



## Ninth European Regional Meeting

Oslo, Norway, 8–11 April 2013

ERM.9/D.6

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### Report of the Credentials Committee

1. The Credentials Committee, which was appointed by the Ninth European Regional Meeting at its first sitting, met on 8, 9 and 10 April 2013, in conformity with article 9 of the *Rules for Regional Meetings*, to examine the credentials of the delegates and advisers accredited to the Meeting, as well as objections to the nominations of delegates or advisers, complaints concerning the non-payment of travel and subsistence expenses of delegations, and other communications.
2. The Committee was composed as follows:  
*Chairperson:* Ms Vibe Westh (Government delegate, Denmark)  
*Vice-Chairpersons:* Ms Lidija Horvatić (Employers' delegate, Croatia)  
Mr Yves Veyrier (Workers' substitute delegate, France)
3. Credentials that have been received in respect of the members of the delegations have been submitted in the form of official instruments, official letters, and facsimiles. Scanned copies of such documents sent by electronic mail have been considered as equivalent to facsimiles.
4. The Committee draws the attention of the Governments to the importance of respecting article 1, paragraph 3, of the abovementioned Rules, according to which credentials must be deposited at least 15 days before the opening of the Meeting (i.e. 25 March 2013 for this Meeting). The Committee was concerned that the credentials from only 31 member States (only one more than in 2009, in relation to the Eighth European Regional Meeting held in Lisbon) were received within that time limit. Since this information serves as the basis for objections to the credentials of delegates or their advisers, the absence of full information before the beginning of the Meeting was a concern to the Committee.

### Composition of the Meeting

5. By the time of the adoption of this report, of the 51 member States invited to attend the Meeting, 42 had sent credentials (two less than in 2009, in relation to the Eighth European Regional Meeting). Therefore, nine member States of the region were not accredited (Albania, Armenia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Kyrgyzstan, Malta, San Marino, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan). One of the accredited delegations (Israel) did not register. The Committee hopes that all member States will in the future participate in Regional Meetings and that appropriate steps will be taken to this effect.

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6. The Meeting was composed of 80 Government delegates, 39 Employers' delegates and 40 Workers' delegates, that is 159 **accredited** delegates in all. In addition, the Meeting comprised 97 Government advisers, 38 Employers' advisers and 78 Workers' advisers, amounting to a total of 213 accredited advisers.<sup>1</sup> The total number of accredited delegates and advisers thus amounted to 372.<sup>2</sup> Annex A to this report contains more detailed information in this regard.
  7. Regarding the number of delegates and advisers having **registered**, there were 74 Government delegates, 34 Employers' delegates and 38 Workers' delegates, making a total of 146 delegates. The total number of advisers amounted to 176, of whom 77 were Government advisers, 30 Employers' advisers, and 69 Workers' advisers. The total number of registered delegates and advisers amounted to 322.<sup>3</sup> Annex B to this report contains more detailed information in this regard.
  8. The Committee noted that one delegation accredited to the Meeting (Israel) was exclusively governmental. In addition, the delegations of the Russian Federation and of the United Kingdom were comprised of the Workers' delegate but not the Employers' delegate; whereas, the delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina was comprised of the Employers' delegate but not the Workers' delegate. The Azerbaijan delegation, on the other hand, was comprised of both an Employers' delegate and Workers' delegate, but did not have any Government delegates.
  9. With regard to the resolutions concerning the participation of women in ILO meetings, adopted by the International Labour Conference at its 60th, 67th, 78th and 98th Sessions (June 1975, June 1981, June 1991 and June 2009), the Committee noted that 60 of the 159 delegates and 94 of the 213 advisers who were accredited to the Meeting were women. Therefore, women represented **41.4** per cent of the total accredited delegates and advisers<sup>4</sup> (as compared to 34.3 per cent at the Eighth European Regional Meeting). The Committee noted with particular concern that five delegations contained no women delegates or advisers (Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Israel, Kazakhstan and the Republic of Moldova). The Committee, recalling that the United Nations had set a target of increasing the proportion of women in decision- and policy-making bodies to at least 30 per cent which was referred to by the Director-General in the letter of convocation sent to the Members, notes with pleasure that this target has not only been achieved at this Meeting but has been exceeded. The Committee calls upon the constituents of all member States to strive to increase even more the representation of women in delegations to future ILO meetings, in order to achieve equal representation.<sup>5</sup> The Committee congratulates the constituents for significantly exceeding the targeted percentage in each group.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Persons appointed as both substitute delegates and advisers have been included among the advisers for the purposes of this report.

<sup>2</sup> In 2009, at the Eighth European Regional Meeting (Lisbon, Portugal), the total number of accredited delegates and advisers was 373 (169 delegates and 204 advisers).

<sup>3</sup> In 2009, at the Eighth European Regional Meeting, the total number of registered delegates and advisers was 348 (158 delegates and 190 advisers).

<sup>4</sup> Some 37.7 per cent for delegates and 44.1 per cent for advisers.

<sup>5</sup> By comparison: at the 15th Asia and the Pacific Regional Meeting (Kyoto, December 2011) where only 11.6 per cent of the delegates accredited and 28.3 of the advisers to the Meeting were women; the 12th African Regional Meeting (Johannesburg, October 2011) where 21.4 per cent of total delegates and advisers accredited to the Meeting were women; and the 17th American Regional

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10. One Head of State, one Prime Minister and two Deputy Prime Ministers, as well as 38 Ministers and Vice-Ministers attended the Meeting (including Ministers of Finance and Justice).

### ***Representatives of official international organizations***

11. Of the official intergovernmental organizations invited to attend the Meeting, in conformity with article 1, paragraph 8, of the *Rules for Regional Meetings* and in accordance with the relevant agreements or decisions of the Governing Body, the following were represented:
- Council of Europe
  - European Union, including the European Commission, the European Parliament, the European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training, the European Training Foundation and the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions
  - International Monetary Fund
  - International Organization for Migration
  - Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
  - Regional Cooperation Council of South Eastern Europe
  - United Nations, including the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues

### ***Representatives of non-governmental international organizations***

12. Of the non-governmental international organizations invited to attend the Meeting, in conformity with article 1, paragraph 8, of the *Rules for Regional Meetings* and in accordance with the relevant decisions of the Governing Body, the following were represented:
- International Organisation of Employers
  - International Trade Union Confederation
  - International Confederation of Private Employment Agencies
  - European Trade Union Confederation
  - General Confederation of Trade Unions

Meeting (Santiago, December 2010) where 24.5 per cent of total delegates and advisers accredited to the Meeting were women.

<sup>6</sup> The breakdown by group was 48.6 per cent for Governments, 35.1 per cent for Employers and 34.75 per cent for Workers.

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## Objections, complaints and communications

### Objections and complaints

13. The Committee received no objections or complaints. The Committee welcomes the fact that the Governments and social partners seemed to have observed the rules established by the ILO Constitution and as set out in article 1, paragraphs 1 and 2 of the *Rules for Regional Meetings* regarding the nomination of delegates and the obligation of Members to pay travel and subsistence expenses of their tripartite delegations.

### Communications

14. The Committee received one communication regarding an incomplete delegation. As the Committee did not have the same competence as the Credentials Committee of the International Labour Conference, it could only present the communication to the Government concerned inviting it to present its comments, if it so wished. However, as the Government in question itself had not registered, this was not possible.

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15. The Committee, noting the number of incomplete delegations as stated in paragraph 8 above, is aware that its mandate is more restrained than the mandate of the Credentials Committee of the Conference as regards incomplete delegations. Nevertheless, it recalls the obligation of all governments of member States and territories invited to a Regional Meeting, under article 1, paragraph 1 of the *Rules for Regional Meetings*, to nominate complete delegations that ensure, in particular, a balanced representation of employers and workers. It expects that the concerned governments will attend the next European Regional Meeting with fully tripartite delegations.
16. The Committee recalls that, by decision of the Governing Body adopted at its 183rd Session (June 1971) and modified at its 205th Session (March 1978), the Director-General is requested to carry out inquiries concerning the reasons for failure to send complete tripartite delegations, including to Regional Meetings, and to report to the Governing Body on the responses. The Committee wishes to encourage the Director-General to contact the governments mentioned in paragraphs 5 and 8 above and to report to the Governing Body accordingly.
17. The Credentials Committee adopts this report unanimously.
18. This report is submitted to the Meeting in order for the Meeting to request the Office to bring it to the attention of the Governing Body in conformity with article 9, paragraph 4, of the *Rules for Regional Meetings*.

Oslo, 10 April 2013

(Signed) Ms Vibe Westh  
Chairperson

Ms Lidija Horvatić

Mr Yves Veyrier

## Annex A

### Accredited delegates and advisers

(Updated as of 5 p.m. on 10.04.2013)

	Government Delegates	Employers' Delegates	Workers' Delegates	Government Advisers	Employers' Advisers	Workers' Advisers
Albania	-	-	-	-	-	-
Armenia	-	-	-	-	-	-
Austria	2	1	1	-	-	-
Azerbaijan	-	1	1	-	-	2
Belarus	2	1	1	-	2	1
Belgium	2	1	1	8	1	5
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2	1	-	-	-	-
Bulgaria	2	1	1	3	-	-
Croatia	2	1	1	-	2	1
Cyprus	2	1	1	-	1	-
Czech Republic	2	1	1	-	1	1
Denmark	2	1	1	1	1	1
Estonia	2	1	1	-	-	-
Finland	2	1	1	1	1	1
France	2	1	1	4	-	8
Georgia	2	1	1	2	-	-
Germany	2	1	1	-	2	2
Greece	2	1	1	3	1	2
Hungary	2	1	1	-	-	-
Iceland	2	1	1	1	-	-
Ireland	2	1	1	5	1	1
Israel	1	-	-	-	-	-
Italy	2	1	1	2	3	5
Kazakhstan	2	1	1	-	-	-
Kyrgyzstan	-	-	-	-	-	-
Latvia	2	1	1	-	-	-
Lithuania	2	1	1	2	-	-
Luxembourg	2	1	1	-	1	4
Malta	-	-	-	-	-	-
Republic of Moldova	1	1	1	-	-	-
Montenegro	2	1	1	-	-	-
Netherlands	2	1	1	-	-	1
Norway	2	1	1	42	11	11
Poland	2	1	1	3	1	2
Portugal	2	1	1	2	1	1
Romania	2	1	1	1	2	4
Russian Federation	2	-	1	7	-	5
San Marino	-	-	-	-	-	-
Serbia	2	1	1	1	-	2
Slovakia	2	1	1	1	-	-
Slovenia	2	1	1	1	-	-
Spain	2	1	1	1	1	2
Sweden	2	1	1	1	2	4
Switzerland	2	1	1	-	1	-
Tajikistan	-	-	-	-	-	-
The former Yug. Rep. Macedonia	-	-	-	-	-	-
Turkey	2	1	1	2	1	9
Turkmenistan	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ukraine	2	1	1	3	1	3
United Kingdom	2	-	1	-	-	-
Uzbekistan	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>78</b>

## Annex B

### Registered delegates and advisers

(Updated as of 5 p.m. on 10.04.2013)

	Government Delegates	Employers' Delegates	Workers' Delegates	Government Advisers	Employers' Advisers	Workers' Advisers
Albania	-	-	-	-	-	-
Armenia	-	-	-	-	-	-
Austria	2	1	1	-	-	-
Azerbaijan	-	-	1	-	-	2
Belarus	1	-	1	-	2	1
Belgium	2	1	1	7	1	5
Bosnia and Herzegovina	2	1	-	-	-	-
Bulgaria	1	1	1	3	-	-
Croatia	2	1	1	-	2	1
Cyprus	2	-	1	-	-	-
Czech Republic	2	1	1	-	1	1
Denmark	2	1	1	1	1	1
Estonia	2	1	1	-	-	-
Finland	2	1	1	1	-	1
France	2	1	1	2	-	7
Georgia	2	1	1	2	-	-
Germany	2	1	-	-	2	2
Greece	2	1	1	3	-	2
Hungary	2	1	1	-	-	-
Iceland	2	1	1	-	-	-
Ireland	2	1	1	5	1	1
Israel	-	-	-	-	-	-
Italy	2	1	1	1	1	3
Kazakhstan	2	1	1	-	-	-
Kyrgyzstan	-	-	-	-	-	-
Latvia	2	1	1	-	-	-
Lithuania	1	1	1	2	-	-
Luxembourg	2	1	1	-	1	4
Malta	-	-	-	-	-	-
Republic of Moldova	1	1	1	-	-	-
Montenegro	2	1	-	-	-	-
Netherlands	2	1	1	-	-	1
Norway	2	1	1	28	11	11
Poland	2	-	1	3	1	2
Portugal	2	1	1	2	1	1
Romania	2	-	1	1	-	4
Russian Federation	2	-	1	6	-	4
San Marino	-	-	-	-	-	-
Serbia	2	1	1	1	-	2
Slovakia	2	1	1	1	-	-
Slovenia	2	1	1	1	-	-
Spain	2	1	1	1	1	-
Sweden	2	1	1	1	2	4
Switzerland	2	1	1	-	-	-
Tajikistan	-	-	-	-	-	-
The former Yug. Rep. Macedonia	-	-	-	-	-	-
Turkey	2	1	1	2	1	7
Turkmenistan	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ukraine	1	1	1	3	1	2
United Kingdom	1	-	1	-	-	-
Uzbekistan	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>69</b>