



Governing Body

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Report on the work of the tripartite committee to consider further improvements to the approved methodology of Sustainable Development Goal indicator 8.8.2 on labour rights (Geneva, 21 October 2022)

Summary: This document contains a report on the work of the tripartite committee to consider further improvements to the approved methodology of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) indicator 8.8.2 on labour rights.

Author unit: Department of Statistics (STATISTICS).

Related documents: GB.335/INS/14/1; GB.341/INS/16(Rev.1); GB.344/INS/18(Rev.1); GB.345/INS/7.

1. In 2017, the Inter-Agency and Expert Group on Sustainable Development Goal Indicators, the body leading the process of developing indicators for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), requested that the proposed methodology for SDG indicator 8.8.2 on labour rights be discussed in 2018 by the 20th International Conference of Labour Statisticians (20th ICLS), in order to adopt an internationally agreed methodology for this indicator.¹
2. In October 2018, after a series of bipartite and tripartite consultations held with ILO constituents, the 20th ICLS adopted a resolution concerning the methodology of the SDG indicator 8.8.2 on labour rights (20th ICLS resolution II),² recognizing the need to have an internationally agreed methodology to measure SDG indicator 8.8.2 consistent with United Nations General Assembly resolution 71/313.³ In its resolution II, the 20th ICLS recommended that the Office adopt the methodology as amended for indicator 8.8.2. It also confirmed that the ILO should be the custodian agency for the indicator, given that ILO textual sources are its statistical foundation.
3. In its resolution II, the 20th ICLS also recommended that the Governing Body of the ILO consider the creation of a tripartite committee to further address improvements to the methodology. The methodology set out in the annex to resolution II clarifies that the mandate of the committee “is not to vet the SDG 8.8.2 indicators prior to their release, but to consider improvements that could be implemented in 2020. It should be emphasized that the primary purpose of the SDG indicators is to establish benchmarks for the consistent monitoring of progress and that the SDG process does not allow for methodological revisions for the construction of SDG indicators prior to 2020 nor on an ad hoc basis, as this would undermine the primary purpose of these indicators.”
4. At its 335th Session (March 2019), the Governing Body requested the Director-General to implement the 20th ICLS resolution II.⁴ At its 341st Session (March 2021), it approved the establishment of a tripartite committee to consider further improvements to the approved methodology of SDG indicator 8.8.2 on labour rights, and the date and composition of its meeting.⁵ Owing to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the meeting had to be postponed but it was ultimately scheduled, upon the nomination of its members, for September and October 2022.⁶ A list of the members of the committee is set out in the appendix. In view of the recommendation in the 20th ICLS resolution II, the Office prepared a technical note with a set of proposed refinements to the methodology for discussion by the committee. The refinements were developed in consideration of the comments provided previously by ILO tripartite constituents and the overall purpose of the global indicator framework for the SDGs, which is to measure progress over time.
5. The work of the committee was organized as follows: two meetings were held virtually, on 22 September and 6 October 2022, and one was organized in person, in Geneva, on 21 October 2022. During the first meeting, the Office presented the methodology adopted for SDG

¹ SDG indicator 8.8.2: “Level of national compliance with labour rights (freedom of association and collective bargaining) based on ILO textual sources and national legislation, by sex and migrant status sex and migrant status.”

² ILO, *Resolution concerning the methodology of the SDG indicator 8.8.2 on labour rights*, 20th ICLS, [ICLS/20/2018/Resolution II](#) (2018).

³ United Nations General Assembly, resolution 71/313, [Work of the Statistical Commission pertaining to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#), A/RES/71/313 (2017).

⁴ GB.335/INS/14/1.

⁵ GB.341/INS/16(Rev.1).

⁶ GB.344/INS/18(Rev.1) and GB.345/INS/7.

indicator 8.8.2 and explained in detail the proposed refinements. The second meeting allowed the members of the committee to discuss in detail the refinements and to put forward their comments. The overall goal of the virtual consultations was to ensure that the members of the committee could take well-informed decisions during the last meeting of the committee. At the last meeting, the Office provided a summary presentation of the proposed refinements and of the changes made to those based on the discussions that had been held previously. After a brief discussion, the refinements were individually presented for acceptance or rejection by the members of the committee. With final changes, each of the proposed refinements was agreed on and accepted unanimously. As a result, an amendment containing a summary of the decisions made by the committee and setting out detailed information on the refinements of the methodology for SDG indicator 8.8.2 was added to the 20th ICLS resolution II. The resolution with the amendment is available on the ILOSTAT website.

6. The refinements concern the following aspects of the methodology as outlined in the annex to the 20th ICLS resolution II and in the [SDG indicator metadata](#) available in the United Nations SDG metadata repository: triggered coding; the application of default rule; dropping countries from reporting on SDG indicator 8.8.2; and reporting for non-ratifying countries.⁷

⁷ Triggered coding is covered in the annex to the 20th ICLS resolution II, p. 17, second para.; the application of default rule is covered in the annex, p. 17, third para.; dropping countries from reporting on SDG indicator 8.8.2 is covered in the annex, p. 18, seventh para., and in the SDG indicator metadata, section 4.f., first para.; and reporting for non-ratifying countries is covered in the SDG indicator metadata, section 4.f., first para.

► Appendix

List of members of the tripartite committee to consider further improvements to the approved methodology for SDG indicator 8.8.2 on labour rights

Government group

- Mr Md. Humayun Kabir (Bangladesh)
- Ms Corine Elsa Angonemane Mvondo (Cameroon)
- Ms Sara Gabriela Luna Camacho (Mexico)
- Mr Thomas Janson (Sweden)

Employers' group

- Mr Luis Rodrigo Morales
- Ms Rita Yip

Workers' group

- Mr Paapa Danquah
- Mr Grant Belchamber

Office

- Mr Rafael Diez de Medina (STATISTICS)
- Mr Ritash Sarna (STATISTICS)
- Ms Karen Curtis (NORMES)
- Mr David Kucera (EMPLOYMENT)
- Ms Dora Sari (STATISTICS)
- Ms Sanchir Tugschimeg (ACT/EMP)
- Mr Samuel Asfaha (ACT/EMP)
- Mr Christian Hess (ACT/EMP)
- Ms Mélanie Jeanroy (ACTRAV)
- Mr Laurent Mottier (ACTRAV)