

1987 session

Welcome

Glad to see return after one year's absence. As it has done since the WG's inception, the ILO is ready to lend whatever assistance it can.

Since last session, a number of developments of which the WG should be aware. Already notified Centre in writing.

Supervision of the implementation of C. 107 continuing, as ever, in consultation with the UN and other specialised agencies. Return of this.

As the WG has requested - and in fact as many other international gatherings, including those of ind pops have requested - the ILO has taken further steps toward the revision of the Convention.

- informed last time (1985) that would convene M of Experts: did so in September 1986. Included experts appointed by governments and employers' and workers' organisations, as well as by NGOs for the first time. In addition, a number of indigenous representatives as observers. *[2 members of the IILC are present, as far as I know to discuss later-stage nature of all our deliberations.]*

- M of E recommended to the ILO Governing Body that it include the partial revision on the agenda of the International Labour Conference. The GB accepted this recommendation at its November 1986 session, and included the partial revision on the agenda of the 75th (1988) Session of the Conference.

I will be happy to give further detailed information on this process if the WG desires, but perhaps just to review the steps briefly:

- Law and Practice with questionnaire - replies by end Sept. 1987;
- Second report with analysis, proposed conclusions appear March 1988;
- Conference in June 1988, will form a special committee;
- 3rd report in August 1988 with preliminary draft of Convention as revised;
- Final report in February 1989, with revised draft;
- Adoption in June 1989, again in a special committee.

→ Copy of this session available here.

It goes without saying that, in accordance with the Agreement between the United Nations and the ILO, the Centre for Human Rights will be consulted at every later step, as they have been involved so far in this process. This Working Group also will continue to be consulted, and copies of the law and practice report and questionnaire have been made available for each member.

Also our NGO colleagues will, I hope, continue to take an active part in the process.

WGIP 87 UN/201/7

In the meantime, the process of supervision of Convention No. 107 proceeds as in the past, again in consultation with the United Nations and with the Centre in particular. In 1986 the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations made the following comments:

Observations: Bangladesh, Brazil, India, Peru

Direct Requests: Bangladesh, Brazil, El Salvador, Paraguay, Peru.

1987

Observations: Bangladesh, Brazil, Ecuador, India, Pakistan, Panama, Peru.

Direct Requests: Angola, Bangladesh, Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guinea-Bissau, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Syrian Arab Republic.

Copies all given to the United Nations, along with copies of the reports and other information received from governments.

If the Working ~~by~~ Group wishes further explanations of any of these points, I of course remain at their disposal.

One other point: this Working Group is engaged in the examination of standards, and of course, I come from the International Labour Standards Dept. of the ILO. But, as important as standard setting and supervision are, the work of technical assistance is at least as important. I am pleased to inform the WG that the ILO has recently appointed a Regional Adviser on Rural Development and Indigenous Populations in Latin America, who will be based in Lima. He is here with me, Jorge Dandler, and available to meet representatives of indigenous peoples' organisations in particular.

*Governments and of*