

**FOR DECISION**

SEVENTEENTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Report of the Director-General*Addendum***Obituary****Mr Hiroshi Tsujino**

1. The Director-General announces with deep regret the death, on 9 May 2009, of Mr Hiroshi Tsujino, former Employers' delegate to the International Labour Conference and Employer member of the Governing Body.
2. Mr Tsujino graduated in law from Tokyo University and began working in the Mitsubishi Chemical Corporation immediately. He subsequently interrupted his career to undertake postgraduate studies in industrial relations at the University of Illinois in the United States. These studies were to stand him in good stead for a lifetime dedicated to personnel management and to ensuring smooth and fair industrial relations. In 1983, he was appointed Chief Executive Officer and Representative Director of the Board of the Ryoka Light Metal Industries Company. In the same year he became a Board Member of the International Panel of Aluminium Industries and Director of the Japan Federation of Employers' Associations (NIKKEIREN). In 1989, he was appointed Chairman of the International Organisation of Employers (IOE). In 1995, His Majesty the Emperor of Japan conferred upon him the Order of the Sacred Treasure, Gold Rays with Neck Ribbon.
3. Mr Tsujino's association with the ILO began in 1985, when he was appointed a regular member of the Governing Body, a post in which he continued to serve until 1994. He attended the International Labour Conference as an Employers' delegate from 1987 to 1994 and, in 1988, he was appointed Employer Vice-President of the 75th Session of the Conference.
4. As an expert in industrial relations, Mr Tsujino was moved by the profound conviction that world peace could only be achieved if there was social justice. He saw the ILO as critical to this and considered its mandate to be a "noble objective". He strongly insisted on the absolute need for upholding human rights and constantly defended the value and importance of labour. In his address to the Conference in 1987, he stated that "trying to understand and help one another ... is the quintessence of humanism and the source of universal peace. It is the spiritual backbone of the Constitution of the ILO and intrinsic to the Declaration of Philadelphia". It was this quest for understanding other, even opposing,

positions and opinions that made him so valuable a partner for the ILO: he sought always the common ground of consensus.

- 5. The Governing Body will no doubt wish to request the Director-General to convey its condolences to Mr Tsujino's family and to the Japan Business Federation (NIPPON-KEIDANREN).***

Geneva, 10 November 2009.

Point for decision: Paragraph 5.