



FOR INFORMATION

SEVENTEENTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Report of the Director-General

Tenth Supplementary Report: Developments relating to the preparation of the Conference discussion on strengthening the ILO's capacity

1. At its 300th Session, the Governing Body decided to place on the agenda of the 97th Session (2008) of the International Labour Conference an item on strengthening ILO's capacity.¹ In addition, the Governing Body requested the Director-General to report to its 301st Session (March 2008) on relevant developments for the preparation of the Conference discussion. In accordance with this request, the following information appears relevant.
2. The Office prepared a draft of the elements of a possible authoritative text, which was sent out to regional coordinators at the end of 2007. This initial draft was the subject of informal tripartite consultations on 5–6 February and was subsequently revised in the light of the very useful inputs received during these consultations. The revised text forms part of Report VI and will serve as the basis for the Conference discussion. As scheduled, the report will be available at least two months before the Conference opens on 28 May 2008.²
3. Further, as foreseen in the programme of work and the oral report which were presented to the Governing Body at its last session, two further documents were prepared by the Office on the possible modalities for the cyclical review scheme and on two other governance and capacity issues with a view to being discussed in a steering group of the Governing Body. They were the object of a preliminary discussion in a preparatory consultative meeting on 7 March and then in another consultative meeting on 13 March, which like previous consultations were moderated by Mr Elmiger, former Chairperson of the Committee on

¹ “Strengthening the ILO's capacity to assist its Members' efforts to reach its objectives in the context of globalization: Continuation of the discussion on strengthening the ILO's capacity and possible consideration of an authoritative document, possibly in the form of a Declaration or any other suitable instrument, together with any appropriate follow-up, and the form they may take.”

² It was foreseen in the oral report delivered to the Governing Body at its last session that this report could be complemented by a supplementary report relating to subsequent developments during the March Governing Body.

Strengthening the ILO's Capacity. Both meetings were open to all member States of the ILO, and they involved the participation of the Employers' and Workers' groups. It was understood that the discussions would have to resume within a steering group of the Governing Body after the Conference. The Governing Body would then also have to decide the arrangements that are the most suitable for the efficient consideration of remaining issues and the further governance of the process by the Governing Body.

Geneva, 18 March 2008.

Submitted for information.