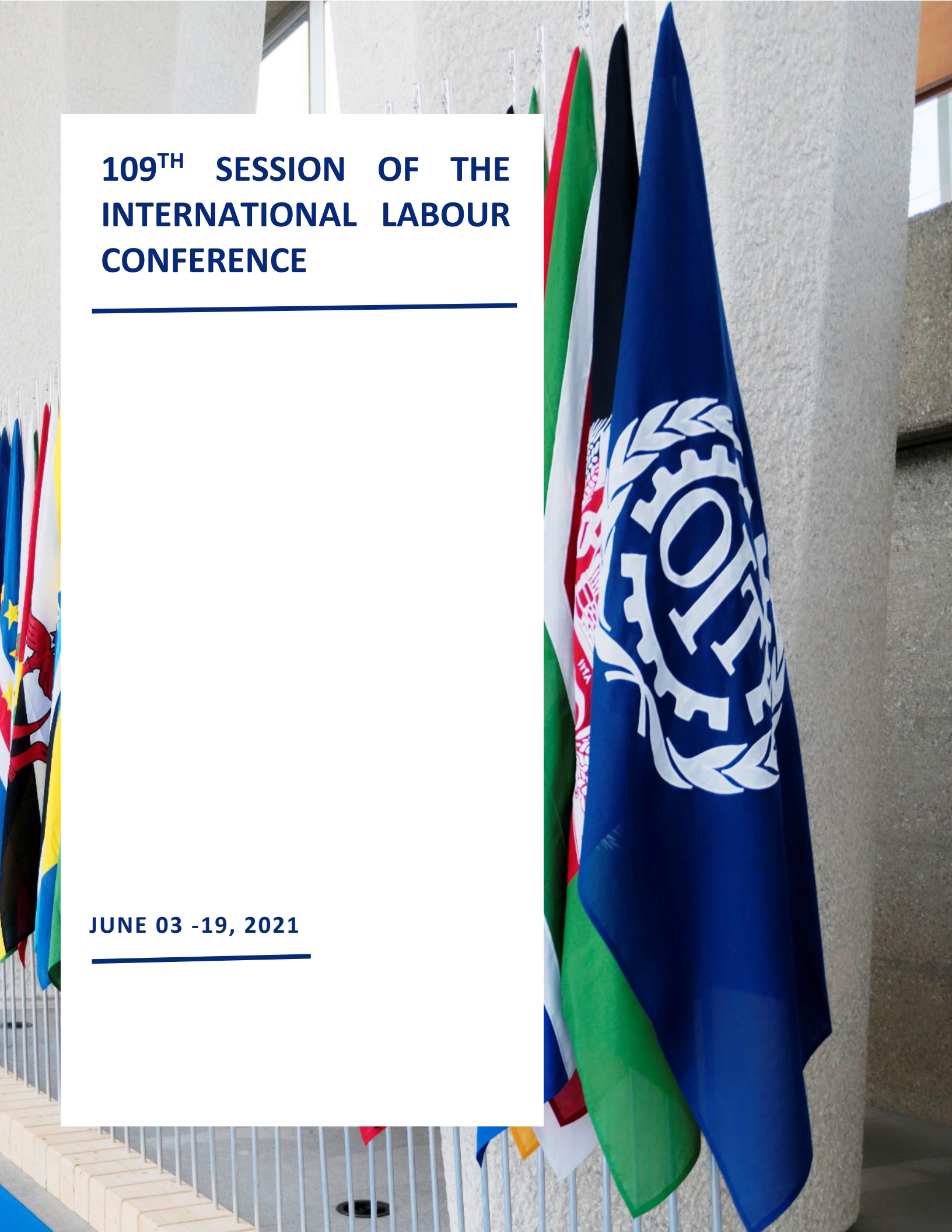


109TH SESSION OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE

JUNE 03 -19, 2021



INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE

The International Labour Conference (ILC) is held every year in Geneva, Switzerland, in the month of June. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic the 109th Session of the ILC was held via ZOOM, which resulted in an increase in the number of Member States participating in this year's Conference.

The Conference, which is often called an international parliament of labour, has several main tasks.

- First, there is the crafting and adoption of international labour standards in the form of Conventions and Recommendations. Conventions are international treaties that, once adopted by the Conference, are open to ratification by Member States. Ratification creates a legal obligation to apply the provisions of the Convention in question. Recommendations, on the other hand, are intended to guide national action, but are not open to ratification, and are not legally binding.
- The Conference also supervises the application of Conventions and Recommendations at the national level. It examines the reports which the governments of all member States are required to submit, detailing their compliance with obligations arising out of ratified Conventions, and their law and practice in respect of Conventions and Recommendations (ratified or not) on which reports have been requested by the Governing Body of the ILO.
- Since the adoption of the Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (1998), another important function of the Conference is to examine the Global Report prepared by the Office under the follow-up procedure required by the Declaration. Over a four-year cycle, the Conference examines in turn Global Reports covering the four fundamental rights, namely: (i) freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining; (ii) the elimination of all forms of forced or compulsory labour; (iii) the effective abolition of child labour; and (iv) the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.
- The Conference is also a forum where social and labour questions of importance to the entire world are discussed freely - sometimes passionately. Delegates explore the course of social progress in the world, but the central theme is resonated in the report presented each year by the ILO's Director-General. In recent years, these reports have addressed various themes: Social insurance and social protection (1993); Defending values, promoting change: Social justice in a global economy (1994); Promoting employment (1995); The ILO, standard setting and globalization (1997); Decent Work (1999); Reducing the decent work deficit: A global challenge (2001); and A fair globalization: Creating opportunities for all (2004).
- The Conference also passes resolutions that provide guidelines for the ILO's general policy and future activities.

Every two years, the Conference adopts the ILO's biennial work programme and budget, which is financed by member States.

BELIZE'S DELEGATION

Government's Delegates

- Hon. Oscar Requena, Minister of Rural Transformation, Community Development, Labour and Local Government
- Hon. Ramiro Ramirez, Minister of State, Ministry of Rural Transformation, Community Development, Labour and Local Government
- Mr. Valentino Shal, Chief Executive Officer, Ministry of Rural Transformation, Community Development, Labour and Local Government

Adviser and Substitute Delegate

- Ms. Anne Marie Thompson, Labour Commissioner, Ministry of Rural Transformation, Community Development, Labour and Local Government

Advisers

- Mrs. Aida Reyes, Acting Deputy Labour Commissioner, Ministry of Rural Transformation, Community Development, Labour and Local Government
- Ms. Claire Lamb, Senior Labour Officer, Ministry of Rural Transformation, Community Development, Labour and Local Government

Employers' Delegates

- Mrs. Kim Aikman, Chief Executive Officer, Belize Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Adviser and Substitute Delegates

- Ms. Yorshabell Cattouse, Membership Manager, Belize Chamber of Commerce and Industry
- Mrs. Claudette ElTers, Representative, Belize Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Workers' Delegates

- Mr. Luis-Luke Martinez, President, National Trade Union Congress of Belize

Adviser and Substitute Delegates

- Mr. Marvin Mora, National Trade Union Congress of Belize
- Ms. Sharon Fraser, President, Association of Public Service Senior Managers, National Trade Union Congress of Belize

CONFERENCE

The Conference officially opened on 7th June, 2021; however, several Committees of the Conference commenced their work from 1st June, 2021.

The following Committees were opened for Member States' participation:

1. Committee on the Application of Standards
 - a. Meeting Dates: 3rd to 18th June, 2021 (Mondays to Saturdays)
 - b. Meeting Time: 5:00 am to 8:00 am
 - c. Participant/s: Labour Commissioner and Senior Labour Officer, Ms. Claire Lamb
2. Recurrent Discussion Committee: Social Security
 - a. Meeting Dates: 3rd to 18th June, 2021
 - b. Meeting Time: 5:00 am to 8:00 am
 - c. Participant/s: Acting Deputy Labour Commissioner
3. COVID Response Committee
 - a. Meeting Dates: 3rd to 18th June, 2021 (Mondays to Saturdays)
 - b. Meeting Time: 5:00 am to 8:00 am
 - c. Participant/s: Labour Commissioner and Acting Deputy Labour Commissioner
4. Plenary
 - a. Meeting Dates: 7th to 18th June, 2021
 - b. Meeting Time: 5:00 am to 8:00 am
 - c. Participant/s: Minister of Labour, Labour Commissioner, Acting Deputy Labour Commissioner, and Senior Labour Officer, Ms. Claire Lamb

The remaining two Committees will be open for discussion starting 25th November, 2021 to 10th December, 2021:

1. General Discussion Working Party: Inequalities and the world of work
2. General Discussion Working Party: Skills and lifelong learning

Belize's delegation participated on all four Committees and their regional group committees, for example, the Government's delegates participated in the GRULAC meetings. GRULAC stands for Group of Latin American and Caribbean Countries. GRULAC meetings started from 3rd to 18th June, 2021 (Mondays to Saturdays) from 8:00 am to 11:00 am.

GRULAC is one of the five United Nations Regional Groups composed of 33 Member States representing governments from Central and South America, Mexico and the West Indies. The Group is a non-binding dialogue group that discusses subjects concerning regional and international matters. During the Conference, GRULAC members prepared and presented position papers for the COVID Response Committee and the Social Security Committee. Additionally, GRULAC drafted and presented statements in support of the accomplishments and commitments made by Member States called before the Committee on the Application of Standards.

MINISTER'S SPEECH

On 16th June, 2021 Hon. Oscar Requena, Minister of Labour addressed the Plenary of the International Labour Conference. Below is the link to access the recording of the Minister's speech:

<https://www.ilo.org/ilc/ILCSessions/109/live-coverage/lang--en/index.htm#/event/plenary-day-8/segment/oscar-requena>



INTERNATIONAL LABOUR STANDARDS

Abrogation of Conventions

The Governing Body of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) can place on the agenda of the International Labour Conference (ILC) the question of abrogation of Conventions in force – i.e. Conventions which have become obsolete. A Convention is categorized as obsolete/outdated when it appears that it has lost its purpose or that it no longer makes a useful contribution to attaining the objectives of the ILO.

When the ILC decides to abrogate the Conventions, these Conventions would be removed from the ILO's body of standards and as a result, Member States having ratified them will no longer be obliged to submit reports under Article 22 of the ILO Constitution and may no longer be subject to representations under Article 24 or complaints under Article 26 for non-observance.

At the 109th Session of the ILC, Member States' delegates voted for the abrogation of eight (8) Conventions:

CONVENTION	RECORD VOTE ON THE ABROGATION	COMMENTS
Unemployment Indemnity (Shipwreck) Convention, 1920 (No. 8)	For – 348 Against – 7 Abstentions - 20	Automatic denunciation on 8 th July, 2015 because Belize ratified the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006
Placing of Seamen Convention, 1920 (No. 9)	For – 347 Against – 5 Abstentions - 23	Was not ratified by Belize
Medical Examination of Young Persons (Sea) Convention, 1921 (No. 16)	For – 349 Against – 7 Abstentions - 19	Automatic denunciation on 8 th July, 2015 because Belize ratified the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006
Officers' Competency Certificates Convention, 1936 (No. 53)	For – 347 Against – 7 Abstentions - 21	Was not ratified by Belize
Medical Examination (Seafarers) Convention, 1946 (No. 73)	For – 350 Against – 7 Abstentions - 18	Was not ratified by Belize
Certification of Able Seamen Convention, 1946 (No. 74)	For – 349 Against – 7 Abstentions – 19	Was not ratified by Belize
Paid Vacations (Seafarers) Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 91)	For – 347 Against – 6 Abstentions – 22	Was not ratified by Belize
Continuity of Employment (Seafarers) Convention, 1976 (No. 145)	For – 346 Against – 5 Abstentions – 24	Was not ratified by Belize

Withdrawal of Conventions

If a Convention not in force or a Recommendation is considered obsolete, the ILC can vote for it to be withdrawn, that is, removed from the body of international labour standards.

At the 109th Session of the ILC, Member states voted for twenty-one (21) international labour standards to be withdrawn:

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR STANDARDS	RECORD VOTE ON THE ABROGATION	COMMENTS
Minimum Age (Sea) Convention, 1920 (No. 7)	For – 350 Against – 4 Abstentions - 21	Automatic denunciation on 6 th March, 2001 because Belize ratified Convention No. 138
Fee-Charging Employment Agencies Convention, 1933 (No. 34)	For – 352 Against – 3 Abstentions - 20	Was not ratified by Belize
Holidays with Pay (Sea) Convention, 1936 (No. 54)	For – 347 Against – 9 Abstentions - 19	Was not ratified by Belize
Hours of Work and Manning (Sea) Convention, 1936 (No. 57)	For – 346 Against – 7 Abstentions - 22	Was not ratified by Belize
Paid Vacations (Seafarers) Convention, 1946 (No. 72)	For – 348 Against – 4 Abstentions - 23	Was not ratified by Belize
Wages, Hours of Work and Manning (Sea) Convention, 1946 (No. 76)	For – 347 Against – 3 Abstentions – 25	Was not ratified by Belize
Wages, Hours of Work and Manning (Sea) Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 93)	For – 346 Against – 5 Abstentions – 24	Was not ratified by Belize
Wages, Hours of Work and Manning (Sea) Convention (Revised), 1958 (No. 109)	For – 344 Against – 6 Abstentions – 25	Was not ratified by Belize
Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers Convention, 1996 (No. 179)	For – 348 Against – 4 Abstentions – 23	Was not ratified by Belize
Seafarers' Hours of Work and the Manning of Ships Convention, 1996 (No. 180)	For – 346 Against – 3 Abstentions – 26	Was not ratified by Belize
Repatriation (Ship Masters and Apprentices) Recommendation, 1926 (No. 27)	For – 348 Against – 6 Abstentions – 21	Not Applicable
Prevention of Industrial Accidents Recommendation, 1929 (No. 31)	For – 347 Against – 7 Abstentions – 21	Not Applicable
Hours of Work and Manning (Sea) Recommendation, 1936 (No. 49)	For – 347 Against – 7 Abstentions – 21	Not Applicable
Seafarers' Engagement (Foreign Vessels) Recommendation, 1958 (No. 107)	For – 348 Against – 5 Abstentions – 22	Not Applicable

Vocational Training (Seafarers) Recommendation, 1970 (No. 137)	For – 348 Against – 5 Abstentions – 22	Not Applicable
Employment of Seafarers (Technical Developments) Recommendation, 1970 (No. 139)	For – 346 Against – 7 Abstentions – 22	Not Applicable
Protection of Young Seafarers Recommendation, 1976 (No. 153)	For – 346 Against – 8 Abstentions – 21	Not Applicable
Continuity of Employment (Seafarers) Recommendation, 1976 (No. 154)	For – 344 Against – 7 Abstentions – 24	Not Applicable
Repatriation of Seafarers Recommendation, 1987 (No. 174)	For – 347 Against – 6 Abstentions – 22	Not Applicable
Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers Recommendation, 1996 (No. 186)	For – 346 Against – 5 Abstentions – 24	Not Applicable
Seafarers' Wages, Hours of Work and the Manning of Ships Recommendation, 1996 (No. 187)	For – 346 Against – 8 Abstentions – 21	Not Applicable

SUPERVISION OF THE APPLICATION OF CONVENTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Committee on the Application of Standards

The Committee on the Application of Standards reviewed and discussed nineteen individual cases. Governments' delegates were given the opportunity to provide written and oral information to the Committee in response to their countries' non-compliance of international labour standards.

A copy of the Committee's report is attached to this report.

ILO DIRECTOR-GENERAL'S REPORT

COVID Response Committee

The task of the COVID Response Committee had a unique opportunity to discuss and adopt an outcome document that would ensure that the ILO remained relevant in a time of unprecedented crisis and that would help the world of work build forward better. The outcome document before the Committee was entitled, ***"A global call to action for a human-centred recovery from the COVID-19 crisis that is inclusive, sustainable and resilient"***, which was appended to the Report of the Director-General.

The outcome document discussed matters, such as the urgent and coordinated actions needed to ensure that all people have speedy, equitable and affordable access to safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines. These actions are critical to curbing the growing inequality within and between countries and to restarting economies and commitments such as, placing the aim of full, productive and freely chosen employment and decent work, the needs of the most vulnerable and hardest hit by the pandemic, and support for sustainable enterprises, jobs and incomes at the heart of strategies to build forward better from the crisis, taking into full account national circumstances and priorities.

The Committee was successful in producing a resolution from the outcome document. Attached is a copy of the resolution entitled, *"Resolution concerning a global call to action for a human-centered recovery from the COVID-19 crisis that is inclusive, sustainable and resilient."*

RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED

Below are fourteen (14) links that provide access to the Resolutions adopted by the Conference:

LINKS

NOTE - to access the Resolutions kindly press your "Ctrl" key and click on the links below:

- I. [Resolution concerning a global call to action for a human-centred recovery from the COVID-19 crisis that is inclusive, sustainable and resilient](#)
- II. [Resolution for a return to democracy and respect for fundamental rights in Myanmar](#)
- III. [Resolution concerning the second recurrent discussion on social protection \(social](#)

[security\)](#)

IV. [Resolution on the principle of equality among ILO Member States and fair representation of all regions in the ILO's tripartite governance](#)

V. [Resolution concerning the adoption of the Programme and Budget for 2022–23 and the allocation of the budget of income among Member States \(19 June 2021\)](#)

VI. [Resolution concerning the scale of assessments of contributions to the budget for 2022 \(18 June 2021\)](#)

VII. [Resolution concerning the financial report and audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2019 \(18 June 2021\)](#)

VIII. [Resolution concerning the financial report and audited consolidated financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2020 \(18 June 2021\)](#)

IX. [Resolution concerning the dissolution of the Voluntary Thrift Benefit Fund \(18 June 2021\)](#)

X. [Resolution concerning the statute of the Administrative Tribunal of the International Labour Organization \(18 June 2021\)](#)

XI. [Resolution concerning the composition of the Administrative Tribunal of the International Labour Organization \(18 June 2021\)](#)

XII. [Resolution concerning the appointments to the ILO Staff Pension Committee \(United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board\) \(18 June 2021\)](#)

XIII. [Resolution concerning the proceeds from the sale of the ILO-owned land, plot 4057 located in Geneva \(18 June 2021\)](#)

XIV. [Resolution concerning the proceeds from the sale of the ILO Brussels office \(18 June 2021\)](#)

ILO'S BIENNIAL WORK PROGRAMME AND BUDGET

Finance Committee

The questions before the Committee at 109th Session of the Conference included review of the Programme and Budget Proposals for 2022-23; status of collection of Member States' contributions; Appointments to the ILO Staff Pension Committee (United Nations Joint Staff Pension Board); etc.

The following is an extract from the *Resolution concerning the adoption of the Programme and Budget for 2022–23 and the allocation of the budget of income among Member States* dated 19th June, 2021:

“...the 78th financial period, ending 31 December 2023, the budget of expenditure of the International Labour Organization amounting to US\$852,760,200 and the budget of income amounting to US\$852,760,200 which, at the budget rate of exchange of CHF0.90 to the US dollar, amounts to CHF767,484,180, and resolves that the budget of income, denominated in Swiss francs, shall be allocated among Member States in accordance with the scale of contributions recommended by the Finance Committee of Government Representatives...”

A Policy Outcome of interest in the Programme and Budget for 2022-23 is *Outcome 7: Adequate and effective protection at work for all*. The following extract was taken from The Director-General’s Report - Programme and Budget proposals for 2022–23 dated 1st February, 2021, ***“The COVID-19 pandemic has further exposed the uneven distribution of labour protection among workers, hitting some harder because they were inadequately protected against the virus and loss of livelihood. At the same time, the pandemic has accelerated ITC-enabled transformations in work organization (such as telework and digital labour platforms), bringing new opportunities, but also often raising challenges including low and volatile earnings and contracts, unsafe and unhealthy working conditions, long or unpredictable working schedules, and workers’ privacy issues. These new challenges come on top of longstanding concerns such as informal work and child labour, which run the risk of rising again with the crisis.”***

The focus of the ILO in 2022–23 will be on promoting the fundamental principles and rights at work as an integral whole will be boosted through expanded partnerships, including with the private sector. Digital technology will be leveraged to recognize employment relationships where they exist and improve compliance with the law. Evidence and technical assistance to inform wage setting that balances the needs of workers and their families, national economic growth trajectories and sustainability of enterprises will be enhanced. Knowledge and assistance on telework, including its OSH implications, will be deepened, while synergies between Ministries of Labour and Health will be strengthened, including for better health and safety emergency preparedness. Preventing the informalization of jobs and addressing regulatory gaps concerning digital platform work will be prioritized, as will be the inclusion of migrant workers in recovery efforts, including the reintegration of returning migrants in their home countries. Specific initiatives in these areas will be informed by the lessons learned from the implementation of the ILO programme in previous biennia and adapted to the changing socio-economic circumstances and needs of constituents.”

The resolutions adopted by the Finance Committee are listed on pages 9 and 10 from item/link V. to XIV.

SOCIAL PROTECTION

Recurrent Discussion Committee: Social Security

The Committee undertook a second recurrent discussion on social protection (social security), in accordance with the Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization, 2008, to consider how the Organization should respond to the realities and needs of its Members, and duly taking into account the Centenary Declaration for the Future of Work, 2019;

The *Resolution concerning the second recurrent discussion on social protection (social security)*, which was adopted by the Conference listed several guiding principles.

- Guiding principle #5, ***“Access to universal social protection is also crucial for the prevention and reduction of poverty, inequalities, social exclusion and insecurity; and as a means to maintain workers’ income and living standards. It is also an effective crisis response, enabling access to healthcare and stabilizing aggregate demand by supporting income security and facilitating job transitions and business stability. Moreover, social protection represents an investment in inclusive and well-functioning economies and contributes to decent work, productive employment, sustainable enterprises and inclusive growth, ensuring improved tax revenues and fostering social cohesion.”***

A copy of the resolution can be accessed from the list above at item/link III on page 10.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The next International Labour Conference (110th Session) is scheduled for June 2022. In order for the Belize delegation to improve its participation in the various committees, the following are proposed for consideration:

- a. Establishment of an ad hoc Conference Committee (secretariat). This Committee would be responsible to conduct research on the agenda topics, questionnaires and provide all relevant information to the delegations;
- b. Improve our relationship with the ILO sub-regional office for the Caribbean located in Trinidad and Tobago. The Office can provide Belize with the necessary technical support;
- c. Improve our working relationship with GRULAC; and
- d. Meet with relevant agencies and ministries such as the Belize Social Security Board to update them on agenda items and obtain their feedback, since the decisions made at the Conference will impact their work. For example, the decisions made by the Social Security Committee and the COVID Response Committee will impact the work of the Belize Social Security Board.



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BELIZE BRINGS THE CURTAIN DOWN AT HISTORIC 109TH INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE

Belmopan. July 05, 2021. The International Labour Organization (ILO) held its 109th International Labour Conference during the period June 03rd –19th, 2021. One of the historic achievements was that for the first time in the organization's history, this international conference was held online and attended by more than 4,000 delegates from some 177 countries around the world – with an approximately 30% more attendance by women. The theme of the conference was "Building a human centered recovery with decent work for all".

Belize was represented by the Ministry of the Rural Transformation, Community Development, Labour and Local Government, with Hon. Minister Oscar Requena being the head of the country's delegation. In addition, there were representatives from the National Trade Union Congress of Belize and the Belize Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Even though several topical issues were covered at the Conference, there was a laser-focus on two areas: (i) the commitment of tripartite relationships to ensure a post COVID-19 economic recovery that is inclusive, sustainable and resilient and (ii) the commitment of tripartite relationships to ensure social protection for all.

In his address to the international audience on the final day of the conference, Hon. Minister Requena acknowledged the pivotal role of the ILO and tripartite relationships to positively transform the world of work through innovative, competitive, value added and equitable solutions. This transformation, he emphasized, is necessary not only to rebuild businesses and economies but will also rebuild families and communities.

The Minister also pledged Government's commitment to continue providing assistance to workers and businesses to alleviate the financial and social stresses caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, with emphasis on economic growth and new innovative training opportunities for our youths.

End

NOTE

Kindly note that the photographs and information presented in this summary were obtained from:

- (1) Website <https://www.ilo.org/ilc/ILCSessions/109/lang--en/index.htm>
- (2) Ministry of Labour Delegates' meeting notes
- (3) The various Committees' meeting notes and updates.

POST DISCUSSIONS:

On a daily basis, delegates of Belize's Government Representatives (Labour Department Staff) met via MS Team to discuss the information shared in their respective Committees concerning imminent /future amendments to existing labour legislations and enactment of new ones:

1. Amendments to labour legislations in order to adhere to the provisions within various International Labour Conventions highlighted during the Committee on the Application of Standards meetings.
2. Establishment of an unemployment insurance scheme.
3. Labour Inspections within private homes, especially for workers who are teleworking.
4. Drafting of legislations to provide security for workers employed in platform work and workers who are teleworking.

Other topics were shared and discussed including the following :

- ***JUNE 14***

1. ***Romania – ILO Convention 98: Both employers and employees' organizations highlight ed the fact that Government should not be involved in the Collective Bargaining Agreement process. Over 80% of CBAs are negotiated and agreed upon by persons who have no affiliation with trade unions. This is primarily because the Collective Bargaining Mechanism has been dismantled by the Government. A consequence of this is that since 2011 and because of the precarious labour situation, labour migration is more prominent than ever. There were concerns that a minimum of 15 persons are required to form a trade union and this number should be reduced as 92% of business employ less that 15 persons.***
2. ***El Salvador – ILO Convention 144. This was ratified in 1995 . Both the employees' and employers ' associations contended that the Government is not complying with ILO Convention 144.The Government emphasized that it is doing everything possible to ensure compliance and foster a good tripartite relationship with the employers and employees. But both groups of representatives stated different (contradictory) positions. The employers, through the National Business Association, reported that Government gives the Association no recognition, no tripartite meetings are being held and there is systematic harassment The employees' representatives asked that the Council of Labour be reactivated and that Government desists from intimidating their membership. The representative also blamed/condemned the employer organization for working with the Government.***

JUNE 15

1. *Barbados' Minister of Labour, Mr. Colin Jordan, made his speech this morning (June 15th, 2021) at 6:36 a.m. He highlighted the need to mitigate certain risks including climate change and environmental disasters and the importance of tripartite dialogue and action. He also informed the fact that Barbados has immunized 30% of its population against the COVID-19 virus and 22% of those persons have already received both doses of the vaccine. He called for greater global assistance and equity especially as it relates to countries without sufficient resources for the procurement of the COVID-19 vaccines.*
2. *Belgium (Employer Representative) - Urged ILO to develop strategy for productivity growth – to achieve macro economic stability and resilience. BEST Quote of the day / of the Conference, “your best teacher is your last failure” – as stressed in his speech in context of the learning opportunities that have arisen due to COVID-19 as stakeholders adapt to unprecedented global and local challenges with new and creative solutions.*
3. *Venezuela: Called on the ILO to assist in any way possible as they are still experiencing challenges as a legitimate government. This has resulted in hardships for the country and for workers. For example, the country is unable to purchase COVID-19 vaccines. An order has been placed but the funds are not yet released for payment as an international bank is investigating the source of funds, which is delaying the procurement of urgently needed vaccines.*

JUNE 18 , 2020 ILO SUMMIT OF WORKs

Statements by the Secretary General of ILO – The top priority of the ILO (which has been confirmed by polls) is that of social protection. As the Secretary General of the United Nations had said, Covid-19 has made us all feel vulnerable, all at the same time and all over the world.

But now the question is what is going to take us to get us to where we want to be. The answer is two pronged: action is needed firstly at the national level and then globally.

Nationally, it means that for example national budgets need to be focused on a human centered resilience programe. Globally, there needs to be an agenda of solidarity with multinational approval. Practically, this means that we all need a coherent set of actors acting coherently and in this regard, this is the agenda of the ILO and the world of worl

Contributions:

MEXICO

As a result of the COVID-19 Pandemic the Government has ensured universal health access to all. The Government has also ensured that there is a welfare system, as part of its social protection framework, that will benefit those persons and those workers at the bottom of the economic pyramid. It was also reported that there has been a 51% recovery in the purchasing power of workers who were affected by the pandemic.

EUROPEAN UNION

At the recently held EU Summit, for the first time there was a Tripartite Agreement among members to focus on the social pillars of Europe – that is, the social resilience of the economies and to link it with defined quantitative objectives.

Seven Hundred and Sixty Billion Euros will be invested in Europe to promote reskilling and jobs under the Agreement and so each country has committed to having a its own resilience and recovery plan to make this Agreement successful. Ultimately, the Agreement is a commitment to construct a better future after 2020.

- 1. Proposal to Aggregate 28 maritime instruments to strengthen international standards for sea fearers.*
- 2. Budget for 2021 / 22 – what is that figure?*
- 3. Is there a new ILO Administrative Tripartite Body?*
- 4. Proposal for withdrawal of 29 ILO conventions – voting to be completed today and the results announced tomorrow (June 19th)*
- 5. Standing order of the conference – the revised text was adopted by the conference (7:13 a.m.)*
- 6. Revised text Re: Principal equality among the members of the ILO. Russia abstained and asked that it be recorded. Conference adopted text at 7:14 a.m.*

THANK YOU

The Labour Department sincerely thanks our tripartite partners from the National Trade Union Congress of Belize and the Belize Chamber of Commerce and Industry for the invaluable participation in the Conference.

We also extend our sincere appreciation to the Minister and the CEO who went beyond their participation at the Conference and provided invaluable guidance and support throughout the period.

Finally, thanks to everyone for your input.

**Prepared by the Labour Department
31st August, 2021**