



FIFTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Developments concerning the question of the observance by the Government of Myanmar of the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29)**Addendum****Other activities following the 2006 Conference decision**

1. In the conclusions adopted at its 297th Session (November 2006), the Governing Body *inter alia* requested that “the other options contained in the Conference conclusions should also be appropriately followed up by the Office”. These options were set out in the Conclusions of the Selection Committee, as adopted by the International Labour Conference in June 2006.¹ The present document contains a brief update on other developments in this regard than those covered by documents GB.298/5/1 and GB.298/5/2.
2. As regards the “appropriate and effective use of public diplomacy”, the Office has participated in a number of conferences and other events concerning the situation in Myanmar. These include a meeting July 2006 in Turin organized by CISL; two meetings on housing, land and property rights in August and November 2006 in Chiang Mai; the Wilton Park meeting on Myanmar in November 2006 in the United Kingdom; a side event at the ITUC-founding Congress in November 2006 in Vienna; a meeting on IDPs in December 2006 in Bangkok; and a meeting on human rights and health in border regions in January 2007 in Bangkok. The Office will also participate in an ITUC solidarity conference in April 2007 in Kathmandu.
3. The Liaison Officer has been in regular touch in Yangon and in Bangkok with diplomatic missions, the United Nations system, and non-governmental organizations to brief them on the situation. The Liaison Officer and headquarters representatives in Geneva have attended several regional meetings of governments, both at the time of the Governing Body session in November 2006 and on other occasions, to update them on developments. Regular discussions have taken place with interested government representatives in Geneva. There has been considerable media interest in the situation, and all efforts have been made to brief the media and respond to questions. As reported in

¹ See ILC, 95th Session (Geneva, 2006), *Provisional Record* No. 3-2 (and Corr.).

document GB.298/5/1, the Liaison Officer has also established a web site, in order to increase awareness of the ILO's work on forced labour in Myanmar (<http://www.ilo.org/public/English/region/asro/yanon/>).

4. As regards the application of the measures under article 33 of the ILO Constitution, the Office has previously provided to the Governing Body an update on responses that it had received to the Director-General's letter of 21 April 2005.² The Office has continued to receive information from member States, which it will make available for the discussion in the Committee on the Application of Standards of the International Labour Conference in June 2007.
5. As regards engagement with other international organizations, the Office has maintained close contacts with relevant organizations, in particular the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United Nations Department of Political Affairs, as well as the United Nations Humanitarian and Resident Coordinator for Myanmar, and kept them closely briefed on developments. Information has also been exchanged with the UN Special Rapporteur on Myanmar. Developments in ECOSOC were already reported to the Governing Body in November 2006. The relevant documentation was made available to the July 2006 session of the ECOSOC, where a discussion took place.

Geneva, 15 March 2007.

² See documents GB.294/6/1 and GB.294/6/1(Add.).