

Board of the Centre

73rd Session, Turin, 3-4 November 2011

CC 73/8/a

FOR INFORMATION

EIGHTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Report of the Trade Union Training Committee

Summary Report on the 30th Meeting of the Trade Union Training Committee

12 and 13 May 2011

International Training Centre of the ILO, Turin

Members present:

Abdelmadjid Sidi Saïd (Chairperson of the Workers' Group)
Nitte M. Adyanthaya (Member of the Workers' Group)
Arnaldo Souza Benedetti (Member of the Workers' Group)
Cinzia Del Rio (Member of the Workers' Group)
Bah Rabiadou S. Diallo (Member of the Workers' Group)
Maria Fernanda Carvalho Francisco (Substitute Member of the Workers' Group)

Raquel González (Secretary of the Workers' Group)
Esther Busser (Assistant Secretary of the Workers' Group)

Raghwan Raghwan (ACTRAV – ILO Geneva)

Patricia O'Donovan (Director – ILO Turin Centre)
Antonio Graziosi (Director, Training Department – ILO Turin Centre)

Giacomo Barbieri (Secretary of the Trade Union Training Committee)

Observers:

Jesus Garcia Jimenez
Mban Kabu
Arun Kumar
Evelyn Toth-Muciacciaro

Conclusions and recommendations

Committee consensus was reached on the following points:

1. Expressing its concern for the still unsettled structural unbalance in the resources available for the Turin Centre and asking the Director of the Centre to elaborate a Strategy document aimed at strengthening the integration of the Centre into the ILO, with an enhanced reference to International Labour Standards and the values, principles and tripartite approach of the Organization and its Decent Work Agenda. The Committee recommended also strengthening the capacity of the Centre to disseminate ILS and ILO values in its broader UN outreach action.
2. Welcoming an intensive consultation with the constituents in the preparation of this Strategy document that should emphasize the role of training for the capacity building of the social partners in the implementation of the Social Justice Declaration supported by an enhanced synergy of the Centre with the Technical Cooperation and other means of action of the ILO in order to mobilize more predictable resources.
3. Confirming its concern at the emerging 'market approach' for supporting ITC which could have adverse consequences for training on subjects of primary interest for workers and ILO mandate in general and asking for an in depth assessment of the training events such as academies in terms of their contribution to capacity building for constituents (workers and employers) and to the core ILO mandate.
4. Asking for the implementation of an effective funding strategy for the Workers' Programme which was more damaged by the declining traditional funding sources of the Centre.
5. Enhancing the development of the Centre policy on bi-tripartite courses with increased representation of social partners and mutually agreed curricula through a stronger cooperation of the Programme for Workers' Activities with other Technical Programmes and a greater focus on the quality and the added value of tripartite contribution. The Committee also urged the Centre to take steps to ensure that workers are better represented through the consultation and approval of the Secretary of the Workers' Group on the nominations of workers to all Centre activities other than the ones organized by the Workers' Programme.
6. Asking the Workers' Programme to establish and keep updated a list of resource persons from ACTRAV Geneva and the field and from the national and international trade union organizations and training institutions for each issue relevant for its training activities as an important improvement for more focus on contents of training and as a resource pool for a stronger workers' input in all activities run by the Turin Centre.
7. Asking the Programme for Workers' Activities in Turin jointly with ACTRAV Geneva and regional workers' education specialists and in consultation with the Secretary of the Workers' group to constantly improve the capacity of identifying and addressing training needs and in mobilizing resources with the involvement of the trade union organizations at all levels, through the Secretary of the Workers' Group.
8. Developing a training offer based on updated and new curricula more focussed on the specific contents of the courses and with the aim of implementing consolidated training processes with modules addressing diversified training needs in each area of our programme.

-
9. While appreciating the efforts of Actrav-Turin for capacity building of trade unions, the Committee recommended the Programme to strive for better balance between campus based and field training activities, between regional and interregional training initiatives, between emerging issues and fundamental topics such as International Labour Standards, Freedom of Association, Collective Bargaining and Social Security and with a well balanced access for participants speaking languages other than English and Spanish.
 10. Exposing as much as possible all regions to core topics, such as employment relationship, wage policies, organizing and collective bargaining, social security, sustainable development, MNEs and continuing to work on the agenda items of the ILC and the priorities of the ILO Workers' group in order to increase the relevance of the training activities to trade union organizations and contribute to dissemination of knowledge and information.
 11. Welcoming the new Decent Work training programme developed by ACTRAV Turin to assist trade union to integrate workers' priorities in DWCP's as well as in UNDAF's and based on the Social Justice Declaration and the four pillars of the Decent Work Agenda.
 12. Supporting the achievement by donors of resources for new projects of the Workers' Programme, building on the positive experiences in Europe and Latin America, and also through a constant participation of the Turin Programme in Actrav TC programming, as its training arm.
 13. Implementing a permanent assessment of the impact of training activities for Trade Unions Organizations in different regions with a view to improve the quality of training and to ensure the highest benefit at regional and national level.
 14. Further developing and expanding activities in the Arab Region.
 15. Expressing the need for continuing efforts to increase the participation of women in the training programmes and support gender mainstreaming in course delivery.
 16. While appreciating the integration of distance education in our training approach the Committee recommended a regular evaluation of distance education activities across regions.
 17. Keeping updated a database of existing education structures and institutions run by trade union organizations all over the world and developing new links with labour colleges for the delivery of joint training programmes also supporting south-to-south trade union cooperation.
 18. Continuing and expanding the development of training material with a greater focus on regular updating of the contents and addressing new issues of relevance for workers' priorities.
 19. The list of activities proposed for 2012 and 2013 was examined and approved.

Turin, May 2011.