

Tripartite working group on full, equal and democratic participation in the ILO's tripartite governance

▶ Questionnaire

At the first meeting of the Tripartite working group on full, equal and democratic participation in the ILO's tripartite governance (TWGD), which was held on 11 December 2020, it was agreed that the members of the working group would be invited to express their views on the understanding and scope of the notion of democratization of the ILO's governance for the purpose of informing the discussions of the second meeting of the working group to be held in January 2021 and developing a possible programme of future work.

Accordingly, the Office has prepared the following questionnaire, bearing in mind that the Centenary Declaration and its accompanying Resolution are the framework within which the TWGD should carry out its work. The Office would be grateful if the replies could be sent by Wednesday 6 January 2021 to JUR@ilo.org.

1. Do you consider that the notion of democratization refers to aspirations of Member States regarding specific aspects of the functioning of governance organs, such as composition, decision-making, voting power, organization and access to meetings? Please elaborate and provide concrete examples.

Botswana is of the view that the democratization of the ILO should be done in accordance to the spirit of the ILO future of work centenary declaration and the 1986 ILO Constitutional Amendments. Specifically, as previously stated by the 1986 amendments, Botswana would like to see the following looked into, the composition and governance of the Governing Body; procedure of appointing the Director General; and rules governing how the Constitution may be amended. Botswana wishes to reiterate its support for 5 April 2019 decision of Executive Council of the African Union (Doc. EX.CL/1161(XXXV)), which, among other things, calls upon Member States, including "members of chief industrial importance", to ratify the 1986 Constitutional Amendment, if they have not already done so.

2. Do you consider that 'democratization of tripartite governance' concerns the ILO Governing Body only or should also cover the International Labour Conference and other aspects of ILO governance?

Democratisation as proposed by the 1986 Amendment would start in the Governnong body then after that some aspects of the International Labour Conference would be affected too. The primary focus of the TWDG though should be on the democratization of the Governing Body. The GB has been dogged by the issue of ratification of the 1986 amendment for years now and if it were to be resolved then the whole democratization drive would be much easier.

3. Based on the above, which aspects of democratization – in addition to those addressed in the 1986 constitutional amendment – would you consider the TWGD should examine in priority? Please specify.

Focus should be on aspects addressed in the 1986 constitutional amendment

4. In your view, which are the core principles that should be guiding ILO's action towards democratization of its governance? Please specify.

1986 Constitutional Amendment and the Centenary Declaration

5. Do you have any concrete proposals for the second meeting of the TWGD and/or its future programme of work?

Focus on the 1986 Constitutional Amendment is necessary and possibly hearing from countries which has not so far ratified why they have not done so especially countries of Chief Industrial Importance