

## **Comments concerning the decision on GB.340/INS/7(Rev.1)**

The Russian Federation supports the original draft decision proposed by the Office.

In this context, it should be taken into account that with respect to decisionmaking (decisions by correspondence) the Special arrangements for the 340th session of the Governing Body found in document GB.340/INS/1 provide for the following: «In the context of the COVID-19 response, since March 2020 the Governing Body has been taking a series of decisions by correspondence on urgent, non-controversial or routine matters. This has proved a particularly efficient and pragmatic way of taking decisions in these exceptional circumstances».

The introduced amendments go beyond technical or editorial changes and significantly affect the meaning and the scope of the decision. Amendments of such nature call for substantive consultations among tripartite constituents. We, therefore, prefer that this matter be deferred until the next session of the Governing Body when conditions, hopefully, allow the holding of a thorough and inclusive discussion on the draft among all interested delegations.