

UGANDA DELEGATION RESPONSES

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.

True and the Uganda delegation is of the view that this relates to equity and equality among Member States with specific focus on their representation in the Governing Body of the ILO. The present configuration is undemocratic, that is to say, 10 members constitutionally designated as countries of chief industrial importance occupying non-elective seats visavis the entire membership of the organisation.

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?

Guided by the Centenary declaration and its accompanying resolutions, it narrows to the ILO Governing Body. However, other issues that members/groups/regions feel deeply about are welcome for discussion.

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.

Not applicable.

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

Principle of unity in purpose; Principle of participation and consultaion; Principle of partnership and collaboration. These priciples are anchored on progressiveness and are the iota through which the current predicament can be addressed.

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

Encourage and listen to members for their understanding of the concept of full, equal and democratic participation in the ILO governance structures. The parameters set above should inform the subsequent meeting. Thereafter, the office should come up with a record of the proceedings by the Members/regions during the discussion and alternate next steps for the common goal.