



United Nations Industrial Development Organization

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Industrial Development Board

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Item 8 of the provisional agenda

**Matters related to intergovernmental,
non-governmental, governmental
and other organizations**

Applications from non-governmental organizations for consultative status

Note by the Director-General

Provides information on the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), a non-governmental organization applying for consultative status with UNIDO

1. In accordance with Article 19.1 (b) of the Constitution of UNIDO and the Guidelines for the Relationship of UNIDO with intergovernmental, governmental, non-governmental and other organizations (decision GC.1/Dec.41), in particular paragraph 17 of the annex thereto, information on the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), a non-governmental organization (NGO) seeking consultative status with UNIDO, is circulated to the members of the Board in the annex to the present document. More detailed information on the NGO is available with the Secretariat.

2. Paragraph 17 of the annex to the Guidelines stipulates that the Board shall establish appropriate procedures for reviewing applications from NGOs for consultative status. To facilitate and accelerate its work, the Board may wish to follow the practice established at previous sessions and request the Bureau of the Board to review the application of, and information on, the NGO referred to in the annex to the present document and to submit its recommendations to the Board for consideration at its current session.

For reasons of economy, this document has been printed in a limited number. Delegates are kindly requested to bring their copies of documents to meetings.

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Annex

International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)

Historical background

The International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) was established on 1 November 2006, in Vienna (Austria), following the dissolution of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU). It includes the affiliates of the former ICFTU and the World Confederation of Labour (WCL) along with a number of national trade union centres. Its primary mission is the promotion and defence of workers' rights and interests, through international cooperation between trade unions, global campaigning and advocacy within the major global institutions.

Statutes

Available

Structure of governing bodies and administration

- Congress
- General Council
- Executive Bureau
- Secretariat
- Regional offices in Amman (Jordan), Geneva (Switzerland), Moscow (Russian Federation), New York (USA), Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Vilnius (Lithuania) and Washington, D.C. (USA).

Activities related to the work of UNIDO

The ITUC seeks to increase intergovernmental cooperation to ensure that the social dimension of globalization, including decent work and fundamental workers' rights, is right at the centre of decision-making at major global and regional institutions. This includes the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, World Trade Organisation, United Nations and its specialised agencies, especially the International Labour Organisation (ILO) with its tripartite structure and mandate to set international social standards.

The ITUC also works with its global unions partners to promote effective rules governing the behaviour of private business. It seeks to achieve international frameworks for social dialogue and collective bargaining, and systems of corporate governance that hold management accountable for the social impact of business activities.

This requires a combination of campaigning and mobilisation with advocacy and lobbying so that the policies of these institutions and companies support, rather than undermine, the achievement of decent work for all. This includes action around:

- Trade, investment and labour standards;

- Health and safety at work and sustainable environmental practices;
- Global governance;
- The social responsibilities of business including global social dialogue.

A major focus of ITUC's work is to ensure full and universal respect for the fundamental rights at work.

Relations with the United Nations and other IGOs

Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC); International Monetary Fund; World Trade Organization (WTO); World Bank; International Labour Organization (ILO); Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

Relations with NGOs

Associated organizations; global union federations.

Membership

311 affiliated national trade union centres in 155 countries, representing 168 million workers.

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