

C160 - Labour Statistics Convention, 1985 (No. 160)

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Preamble

The General Conference of the International Labour Organisation,

Having been convened at Geneva by the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, and having met in its Seventy-first Session on 7 June 1985, and

Having decided upon the adoption of certain proposals with regard to the revision of the Convention concerning Statistics of Wages and Hours of Work, 1938 (No. 63), which is the fifth item on the agenda of the session, and

Considering that these proposals should take the form of an international Convention,

adopts this twenty-fifth day of June of the year one thousand nine hundred and eighty-five the following Convention, which may be cited as the Labour Statistics Convention, 1985:

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

Each Member which ratifies this Convention undertakes that it will regularly collect, compile and publish basic labour statistics, which shall be progressively expanded in accordance with its resources to cover the following subjects:

- (a) economically active population, employment, where relevant unemployment, and where possible visible underemployment;
- (b) structure and distribution of the economically active population, for detailed analysis and to serve as benchmark data;
- (c) average earnings and hours of work (hours actually worked or hours paid for) and, where appropriate, time rates of wages and normal hours of work;
- (d) wage structure and distribution;
- (e) labour cost;
- (f) consumer price indices;
- (g) household expenditure or, where appropriate, family expenditure and, where possible, household income or, where appropriate, family income;
- (h) occupational injuries and, as far as possible, occupational diseases; and
- (i) industrial disputes.

Article 2

In designing or revising the concepts, definitions and methodology used in the collection, compilation and publication of the statistics required under this Convention, Members shall take into consideration the latest standards and guidelines established under the auspices of the International Labour Organisation.

Article 3

In designing or revising the concepts, definitions and methodology used in the collection, compilation and publication of the statistics required under this Convention, the representative organisations of employers and workers, where they exist, shall be consulted with a view to taking into account their needs and to ensuring their co-operation.

Article 4

Nothing in this Convention shall impose an obligation to publish or reveal data which could result in the disclosure in any way of information relating to an individual statistical unit, such as a person, a household, an establishment or an enterprise.

Article 5

Each Member which ratifies this Convention undertakes to communicate to the International Labour Office, as soon as practicable, the published statistics compiled in pursuance of the Convention and information concerning their publication, in particular-

- (a) the reference information appropriate to the means of dissemination used (titles and reference numbers in the case of printed publications and the equivalent descriptions in the case of data disseminated in other forms); and
- (b) the most recent dates or periods for which the different types of statistics are available, and the dates of their publication or release.

Article 6

Detailed descriptions of the sources, concepts, definitions and methodology used in collecting and compiling statistics in pursuance of this Convention shall be-

- (a) produced and updated to reflect significant changes;
- (b) communicated to the International Labour Office as soon as practicable; and
- (c) published by the competent national body.

II. BASIC LABOUR STATISTICS

Article 7

Current statistics of the economically active population, employment, where relevant unemployment, and where possible visible underemployment, shall be compiled in such a way as to be representative of the country as a whole.

Article 8

Statistics of the structure and distribution of the economically active population shall be compiled in such a way as to be representative of the country as a whole, for detailed analysis and to serve as benchmark data.

Article 9

1. Current statistics of average earnings and hours of work (hours actually worked or hours paid for) shall be compiled covering all important categories of employees and all important branches of economic activity, and in such a way as to be representative of the country as a whole.
2. Where appropriate, statistics of time rates of wages and normal hours of work shall be compiled covering important occupations or groups of occupations in important branches of economic activity, and in such a way as to be representative of the country as a whole.

Article 10

Statistics of wage structure and distribution shall be compiled covering employees in important branches of economic activity.

Article 11

Statistics of labour cost shall be compiled covering important branches of economic activity. Where possible, these statistics shall be consistent with data on employment and hours of work (hours actually worked or hours paid for) of the same scope.

Article 12

Consumer price indices shall be computed in order to measure variations over time in the prices of items representative of the consumption patterns of significant population groups or of the total population.

Article 13

Statistics of household expenditure or, where appropriate, family expenditure and, where possible, household income or, where appropriate, family income shall be compiled covering all types and sizes of private households or families, and in such a way as to be representative of the country as a whole.

Article 14

1. Statistics of occupational injuries shall be compiled in such a way as to be representative of the country as a whole, covering, where possible, all branches of economic activity.
2. As far as possible, statistics of occupational diseases shall be compiled covering all branches of economic activity, and in such a way as to be representative of the country as a whole.

Article 15

Statistics of industrial disputes shall be compiled in such a way as to be representative of the country as a whole, covering, where possible, all branches of economic activity.

III. ACCEPTANCE OF OBLIGATIONS

Article 16

1. Each Member which ratifies this Convention shall, in pursuance of the general obligations referred to in Part I, accept the obligations of the Convention in respect of one or more of the Articles of Part II.
2. Each Member shall specify in its ratification the Article or Articles of Part II in respect of which it accepts the obligations of this Convention.
3. Each Member which has ratified this Convention may subsequently notify the Director-General of the International Labour Office that it accepts the obligations of the Convention in respect of one or more of the Articles of Part II which were not already specified in its ratification. These notifications shall have the force of ratification as from the date of their communication.
4. Each Member which has ratified this Convention shall state, in its reports on the application of the Convention submitted under article 22 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organisation, the position of its law and practice on the subjects covered by the Articles of Part II in respect of which it has not accepted the obligations of the Convention and the extent to which effect is given or is proposed to be given to the Convention in respect of such subjects.

Article 17

1. A Member may limit initially the scope of the statistics referred to in the Article or Articles of Part II in respect of which it has accepted the obligations of this Convention to specified categories of workers, sectors of the economy, branches of economic activity or geographical areas.
2. Each Member which limits the scope of the statistics in pursuance of paragraph 1 of this Article shall indicate in its first report on the application of the Convention submitted under article 22 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organisation, the Article or Articles of Part II to which the limitation applies, stating the nature of and reasons for such limitation, and shall state in subsequent reports the extent to which it has been possible or it is proposed to extend the scope to other categories of workers, sectors of the economy, branches of economic activity or geographical areas.
3. After consulting the representative organisations of employers and workers concerned, a Member may, by a declaration communicated to the Director-General of the International Labour Office in the month following each anniversary of the coming into force of the Convention, introduce subsequent limitations on the technical scope of the statistics covered by the Article or Articles of Part II in respect of which it has accepted the obligations of the Convention. Such declarations shall take effect one year after the date on which they are registered. Each Member which introduces such limitations shall provide in its reports on the application of the Convention submitted under article 22 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organisation the particulars referred to in paragraph 2 of this Article.

Article 18

This Convention revises the Convention concerning Statistics of Wages and Hours of Work, 1938.

IV. FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 19

The formal ratifications of this Convention shall be communicated to the Director-General of the International Labour Office for registration.

Article 20

1. This Convention shall be binding only upon those Members of the International Labour Organisation whose ratifications have been registered with the Director-General.
2. It shall come into force twelve months after the date on which the ratifications of two Members have been registered with the Director-General.
3. Thereafter, this Convention shall come into force for any member twelve months after the date on which its ratification has been registered.

Article 21

1. A Member which has ratified this Convention may denounce it, after the expiration of ten years from the date on which the Convention first comes into force, by an act communicated to the Director-General of the International Labour Office for registration. Such denunciation shall not take effect until one year after the date on which it is registered.
2. Each Member which has ratified this Convention and which does not, within the year following the expiration of the period of ten years mentioned in the preceding paragraph, exercise the right of denunciation provided for in this Article, will be bound for another period of ten years and, thereafter, may denounce this Convention at the expiration of each period of ten years under the terms provided for in this Article.
3. After consulting the representative organisations of employers and workers concerned, a Member which has ratified this Convention may, after the expiration of five years from the date on which the Convention first comes into force, by a declaration communicated to the Director-General of the International Labour Office, withdraw its acceptance of the obligations of the Convention in respect of one or more of the Articles of Part II, provided that it maintains its acceptance of these obligations in respect of at least one of these Articles. Such withdrawal shall not take effect until one year after the date on which it was registered.
4. Each Member which has ratified this Convention and which does not, within the year following the expiration of the period of five years mentioned in paragraph 3 of this Article, exercise the right of withdrawal provided for in that paragraph, shall be bound by the Articles of Part II in respect of which it has accepted the obligations of the Convention for another period of five years and, thereafter, may withdraw its acceptance of these obligations at the expiration of each period of five years under the terms provided for in this Article.

Article 22

1. The Director-General of the International Labour Office shall notify all Members of the International Labour Organisation of the registration of all ratifications and denunciations communicated to him by the Members of the Organisations.
2. When notifying the Members of the Organisations of the registration of the second ratification communicated to him, the Director-General shall draw the attention of the Members of the Organisation of the date upon which the Convention will come into force.

Article 23

The Director-General of the International Labour Office shall communicate to the Secretary-General of the United Nations for registration in accordance with Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations full particulars of all ratifications and acts of denunciation registered by him in accordance with the provisions of the preceding Articles.

Article 24

At such times as it may consider necessary the Governing Body of the International Labour Office shall present to the General Conference a report on the working of this Convention and shall examine the desirability of placing on the agenda of the Conference the question of its revision in whole or in part.

Article 25

1. Should the Conference adopt a new Convention revising this Convention in whole or in part, then, unless the new Convention otherwise provides-
 - (a) the ratification by a Member of the new revising Convention shall ipso jure involve the immediate denunciation of this Convention, notwithstanding the provisions of Article 21 above, if and when the new revising Convention shall have come into force;
 - (b) as from the date when the new revising Convention comes into force this Convention shall cease to be open to ratification by the Members.
2. This Convention shall in any case remain in force in its actual form and content for those Members which have ratified it but have not ratified the revising Convention.

Article 26

The English and French versions of the text of this Convention are equally authoritative.

See related

Constitution

[Constitution Article 22](#)

Key Information

Convention concerning Labour Statistics (Entry into force: 24 Apr 1988)

Adoption: Geneva, 71st ILC session (25 Jun 1985)

Status: Up-to-date instrument (Technical Convention).

Convention may be denounced: 24 Apr 2028 - 24 Apr 2029

See further:

[Report of the fourth meeting of the SRM TWG](#)

[Governing Body discussion and decision](#)

See also

[Ratifications by country](#)

[Submissions to competent authorities by country](#)