



Governing Body

319th Session, Geneva, 16–31 October 2013

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Institutional Section

INS

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EIGHTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Follow-up to the resolution on the trade union situation in Fiji, adopted by the Governing Body at its 316th Session (November 2012)

Addendum

Proposal by the Government of Fiji



PROPOSAL BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FIJI

The Republic of Fiji (“**Fiji**”) will have its first truly democratic general elections under the Constitution which was promulgated on 6 September 2013.

Fiji will need to urgently prepare the laws, policies and infrastructure for the general elections which under the Constitution must be held on or before 30 September 2014.

Fiji’s international partners have welcomed the progress made by Fiji towards a free and fair general elections by September 2014 and have pledged technical and financial assistance for this purpose. Earlier this year, the European Union, the Commonwealth and New Zealand jointly conducted a gap analysis of Fijian Elections office and based on their report, two experts from the European Union, 2 experts from New Zealand and 3 experts from Australia are currently in Fiji and are working closely with the Fijian Government in its preparations for the general elections.

The Fijian Government (“**Government**”) is committed to welcoming the ILO Direct Contacts Mission (“**DCM**”) to visit Fiji.

The Government firmly believes that the DCM be invited to visit Fiji soon after the general elections in September 2014. Not only will this assist Fiji in devoting its full attention to the preparation and holding of the general elections, it will also mean that the visit of the DCM at that time will be most effective for Fiji as the DCM will be held in a politically neutral environment and be able to provide suitable solutions and options to the incoming Parliament with respect to the issues raised against Fiji. It will also be the most cost-efficient option for all parties as it will avoid the need to have multiple DCMs.

Given the above, the Government proposes the following to the ILO Governing Body (“**ILOGB**”):

1. That the ILOGB notes Fiji’s progress made towards holding truly democratic general elections by September 2014 under the Constitution;
2. That the ILOGB takes further note of Government’s firm commitment towards welcoming the DCM soon after the general elections;
3. That to ensure that the DCM is able to fully achieve its purpose in providing solutions to Fiji after the general elections, it is proposed that the ILO sends a Senior ILO official to visit Fiji next year to provide assistance to Fiji in preparing for the DCM, including the finalization of agreed terms of reference;
4. That during the visit by the Senior ILO official, assistance is also provided to Fiji in facilitating, developing and the adoption of a Decent

Work Country Programme (“**DWCP**”) for Fiji in consultation with the tripartite partners;

5. That all matters pertaining to the DCM and the DWCP be submitted for endorsement and adoption by the ILOGB at its meeting in June next year;
6. That the DCM visits Fiji soon after the completion of the general elections in Fiji in September next year, and that the report of the DCM to be submitted to the ILOGB at its November meeting next year;
7. The agenda item Number 15 be deferred to the November 2014 meeting of the ILOGB.



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