



FIRST ITEM ON THE AGENDA

**Dates, duration and composition
of activities to be held in 2009****(a) Meeting of Experts to Adopt a Code
of Practice on Safety and Health
in Agriculture
(Geneva, 22–30 September 2009)**

1. At its 298th Session (March 2007), the Governing Body endorsed a proposal to hold a Meeting of Experts to Adopt a Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Agriculture. At its 300th Session (November 2007), it further decided that the purpose of the Meeting would be to adopt a code that would complement, but not be a substitute for, the Safety and Health in Agriculture Convention, 2001 (No. 184). The code should be practical and reader-friendly. Implementation in the workplace should be the central focus, and the important linkages between national policy and enterprise action should be made clear, as well as the role of the labour inspectorate. Additional subjects proposed by the advisory body would be considered for inclusion. The Governing Body also decided that the Meeting would be held from 22 to 30 September 2009 and that eight experts of high calibre would be nominated for each group. The eight Employer experts would be nominated after consultations with the Employers' group and the eight Worker experts would be nominated after consultations with the Workers' group of the Governing Body.
2. As has been the practice in the recent past, the Director-General proposes to appoint, after consultation with the groups of the Governing Body, a knowledgeable chairperson from outside the Meeting, thereby enabling all the invited experts to play a full part in the Meeting.
3. The Director-General proposes that the Governments of the following eight countries be invited to nominate experts who would participate in the Meeting in their personal capacity: Costa Rica, Kenya, South Africa, Sweden, Thailand, United Kingdom, Uruguay and Viet Nam.
4. It is further proposed that, should any of the Governments mentioned in paragraph 3 decline to nominate an expert, one of the following Governments would be invited to do so: Argentina, Australia, Fiji, Finland, Guatemala, Kyrgyzstan, Luxembourg, Republic of Moldova, Netherlands, New Zealand, Sao Tome and Principe, Slovakia or Zambia.

5. The Committee may wish to make recommendations to the Governing Body in respect of the Meeting of Experts to Adopt a Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Agriculture, concerning:

(a) the appointment of a chairperson for that Meeting;

(b) the governments to be invited to nominate an expert; and

(c) the countries to be included on the reserve list, as proposed in paragraphs 3 and 4.

(b) Technical workshop on the global food crisis and its impact on decent work

6. At the 97th Session of the International Labour Conference (May–June 2008), a resolution was adopted concerning the ILO’s and the tripartite constituents’ role in tackling the global food crisis. The resolution called on the Governing Body to request the Director-General to consider allocating resources to enable the ILO to convene a tripartite technical workshop on the global food crisis and its impact on decent work. The purpose of the meeting would be to take account of the work by the Chief Executives Board (CEB) Task Force on the Global Food Crisis; to share with other UN agencies the expertise of the ILO tripartite partners on rural employment and poverty reduction; and to contribute to an informed discussion within the UN on the social and employment impact of food prices on decent work.

7. Since that time, consultations have been undertaken to consider how the meeting could best address the impact of rising food prices on decent work in the medium and long term, as well as possible dates for the meeting and its duration and composition.

8. Consultations were ongoing at the time the present paper was being drafted. It is expected that these consultations will have been completed in time for the Committee to receive at its current session a document containing a proposal with regard to the technical workshop.

Geneva, 18 October 2008.

Point for decision: Paragraph 5.