



FIFTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Sectoral activities 2010–11**Proposal for other activities in 2010–11
under the Sectoral Activities Programme:
Tripartite meeting on labour aspects of
sustainable construction – new proposals
from the Office in relation to training in the
construction sector**

1. The paper submitted to the Committee in March 2009 on sectoral aspects of the global economic and financial crisis ¹ highlighted the impact of the crisis and subsequent economic recession on the construction industry. The document made reference to reports about the deterioration in working conditions and the risks that safety and health programmes in construction would be downscaled in spite of their importance for the protection of workers' rights and for increased productivity. The paper emphasized the need to ensure that the protection of workers' safety and health not be compromised, particularly as by its nature construction is one of the most hazardous industries.
2. Strengthening training on safety and health was recommended as part of the conclusions of the ILO Tripartite Meeting on the Construction Industry in the Twenty-first Century: Its Image, Employment Prospects and Skill Requirements (Geneva, 10–14 December 2001) ² and formed one of the key components of the Construction Action Programme (2004–07).
3. Subsequently, one of the activities approved by the Governing Body for the biennium 2008–09 was the development of training materials on safety and health in construction. The materials were recently completed, with different modules for clients, contractors, consultants and workers. While the materials are now available, they would benefit from follow-up to promote their use.
4. In view of the above and following informal consultations with the constituents, the Office proposes that the Committee and the Governing Body reconsider the decision taken in March 2009 to hold a tripartite meeting on labour aspects of sustainable construction in

¹ GB.304/STM/2/2.

² *Note on the proceedings*, TMCIT/2001/12.

2011.³ Rather, the resources set aside for this activity would be used for a training programme on safety and health in construction for clients, contractors, consultants and workers. The programme would entail the publication of the training materials already produced, the translation of the materials into Spanish and the organization of training courses for the actors concerned in at least one region. The purpose would be to strengthen the capacity of the different actors to promote better safety and health conditions in the construction industry through use of the materials.

- 5. The Committee may wish to recommend that the Governing Body approve the implementation of a training programme on safety and health in construction, using the resources originally approved for the organization of a tripartite meeting on labour aspects of sustainable construction in 2011, which will not be implemented.***

Geneva, 19 January 2010.

Point for decision: Paragraph 5.

³ GB.304/STM/1, para. 10; and GB.304/12.