

Meeting of Experts for the tripartite validation of the technical guidelines on biological hazards

Geneva, 20 - 24 June 2022

► Note for the participants

The Meeting of Experts for the tripartite validation of the technical guidelines on biological hazards will be held at the International Labour Office, in Geneva, from 20 to 24 June 2022. The opening plenary sitting will be held in Room V and will begin at 14.00 CET.

The purpose of this *Note* is to assist participants in the meeting to familiarize themselves with the organization and procedures of the meeting so as to enable them to take an effective part, from the outset, in its work.

Purpose of the meeting

The purpose of the meeting will be to adopt the technical guidelines on biological hazards.

The Office has issued, in English, French, and Spanish, the draft *Guidelines on biological hazards* (document [MEGBH/2022](#)) which will serve as the basis for discussion at the meeting.

Composition of the meeting

Experts

The Meeting will be composed of 21 experts - six experts nominated by the Employers' group of the Governing Body and eight experts nominated by the Workers' group of the Governing Body; and seven experts nominated by the governments invited by the Government group of the Governing Body.

Advisers

Each expert may be accompanied by one adviser, who shall be appointed by the same government or by the Employers' or Workers' group, as the case may be.

Officers

For the Meeting, the Officers shall consist of the Chairperson, and three Vice-Chairpersons, respectively elected from among the experts or their advisers in each of the three groups. The Chairperson shall direct the debates. The Officers shall approve the programme of work of the Meeting.

Observers

The Meeting is open to interested Government observers (one per government). Government observers in ILO Meetings of Experts are allowed to attend plenary sittings as

well as Government Group Meetings. Whereas they cannot participate in the discussions in the plenary sittings, they are encouraged to actively participate in the Government Group meetings.

Representatives of international organizations have been invited to attend the Meeting as observers. Observers from official international organizations are allowed to attend all plenary sittings and address the meeting with the permission of the Chairperson. Observers from non-governmental international organizations are allowed to attend all plenary sittings. Subject to the decision of the Officers of the Meeting, these observers will only be allowed to make or circulate brief statements, preferably at the end of the opening plenary.

General public

Plenary sittings are not public.

Standing Orders

The *Standing Orders for technical meetings*, adopted by the ILO Governing Body at its 334th meeting (October-November 2018), apply to the meeting of experts.

A knowledge of the Standing Orders will enable participants to follow the work of the meeting more easily and to take an active part in the discussions. The Standing Orders also explain the procedures to be followed.

Working of the groups

Arrangements have been made for government, employer and worker representatives to hold group meetings in the course of the meeting (see [plan of work](#)).

Arrangements have been made for meetings of the groups on the opening day of the meeting as follows:

09:00-12:00:	Employers' group	Room III – Zoom
09:00-12:00:	Workers' group	Room IV – Zoom
09:00-12:00:	Governments' group	Room VI – Zoom

Documents

In order to enable participants to take a full part in the work of the meeting, the following documents will be issued in English, French and Spanish:

1. the *Draft Guidelines on biological hazards* (MEGBH/2022);
2. the list of participants (provisional, MEGBH/2022/2);
3. draft timetable (MEGBH/2022/1); and
4. on the last day of the Meeting, the revised draft of the *Guidelines on biological hazards*, for adoption by the Meeting, based on the discussions. Final texts of the Guidelines adopted by the Meeting will be submitted for approval by the Governing Body of the ILO and published by the Office after final editing;
5. additional documents will be made available on the meeting webpage.

Participants are strongly advised to check the [meeting web-page](#) for regular updates and relevant information about the meeting.

In the weeks following the meeting, the Office will send to all participants a summary record of the proceedings for comments. Please note that participants are given the opportunity only to request corrections to statements made by or attributed to them.

Registration

Registered participants will receive registration links closer to the meeting.

Operating the online platform Zoom

A brief on operating the online platform Zoom, is attached for ease of reference (see Appendix I).

Harassment and violence

The ILO is committed to ensuring a safe and harassment-free working environment and a culture of mutual respect across the Organization. If you encounter any issues in this regard, please alert the meeting secretariat.

People with disabilities

The ILO actively promotes the inclusion of people with disabilities. If you have special needs related to meeting facilities, kindly inform the meeting secretariat.

Appendix I. Quick guide for remote participation in a technical meeting

Access to zoom platform

- The platform used to enable remote participation in a technical meeting is **Zoom**, preferably the latest version 5.9.3.
- You will receive **two different invitations** from “MOEGOVERNANCE (no-reply@zoom.us)” in the email provided with your accreditation to the meeting: one to participate in the meetings of your group (government, employers’ or workers’ group) and a different invitation to participate in the plenary sittings of the meeting. **Please note that these invitations will be valid throughout the meeting, including** the group meeting before the opening plenary sitting.

Please make sure that before connecting to your group meeting or plenary sitting you have closed all browsers or the Zoom link/application of previous meetings you might have attended, as otherwise your ID_naming will not display correctly.

- For **group meetings**, please note that the links will remain active, allowing groups to meet any time beyond the scheduled times indicated in the draft timetable. These unscheduled meetings will be without interpretation. Any changes to or cancellation of scheduled group meetings should be communicated by the group coordinator to moegovernance@ilo.org.
- If you organize a group meeting outside of the hours foreseen for your meeting in the draft timetable, please advise as soon as possible moegovernance@ilo.org to be sure that your Zoom group meeting is open and active.
- The invitation link to **plenary sittings** will also be the same throughout the duration of the session for all plenary sittings. A separate link will be sent in due course to authorized participants to take part in any private sitting.
- These links should not be shared or forwarded. Please do not rename yourself as we have used a pre-established naming protocol for each constituent and observer to facilitate your identification in the platform.
- If your group or country has sent credentials for you but you have not received an invitation from “MOEGOVERNANCE (no-reply@zoom.us)”, please check first your spam and, if necessary, contact moegovernance@ilo.org with details of the group or entity you represent and your name.

Practical information for the use of zoom

- **Requests for the floor at plenary sittings:**

Participants wishing to take the floor during the opening plenary must inform the Office in advance. Please send your request to moegovernance@ilo.org with an indication in the object of the email of the opening plenary and the name of the speaker and the group they represent (for example “Opening plenary, Ms. Lee, Government group”). The text of the prepared speech should be attached to the email.

Requests for the floor for the debate after all registered speakers have intervened, can be made either by raising your virtual hand in Zoom, or sending a request to the

Coordinator of the meeting (named MOEGOVERNANCE_Coordinator in the list of Zoom participants) through the chat function.

- **Microphone and camera**

It is important to mute your microphone and deactivate the camera when you are not speaking. **You should activate them only when you are given the floor.**

You should make sure to connect, preferably with a PC or laptop, from a quiet place with good connectivity. Headsets with incorporated microphones are highly recommended for better sound quality.

- **Technical issues**

If you face technical difficulties with Zoom during a group meeting or plenary sitting, you can indicate the problem to the “host” of the meeting using the chat function.

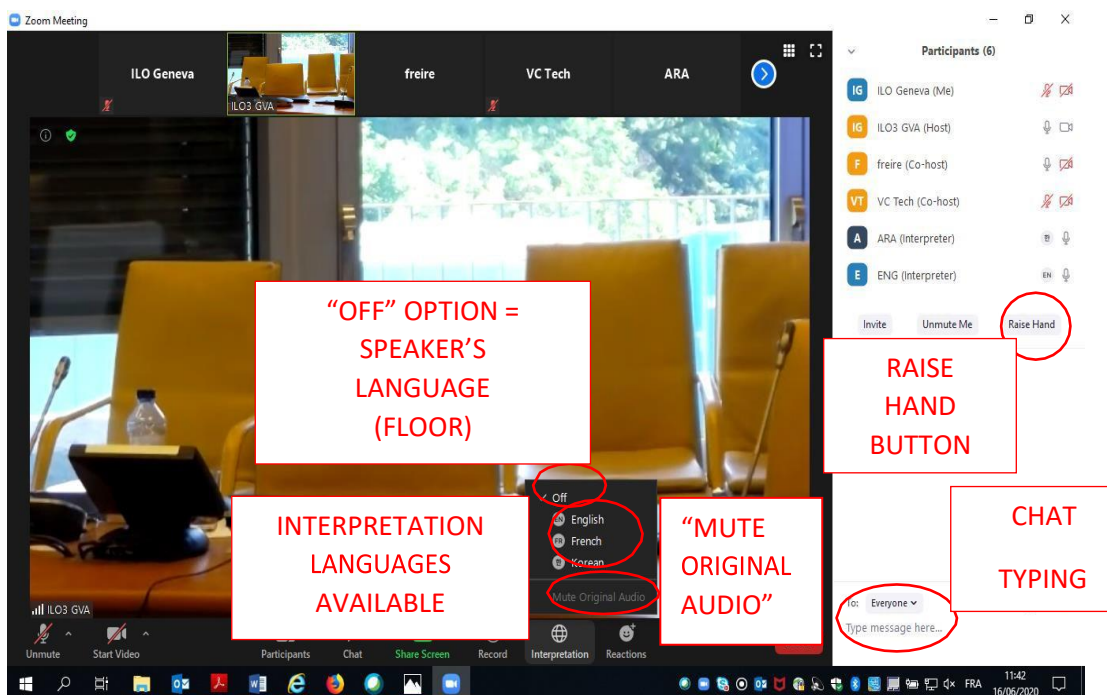
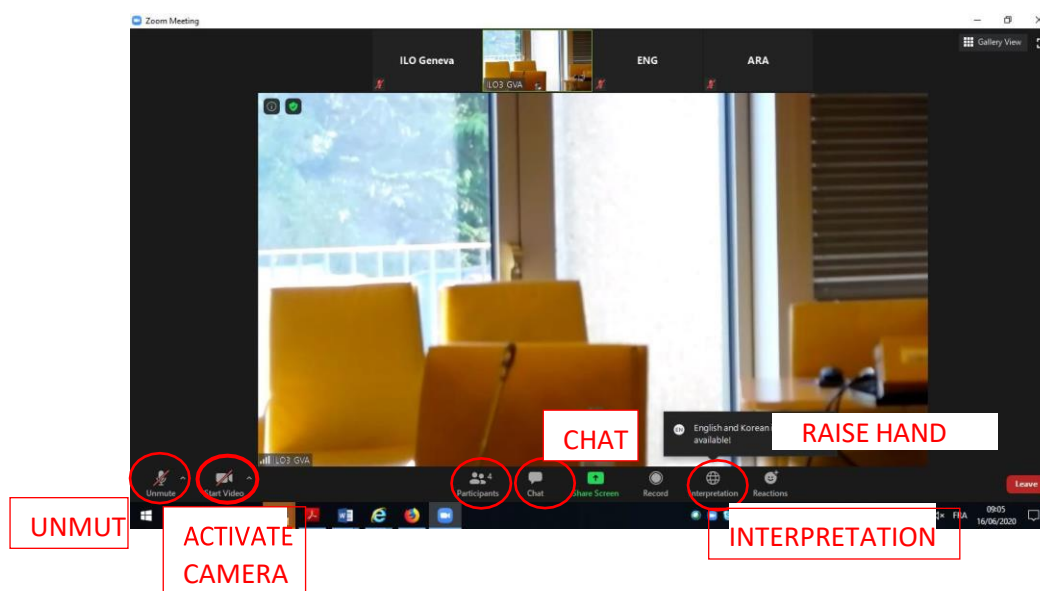
If you are not familiar with the use of Zoom, please see the pictures at the end of this guide.

Interpretation

- Participants in plenary sittings will be able to listen to and speak in the three ILO official languages (English, Spanish, French). Each group determines its additional language regime, i.e. the number of working languages available.
- **For participants to benefit from interpretation, they need to download the zoom application on to your PC or laptop.** If you connect via the browser, interpretation and other features will not be available.
- Please select in the Interpretation menu on the horizontal bar of your screen (see screenshots in the Zoom instructions) the language of your choice.
- Please note that in order to avoid interference between language channels, it is important to ensure **that the language you intend to speak in is the same language you are listening to, by selecting that language in the interpretation menu.**
- If you do not need interpretation, you can select “off” in the Interpretation Menu (see screenshot in the zoom instructions).
- **“Mute Original Audio” function:** if on your language channel in the interpretation menu you have a faint background noise of the original language, you should use the “Mute Original Audio” function available at the end of the list of interpretation channels. Do not forget to de-activate the “Mute original Audio” button if the same language is spoken afterwards as otherwise you would have no sound at all. For example, if you listen to the English channel in the interpretation menu and the original speaker is in Spanish, you can mute the original floor. However, if then an English speaker is coming up you have to deactivate “Mute Original Audio” as otherwise you have no sound at all.
- To guarantee accurate and faithful interpretation in a virtual environment, please send your statement beforehand to interpreterspeeches@ilo.org. Interpreters will treat this information as confidential and check against delivery.

Zoom in pictures

From a PC



From a tablet/smartphone

