

# ILO STAFF UNION

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## **ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** **SECOND SESSION**

9 October 2025

### **RESOLUTION**

#### **Draft Resolution on the ILO and its Staff**

The ILO Staff Union at its Annual General Meeting Convened on 9 October 2025,

**BUILDING ON** the *Resolution on the Direct or Indirect Consequences for ILO Staff of the US Administration's Decisions in relation to Funding* adopted by the Staff Union at its 20 February 2025 Annual General Meeting,

**TAKING NOTE** of the comprehensive review of the International Labour Organization (ILO) initiated by the Director General on 30<sup>th</sup> of April 2025 with the stated objective of ensuring that the Office is fit for purpose and prepared for a future amidst increasing global challenges,

**NOTING WITH CONCERN** the decision of the ILO at its 113th Session (June 2025) to adopt the 2026-27 budget at a zero nominal growth level,

**NOTING WITH PROFOUND CONCERN** the current critical financial situation and liquidity crisis of the ILO and the failure of several member States to meet their financial obligations to the ILO,

**NOTING ALSO WITH PROFOUND CONCERN**, as a direct result of that failure, the successive incremental requests that were formulated and imposed as a response, including the immediate measures put forward under IGDS 700 on the *Comprehensive review of the relevance and adequacy of the ILO's programmes and operational model*; the proposals put forward by the Administration in its draft GB Paper *The ILO in a changing multilateral environment: Towards better effectiveness and efficiency (GB.355/INS/7)*; the options outlined under the *Complementary information for consultation document (dated 9 September)*; the subsequent two scenarios proposed in the third version of the Administration's draft GB paper putting forward measures also for a scenario of significant budget shortfall (15%-20% of budget),

**EXPRESSING REGRET AND DEEP CONCERN** with the repeated instances when management has not upheld its obligations with respect to good-faith social dialogue under the ILO's collective bargaining framework<sup>1</sup>,

**RECALLING** that failure to follow the ILO's own core principles with respect to its staff will undermine the ILO's credibility every time and anywhere it tries to intervene,

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<sup>1</sup> Staff Regulations (Chapter X); the Recognition and Procedural Agreement between the International Labour Office and the ILO Staff Union from 27 March 2000; and the Guidelines on Managing Change and Restructuring Processes

**REAFFIRMING** the positions and Aspirational Principles set out in the Staff Union's Position Paper on the Administration's draft GB paper (GB.355/INS/7), transmitted to the Director General on 29th of August 2025 together with 56 resolutions from the Staff Union's constituencies worldwide,

**REAFFIRMING** that staff and the Staff Union is not against change and wants to be an active and constructive partner in shaping it,

**RECOGNIZING** that the effective delivery of the ILO's mandate relies on a balanced presence across headquarters, regional and field offices,

**WELCOMING** the emphasis on strengthening the ILO's presence in the field and bringing technical capacity closer to constituents, accompanied by a corresponding strengthening of operational capacity to ensure effective and sustainable delivery.

**RECALLING** that the ILO and its staff have in the past demonstrated resilience to overcome crises while upholding ILO values,

**AWARE OF THE NEED** to defend the staff as well as to protect the ILO's ability to fully play its role in line with its mandate to achieve social justice and its strategic objectives under the decent work agenda,

**RECALLING** the Director General's commitment made during the various town halls to preserve employment and avoid involuntary separations,

**STRONGLY CONCERNED** about measures introduced by the Administration that would use budget cuts to reorganize the Office without taking a people-centred approach, or would compromise the current joint commitment of the Administration and the Staff Union to promote equity, equality of treatment of staff and fight precarity of employment,

**STRONGLY REAFFIRMING** that social dialogue and in particular collective bargaining is the only means through which staff and the Administration can arrive at mutually acceptable solutions to the current situation, in line with the ILO's collective bargaining framework,

**MANDATES THE STAFF UNION COMMITTEE** to continue, in search for solutions that are in the interests both of the ILO and its staff, the process of consultation and negotiation with the Administration through the Joint Negotiation Committee, with a view inter alia to:

- Uphold the Staff Union's Aspirational Principles as set out Annex II of the Staff Union's Position Paper on the Administration's draft GB paper (GB.355/INS/7);
- Develop and agree on a comprehensive framework through the Joint Negotiation Committee in the form of a collective agreement on appropriate and equitable workforce adjustment aligned with the Guidelines on Restructuring and Change Management;
- Oppose any personnel policy that is based on narrow short-termism; absent of objective, transparent and equitable criteria; and lacks clear commitment to minimize the impact of the change or restructuring on job security and maintenance of employment;
- Address potential implications, including increased workload, for all staff, and take adequate measures to prevent anxiety and address potential mental health issues resulting from this situation.

**INSTRUCTS THE STAFF UNION COMMITTEE** to draw the attention of the Programme, Financial and Administrative Committee, at the next session of the Governing Body, to the serious

concern raised among staff each time one or more Member States do not assume their financial obligations to the ILO, thus leading to measures for which the staff often has to pay the price and compromising the capacity of the ILO to deliver on its mandate,

**INSTRUCTS** the Staff Union Committee, in accordance with the Staff Union's Position Paper on the Administration's draft GB paper (GB.355/INS/7), to continue urging the Governing Body members to:

- instruct the Office to respect the Office's social dialogue framework,
- engage in substantive discussions with the Director General before any irreversible decisions are taken, and
- call on Management to the actions outlined in the Staff Union's Position Paper on the Administration's draft GB paper (GB.355/INS/7)

**MANDATES THE STAFF UNION COMMITTEE** to carefully examine the legal validity of the Administration's decisions;

**MANDATES THE STAFF UNION COMMITTEE** , to undertake, in line with the Staff Union rules, all other necessary actions, including collective action, and adopt an appropriate and solid legal strategy and coordinating recourse of staff affected by the proposed measures.

**INSTRUCTS THE STAFF UNION COMMITTEE** to transmit this resolution to the Administration and the members of the Governing Body;

**MANDATES THE STAFF UNION COMMITTEE** to undertake, in coordination with the staff unions and associations of other United nations, agencies, all appropriate action to protect and uphold the values of the international civil service, as stated in the Standards of conduct for the International Civil Service;

**INSTRUCTS THE STAFF UNION COMMITTEE** to keep the staff regularly informed and consulted as appropriate of the development of the situation and the discussions undertaken in this regard with the Administration.