problems of transition to a multiparty democracy (marked by long-running strikes between 1991 and 1993 and a series of revolts in 1996 and 1997) resulted in the destruction of an already severely weakened and fragile economy and the drastic depletion of Treasury funds.

It was as a consequence of these events that the Central African Republic found itself unable to meet its commitments and thus, having accumulated arrears of contributions, lost its voting rights within the ILO.

In 2001, during the 89th Session of the International Labour Conference, following an upturn in the economy, the Government proposed an arrangement for the settlement of its arrears of contributions. However, as a result of the various political and military crises which

occurred that same year and lasted until 2003, the Government was unable to honour its commitments.

The Government of the Central African Republic wishes to take this opportunity to reaffirm its commitment to the goals and principles of the ILO and expresses its wish to take its proper place within the Organization once again.

With this in mind, since 2005, the Government has entrusted the Central African Agency for Vocational Training and Employment (ACFPE) with the responsibility for paying the country's contributions. In 2006 and 2007, that authority made total payments of 15,000 Euros (23,000 Swiss Francs).

I would therefore be most grateful if you would submit the following proposal for the settlement of the arrears of contributions owed by the Central African Republic to the competent bodies of the International Labour Office for their approval.

- (a) The Central African Republic will, during the course of this year, pay its 2008 contribution of 3,947 Swiss francs.
- (b) The Central African Republic will during the course of 2008 settle a portion of its arrears of contributions (7,500 Swiss Francs).
- (c) The balance of the arrears of contributions, amounting to 122,880 (130,380 – 7,500) Swiss francs, corresponding to contributions for the periods 1995–2000 and 2004–2007, will be settled in 15 annual instalments of 8,192 Swiss francs each, beginning in 2009.
- (d) Finally, the Central African Republic will pay its contribution for each subsequent year in the year in which it falls due.

I would be grateful if you would transmit to the 97th Session of the International Labour Conference my Government's request to be allowed to vote and to enjoy its other rights in the Organization, in accordance with article 13, paragraph 4, of the Constitution of the ILO.

Please accept the assurance of my highest consideration.

(Signed and stamped) Gaston Mackouzangba

8. The Committee noted the provisions of paragraph 4 of article 13 of the Constitution of the ILO, also articles 31 and 32 of the Standing Orders of the Conference, the texts of which appear in the appendix to this report.
9. In examining the financial relations between the Central African Republic and the ILO, the Committee noted that the last payments made by the Central African Republic in respect of its assessed contributions were the following:

Date of payment	Amount in Swiss francs	Details of payment
23 May 2006	11 883	Balance 1994 and part 1995 contributions
8 May 2007	12 577	Part 1995 contribution

Contributions outstanding at 31 December 2007 amounted to CHF130,380, covering the assessed contributions from 1995 to 2000 and from 2004 to 2007. Following a payment of CHF7,500 on 20 May 2008, CHF122,880 remain due. The 2008 contribution of CHF3,947 has also not been paid.

10. ***The Committee, being satisfied that the failure of the Central African Republic to pay its arrears was due to conditions beyond its control, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 4 of article 31 of the Standing Orders of the Conference, reports to the Conference as follows:***

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- (a) that the failure of the Central African Republic to pay in full the amounts owing was due to conditions beyond its control as explained in the letter in paragraph 7 above;*
 - (b) that the financial relations between the Central African Republic and the Organization have been set out in paragraph 9 above; and*
 - (c) that measures would be taken to settle the arrears along the lines set out in the letter appearing in paragraph 7 above.*

11. The Committee accordingly recommends the adoption by the Conference of the resolution concerning the granting to the Central African Republic of permission to vote under paragraph 4 of article 13 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization, the text of which appears at the end of this report.

Request of the Government of Iraq, under paragraph 4 of article 13 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization, for permission to vote

12. The Committee had before it a request (document C.F./D.7) from the Government of Iraq for permission to vote at the Conference. This was referred to the Finance Committee as a matter of urgency in accordance with paragraph 1 of article 31 of the Standing Orders of the Conference. The text of the request, received on 30 May 2008, is as follows:

Ministry of Labour & Social Affairs
Baghdad,
Republic of Iraq

28th May 2008

Dear Director General:

I have the honor to inform you that the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs in Iraq wishes to regularize the arrears of contributions due by it to the International Labour Organization and regain its right to vote and participate actively in the Organization.

We would like to bring to your kind attention our previous agreement, signed by Iraq's former Minister of Labour and Social Affairs, dated 7th June 2005 regarding Iraq's right to vote. The government of Iraq entered into arrears due to sanctions placed on the former regime and international discord, economic hardship, and many reasons beyond the control of our government. As you are aware, Iraq has already started paying installments for canceling the arrears of 2008 along with this year's contribution. However in order to enable us to honor the full commitments to your esteemed organization, we kindly request that the settlement of arrears be over period of twenty years.

I would therefore kindly request that you submit the following proposal for the settlement of Iraq's arrears of contributions to the competent authorities of the International Labour Organization as follows:

- (a) For 2008 we paid the assessed contribution of 59,199 CHF, in order to demonstrate our commitment.
- (b) We will settle the arrears of contribution that have accumulated up to the end of 2007 covering contributions from 1988 and amounting in total 6,095,399 CHF, by payment beginning in 2008 of 19 annual installments of 304,770 CHF and final installment of 304,769 CHF.

(c) Iraq also will settle subsequent years, contribution in the year that they become due.

I would further request that you transmit to the 97th International Labour Conference, the Iraqi Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs' request for permission to vote and enjoy other rights in the Organization in accordance with article 13, paragraph 4, of the Constitution of the ILO.

Thank you for your kind cooperation, and the positive role that you have played in addressing Iraq's issues within the ILO.

Yours truly,

(Signed) Mahmood Mohamed Al-Shaikh Radhi,
Minister of Labour and Social Affairs,
Baghdad

13. The Committee noted the provisions of paragraph 4 of article 13 of the Constitution of the ILO, also articles 31 and 32 of the Standing Orders of the Conference, the texts of which appear in the appendix to this report.

14. In examining the financial relations between Iraq and the ILO, the Committee noted that the following payments had been made by Iraq in respect of its assessed contributions:

Date of payment	Amount in Swiss francs	Details of payment
28 February 1990	116 399	Part 1988 contribution
27 June 2006	139 129	Part 1988 contribution
28 June 2007	68 902	Part 1988 contribution

In examining the relations between Iraq and the Organization for the preceding years, it was recalled that the International Labour Conference at its 92nd (2004) and 93rd (2005) Sessions adopted two arrangements proposed by the Government of Iraq for the settlement of the arrears of contribution due for the period of 1988–2003 of CHF5,652,327 and for the period of 1988–2004 of CHF6,127,327 respectively.

Under the terms of the first agreement (2004), Iraq was to pay in full its contribution for the year 2004 and an amount of CHF657,327 in 2004 and to settle its arrears in 10 annual instalments, beginning in 2005. No payments were received.

Under the terms of the second agreement (2005), Iraq was to pay in full its contribution for the year 2005 and to settle its arrears in 20 annual instalments, beginning in 2005. No payments were received.

On 23 May 2008 the Office received an amount of CHF339,400 corresponding to a part of the Government's proposed payment in 2008.

15. Contributions outstanding at 31 December 2007 amounted to CHF6,095,399, covering the assessed contributions from 1988 to 2007.

16. The representative of Iraq reiterated the difficulties his country had encountered and thanked the member States for their support and understanding. He reaffirmed his country's commitment to the principles of the ILO.

17. *The Committee, being satisfied that the failure of Iraq to pay its arrears is due to conditions beyond its control, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 4*

of article 31 of the Standing Orders of the Conference, reports to the Conference as follows:

- (a) that the failure of Iraq to pay in full the amounts owing was due to conditions beyond its control as explained in the letter in paragraph 12 above;*
- (b) that the financial relations between Iraq and the Organization have been set out in paragraph 14 above;*
- (c) that measures would be taken to settle the arrears along the lines set out in the letter appearing in paragraph 12 above.*

18. The Committee accordingly recommends the adoption by the Conference of the resolution concerning the granting to Iraq of permission to vote under paragraph 4 of article 13 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization, the text of which appears at the end of this report.

Request of the Government of Solomon Islands, under paragraph 4 of article 13 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization, for permission to vote

19. The Committee had before it a request (document C.F./D.8) from the Government of Solomon Islands for permission to vote at the Conference. This request was referred to the Finance Committee as a matter of urgency in accordance with paragraph 1 of article 31 of the Standing Orders of the Conference. The text of the request, received on 30 May 2008, is as follows:

Ministry of Commerce, Industries,
Labour and Immigration
Honiara, Solomon Islands

Dear Director General,

Re: Request to recover the right to vote

I have the honor to inform you that the Government of Solomon Islands wishes to regularize the arrears of contributions due by us to the International Labour Organization and regain its right to vote and participate actively in the organization.

I am aware that the ILO is indeed not in the least ill-informed on the plight of all its members and the struggles that each member faces both internally and in their international relations and obligations arising out of these affiliations. The ILO, I am sure is fully aware of our situation.

Your consideration to this request is based on the following:

1. Solomon Islands has been faithfully meeting its obligations in its financial contributions to the work of the ILO up until 1998, that is, for 13 years ever since joining the ILO in 1985. I note that we have fallen short of this obligation since 1999. I am sure that by virtue of Article 13 (4) (b), our financial relations in the preceding ten years appear intact. We deeply regret that circumstances beyond our control (that I will venture to briefly explain) should impair and hinder Solomon Islands' commitment towards this relationship.
2. 1999, being the first year of our failure to pay in our contributions, will always go down in the history of Solomon Islands as the year of the beginning of internal conflicts and

social unrest that brought the country's economy down on its knees. As a result, we have been unable to not only meet our international obligations but also failing to meet costs for internal basic services such as Health and Education, to mention only two.

3. It was not until 2003 that normalcy in Law and Order was returned with the intervention of Australia and other Pacific Island countries that formed what is now called the Regional Assistance Mission to Solomon Islands (RAMSI). With this intervention, economic conditions though at a substantially slow pace, have been positive. With this recovery, we not only have begun to turn things around but are now also revisiting our international obligations. Our contribution towards the work of the ILO is one of the most vital ones. As a matter of fact our own government is currently liaising with the Finance Division of the ILO to address our arrears. I know that contributions are being arranged by the Ministry of Finance for the period 1999 to 2002 and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the period 2003 up to 2007 while we are now involved in this meeting. As a matter of fact, a request was made by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the specific Bank Account of the ILO only last week. I acknowledge that specific particulars of the ILO Account have been sent. For this I thank you for your trust in us. The funds however might not arrive at a time when the Solomon Islands Delegation will need it most in order to qualify us to recover our voting right during this meeting.
4. Though we have been paying up from the time of our membership we have been unable to participate hence has not had the opportunity to cast ballots in a noble forum such as this. It would further aggravate our already deep concerns should we now be further disqualified. As a matter of fact Solomon Islands has been able to participate in an ILO Conference only two times out of the last twenty years.
5. Finally, I am aware that the Committee of Experts in its 2008 Report under Paragraph 76 has Solomon Islands as one categorized under countries with exceptional situations. The reasons are highlighted.

I would therefore kindly request that you submit the following proposal for the settlement of Solomon Islands' arrears of contribution to the competent authorities of the International Labour Organization:

1. For 2008, the Solomon Islands will pay in full its assessed contribution of 3,947 Swiss francs in order to demonstrate our commitment.
2. Solomon Islands will settle the arrears of contribution that have accumulated up until the end of 2007, covering contributions from 1999 and amounting in total to 32,041 Swiss francs, by payment beginning in 2008, of 9 annual equal installments of 3,205 Swiss francs with a final installment of 3,196 Swiss francs.
3. Solomon Islands also will settle subsequent years' contribution in the year in which they become due.

I would further request that you transmit to the 97th International Labour Conference my Government's request that it be permitted to vote and enjoy other rights in the Organization in accordance with Article 13, paragraph 4 of the Constitution of the ILO.

Very truly yours

(Signed) Josiah Thegnamana Manehia
Commissioner of Labour

20. The Committee noted the provisions of paragraph 4 of article 13 of the Constitution of the ILO, also articles 31 and 32 of the Standing Orders of the Conference, the texts of which appear in the appendix to this report.
21. In examining the financial relations between Solomon Islands and the ILO, the Committee noted that the following payments had been made by Solomon Islands in respect of its assessed contributions:

Date of payment	Amount in Swiss francs	Details of payment
5 November 1999	130 895	1993–96 contributions
7 January 2000	33 611	1997 contribution
2 February 2000	33 858	1998 contribution

Contributions outstanding at 31 December 2007 amounted to CHF32,041, covering the assessed contributions from 1999 to 2007.

22. *The Committee, being satisfied that the failure of the Solomon Islands to pay its arrears is due to conditions beyond its control, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 4 of article 31 of the Standing Orders of the Conference, reports to the Conference as follows:*

- (a) that the failure of Solomon Islands to pay in full the amounts owing was due to conditions beyond its control as explained in the letter in paragraph 19 above;*
- (b) that the financial relations between Solomon Islands and the Organization have been set out in paragraph 21 above;*
- (c) that measures would be taken to settle the arrears along the lines set out in the letter appearing in paragraph 19 above.*

23. *The Committee accordingly recommends the adoption by the Conference of the resolution concerning the granting to Solomon Islands of permission to vote under paragraph 4 of article 13 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization, the text of which appears at the end of this report.*

Appendix

24. The provisions of paragraph 4 of article 13 of the Constitution of the ILO, also articles 31 and 32 of the Standing Orders of the Conference, are reproduced in the appendix to this report.

Geneva, 4 June 2008.

(Signed) G. Kristinsson
Chairperson and Reporter

Resolutions submitted to the Conference

Resolution concerning the arrears of contributions of Comoros

The General Conference of the International Labour Organization,

Having regard to paragraph 7 of article 10 of the Financial Regulations,

Accepts the arrangement proposed by the Government of Comoros for the settlement of its arrears of contributions due for the period 1981–2007 to the effect that:

- (a) in 2008, the Government of Comoros will pay in full its contribution for the year 2008;
- (b) in subsequent years, the Government of Comoros will continue to pay its current contribution in full in the year for which it is due;
- (c) the Government of Comoros will settle arrears that have accumulated up to and including 31 December 2007, amounting to CHF518,849, by payment, beginning in 2009, of nine annual instalments of CHF51,885 and a final instalment of CHF51,884;

Decides that Comoros shall be permitted to vote, in accordance with paragraph 4 of article 13 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization, after the conclusion of the present business.

Resolution concerning the arrears of contributions of the Central African Republic

The General Conference of the International Labour Organization,

Having regard to paragraph 7 of article 10 of the Financial Regulations,

Accepts the arrangement proposed by the Government of the Central African Republic for the settlement of its arrears of contributions due for the periods 1995–2000 and 2004–07 to the effect that:

- (a) in 2008, the Government of the Central African Republic will pay in full its contribution for the year 2008 and an amount of CHF7,500;
- (b) in subsequent years, the Government of the Central African Republic will continue to pay its current contribution in full in the year for which it is due;
- (c) the Government of the Central African Republic will settle remaining balance of arrears that have accumulated up to and including 31 December 2007, amounting to CHF122,880, by payment, beginning in 2009, of 15 annual instalments of CHF8,192;

Decides that the Central African Republic shall be permitted to vote, in accordance with paragraph 4 of article 13 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization, after the conclusion of the present business.

Resolution concerning the arrears of contributions of Iraq

The General Conference of the International Labour Organization,

Having regard to paragraph 7 of article 10 of the Financial Regulations,

Accepts the arrangement proposed by the Government of Iraq for the settlement of its arrears of contributions due for the period 1988–2007 to the effect that:

- (a) in 2008, the Government of Iraq will pay in full its contribution for the year 2008;
- (b) in subsequent years, the Government of Iraq will continue to pay its current contribution in full in the year for which it is due;
- (c) the Government of Iraq will settle arrears that have accumulated up to and including 31 December 2007, amounting to CHF6,095,399, by payment, beginning in 2008, of 19 annual instalments of CHF304,770 and a final instalment of CHF304,769;

Decides that Iraq shall be permitted to vote, in accordance with paragraph 4 of article 13 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization, after the conclusion of the present business.

Resolution concerning the arrears of contributions of the Solomon Islands

The General Conference of the International Labour Organization,

Having regard to paragraph 7 of article 10 of the Financial Regulations,

Accepts the arrangement proposed by Solomon Islands for the settlement of its arrears of contributions due for the period 1999–2007 to the effect that:

- (a) in 2008, the Government of Solomon Islands will pay in full its contribution for the year 2008;
- (b) in subsequent years, the Government of Solomon Islands will continue to pay its current contribution in full in the year for which it is due;
- (c) the Government of Solomon Islands will settle remaining balance of arrears that have accumulated up to and including 31 December 2007, amounting to CHF32,041, by payment, beginning in 2008, of nine annual instalments of CHF3,205 and a final instalment of CHF3,196;

Decides that Solomon Islands shall be permitted to vote, in accordance with paragraph 4 of article 13 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization, after the conclusion of the present business.

Appendix

Relevant provisions of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization and the Standing Orders of the International Labour Conference

1. Paragraph 4 of article 13 of the Constitution of the Organization provides as follows:

4. A Member of the Organization which is in arrears in the payment of its financial contribution to the Organization shall have no vote in the Conference, in the Governing Body, in any committee, or in the elections of members of the Governing Body, if the amount of its arrears equals or exceeds the amount of the contributions due from it for the preceding two full years: Provided that the Conference may by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast by the delegates present permit such a Member to vote if it is satisfied that the failure to pay is due to conditions beyond the control of the Member.

2. Articles 31 and 32 of the Standing Orders of the Conference provide as follows:

ARTICLE 31

Procedure where proposal is made to permit Member in arrears to vote

1. Any request or proposal that the Conference should nevertheless permit a Member which is in arrears in the payment of its contributions to vote in accordance with article 13, paragraph 4, of the Constitution shall be referred in the first instance to the Finance Committee of the Conference, which shall report thereon as a matter of urgency.

2. Pending a decision on the request or proposal by the Conference, the Member shall not be entitled to vote.

3. The Finance Committee shall submit to the Conference a report giving its opinion on the request or proposal.

4. If the Finance Committee, having found that the failure to pay is due to conditions beyond the control of the Member, thinks fit to propose to the Conference that the Member should nevertheless be permitted to vote in accordance with article 13, paragraph 4, of the Constitution, it shall in its report:

- (a) explain the nature of the conditions beyond the Member's control;
- (b) give an analysis of the financial relations between the Member and the Organization during the preceding ten years; and
- (c) indicate the measures which should be taken in order to settle the arrears.

5. Any decision which may be taken by the Conference to permit a Member which is in arrears in the payment of its contribution to vote notwithstanding such arrears may be made conditional upon the Member complying with any recommendations for settling the arrears which may be made by the Conference.

ARTICLE 32

Period of validity of a decision to permit Member in arrears to vote

1. Any decision by the Conference permitting a Member which is in arrears in the payment of its contributions to vote shall be valid for the session of the Conference at which the decision is taken. Any such decision shall be operative in regard to the Governing Body

and committees until the opening of the general session of the Conference next following that at which it was taken.

2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1 of this article, after the Conference has approved an arrangement under which the arrears of a Member are consolidated and are payable in annual instalments over a period of years, the Member shall be permitted to vote provided that, at the time of the vote concerned, the Member has fully paid all instalments under the arrangement, as well as all financial contributions under article 13 of the Constitution that were due before the end of the previous year. For any Member which, at the close of the session of the Conference, has not fully paid all such instalments and contributions due before the end of the previous year, the permission to vote shall lapse.

CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
<i>Second item on the agenda: Programme and budget and other questions</i>	
First report of the Finance Committee of Government Representatives	1
Resolutions submitted to the Conference	10
Appendix	12