

## ► Sectoral Advisory Bodies

### ► Call for proposals for the programme of Sectoral Meetings 2022-23

---

**Geneva, 13 - 15 January 2021**

---

SECTORAL POLICIES DEPARTMENT

## Introduction

1. The purpose of this note is to inform tripartite constituents on the preparation of proposals for the programme of global sectoral meetings 2022–23 for discussion at the Sectoral Advisory Bodies (SABs) session scheduled for 13–15 January 2021.
2. These dates have been set to allow the SABs to take into account the [ILO's Strategic Plan 2022–25](#) as well as the preview of the Programme and Budget proposals for 2022–23, which were discussed at the 340th Session of the Governing Body in October – November 2020. This is to give effect to the recommendations adopted by the Governing Body (GB) at its [328th Session \(November 2016\)](#).

## Mandate of the Sectoral Advisory Bodies

3. The Sectoral Advisory Bodies (SABs), composed of tripartite constituents engaged in economic sectors, were established by the Governing Body at its [298th Session \(March 2007\)](#) to review sectoral developments and to make recommendations to the Governing Body on priorities for sectoral work. Sessions of the SABs are held every two years, and they are chaired by a representative of the Government group of the GB.
4. At its session in January 2021 the SABs are requested to make recommendations on sectoral meetings to be held in the biennium 2022–23 and on preparatory work for sectoral meetings in future biennia. These recommendations will be submitted to the Governing Body at its 341st session in March 2021. The SABs may also make comments and suggestions on recurrent and statutory sectoral work to be undertaken as part of the implementation of the Programme & Budget for 2022–23.
5. Statutory and recurrent sectoral work include:
  - the promotion of sector-specific standards, codes of practice, guidelines and other tools;
  - the follow-up to and implementation of conclusions and recommendations of sectoral meetings and/or relevant International Labour Conference and Governing Body resolutions;
  - priorities focussed on the implementation of the ILO Centenary Declaration for the Future of Work;
  - development and dissemination of policy oriented research on labour and social trends at sectoral and industry levels;
  - priorities established in Decent Work Country Programmes and UN Cooperation Frameworks; and,
  - fostering policy coherence and strategic partnerships with the UN and other international organizations.
6. Sitzings of the SABs are grouped by clusters of related sectors in order to promote optimal presence of sectoral constituents such as Global Union Federations and sectoral employers' representatives as well as Government representatives. A summary sitting will be convened on the final day of the session to allow tripartite constituents to assess all proposals together in one single sitting.
7. A draft timetable for the January 2021 session of the SABs is attached.

## Proposals for sectoral meetings

8. When drawing up proposals for the programme of sectoral meetings for the biennium 2022–23, tripartite constituents are kindly requested to take the following into account:
  - The maximum number of meetings per biennium is eight (8). In addition, resources will be kept in reserve for one additional meeting to address emerging developments in a specific sector or industry.

- The Office has the following standing commitments<sup>1</sup> for meetings, which will be held over and above the maximum number of meetings described above:
  - A session of the Special Tripartite Committee of the Maritime Labour Convention 2006 (MLC, 2006) in 2023. The STC will also screen and prioritize recommendations for sectoral meetings adopted in resolutions adopted by the International Labour Conference at its 94th (Maritime) Session, February 2006;
  - A session of the Sub-Committee on Wages of Seafarers of the Joint Maritime Commission in 2023.
- 9. Constituents are requested to bear in mind that the Governing Body at its 335th Session (March 2019) has endorsed the consensus reached at the January 2019 SABs to convene a Meeting of experts on decent work in the inland waterways sector in the biennium 2022–23.
- 10. In addition, the Governing Body has [endorsed](#) the following two (2) recommendations of the January 2019 SABs: and,
  - Research on the future of work in the culture and media sectors with a view to considering a tripartite meeting at the next meeting of the sectoral advisory bodies;
  - Research on the future of decent and sustainable work in aviation with a view to considering a tripartite meeting at the next meeting of the sectoral advisory bodies.
- 11. To facilitate consideration whether the research on these two (2) sectors has advanced sufficiently so as to recommend a tripartite meeting, a summary note will be presented on the status of the research at the SABs.
- 12. The Office has furthermore undertaken an in-depth review of conclusions and recommendations of sectoral meetings convened since 1 January 2000. The aim of the review was to identify recommendations endorsed by the Governing Body relating to global sectoral meetings that have thus far not been implemented. Constituents are requested to take into consideration the attached table of GB endorsed outstanding recommendations of previous meetings.
- 13. Proposals concerning meetings should include their recommended format in accordance with the [Standing Orders](#) for Meetings of Experts or Technical Meetings. Global Dialogue Forums follow the Standing Orders for Technical Meetings.

## Impact of COVID-19 on the implementation of the programme of meetings 2020 – 2021

The Covid-19 pandemic has had a severe impact on the implementation of the 2020–2021 programme of global sectoral meetings as adopted by the GB. Only one (1) global sectoral meeting has been held in 2020, while all other global sectoral meetings programmed for the biennium 2020–21 have been deferred until further notice.

The evolution of the pandemic remains highly uncertain and it is impossible to predict when these global sectoral meetings can be convened under reasonable conditions of safety and security for all participants. Meetings that cannot be convened in 2021, either virtually, in hybrid form or in-person, may need to be carried over to the programme of meetings of the biennium 2022–23. As the budget appropriation for the programme of sectoral meetings in 2020–21 is valid only for the current biennium, the Governing Body will need to take a decision as to whether budget allocations for meetings that it might not be possible to hold in this biennium should be carried forward into the next biennium.

---

<sup>1</sup> The Joint ILO UNESCO Committee of Experts on the Application of the Recommendations concerning Teaching Personnel (CEART) is a standing commitment under the ILO programme of sectoral meetings. The committee meets every three years and is hosted on an alternating basis by UNESCO in Paris and the ILO in Geneva. There will be no meeting of the committee in the biennium 2022–23. The next session of CEART is scheduled to be convened in October 2024.

- ▶ The Sectoral Advisory Bodies (SABs) are mandated to make recommendations to the Governing Body (GB) at its 341st session in March 2021 on sectoral meetings to be held in the biennium 2022-23 as well as on preparatory work for sectoral meetings in future biennia. The SABs may also make comments and suggestions on recurrent and statutory sectoral work to be undertaken as part of the implementation of the ILO Programme and Budget for 2022-23.

