

**Durban Review Conference
Preparatory Committee
Intersessional open-ended inter-governmental working group
19-23 January 2009**

Comments by the International Labour Office on the « technically reviewed version of the compilation of proposals » (A/CONF.211/PC/WG.2/CRP.2)

Section 1

Civil society, NGOs

This sub-section deals with the role that civil society plays in struggle against racism. The ILO suggests that the relevant paragraphs, e.g. para. 86, acknowledge the important role of workers' and employers' organizations. As outlined in the previous ILO submission, these organizations have increased their efforts since the Durban Conference.

Section 5

We note the heading "Tackling discrimination in (access to) education, employment, health" (p. 26) and that the content of this section is yet to be elaborated. The Durban Review Conference could identify the following concrete measures to strengthen the protection from racial discrimination as regards employment:

- Examine and strengthen existing policies and measures for the promotion of employment to ensure that effectively address the situation of men and women belonging to racial and ethnic groups which are disproportionately affected by unemployment and underemployment.
- Monitor the prevalence of racial discrimination in the labour market through studies and surveys (such as the "testing studies" carried out by the ILO in cooperation with a number of governments).
- Strengthen the capacity of labour inspection services with regard to dealing with cases of racial discrimination in respect of employment
- Encourage and support efforts by workers' and employers' organization to put in place and implement workplace policies and action to combat racial discrimination
- Increase assistance to victims of discrimination and racism at work, including counselling and assistance in bringing legal cases.

Given the recent adoption of the Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, a new paragraph could be included in the sub-section "The international legal framework" inviting States to consider ratifying the *Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169)* of the ILO.

The paragraph inviting ratification of the International Convention on the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (para. 213) could be extended to include *ILO Conventions No. 97 and 143 concerning migrant workers*.

ILO contact for the Durban Review Conference: Shauna Olney (olney@ilo.org) or Martin Oelz (oelz@ilo.org), International Labour Standards Department