

Excerpt from the Report on the Thirty-Sixth and Thirty-Seventh Sessions (E/2007/22 - E/C.12/2006/1), paras. 607-610

B. Day of general discussion: The right to social security (article 9 of the Covenant)

Introduction

607. At its thirty-fifth session (7-25 November 2005), the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights decided to elaborate a general comment on the right to social security (article 9 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights). To this end, it decided to organize a day of general discussion at its thirty-sixth session (1-19 May 2006) on this topic.

608. At the 21st and 22nd meetings of its thirty-sixth session, on 15 May 2006, the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights held its day of general discussion on the right to social security. The aim of the day of general discussion was to review the draft general comment prepared by the Rapporteurs of the Committee entrusted with this responsibility, Mr. Eibe Riedel and Ms. Maria Virginia Bras Gomes, in the light of the comments and suggestions made by Committee members, experts in the field, and other participants during the discussion.

609. The following experts were invited to participate in the thematic debate:

Mr. German Lopez Morales, Coordinator for International Social Security Standards, International Labour Standards Department, International Labour Organization (ILO); Mr. Yannick D'haene, Acting Secretary General, International Social Security Association (ISSA); Mr. Jean-Michel Belorgey, President, European Committee of Social Rights (ECSR); Ms. Lucie Lamarche, Professor of Law, Université du Québec à Montreal, Canada; Mr. Malcolm Langford, senior legal officer, Centre on Housing Rights and Evictions (COHRE); Ms. Angelika Nussberger, member, ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations; Ms. Anna Biondi, Director of the Geneva office, International Confederation of Trade Unions (ICFTU); Mr. Michel Barde, Vice-President for Europe, International Organisation of Employers (IOE); Mr. Christian Courtis, legal officer, International Commission of Jurists (ICJ); Ms. Pauline Barrett-Reid, Deputy Director, Social Security Department, International Labour Organization (ILO); Mr. Vijay Nagaraj, Assistant Professor, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai.

610. States parties, United Nations bodies and specialized agencies, national human rights institutions and non-governmental organizations also attended the day of general discussion.

Morning session

Session 1: International Organizations

10.00-10.05 Welcome by the chairperson of the Committee

10.05-10.10 Welcome by a representative of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights

10.10-10.20 Mr. German Lopez Morales, Coordinator for International Social Security Standards, International Labour Standards Department, ILO

10.20-10.30 Mr. Yannick D'haene, Acting Secretary General, International Social

Security Association
10.30-11.30 Discussion

Session 2: International Experts

11.30-11.40 Mr. Jean-Michel Belorgey, President, European Committee of Social Rights
11.40-11.50 Prof. Lucie Lamarche, Université du Québec à Montréal, Canada
11.50-12.00 Mr. Malcolm Langford, senior legal officer, COHRE
12.00-13.00 Discussion

~ **Lunch Break** ~

Afternoon session

Session 3: Official non-State actors in ILO system

15.00-15.10 Welcome by the Chairperson of the Committee
15.10-15.20 Prof. Angelika Nussberger, ILO Committee of Experts
15.20-15.30 Ms. Anna Biondi, International Confederation of Trade Unions
15.30-15.40 Mr. Michel Barde, Vice-President for Europe, International Organisation of Employers
15.40-16.30 Discussion

Session 4: Regional perspectives

16.30-16.40 Mr. Christian Courtis, International Commission of Jurists
16.40-16.50 Mr. Vijay Nagaraj, Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai
16.50-18.00 Discussion