

Handout 14.1

Selected conventions adopted by the International Labour Organization

I. Fundamental ILO conventions

As of 29 October 2001, the Governing Body of the International Labour Organization (ILO) had identified the following eight conventions “as being fundamental to the rights of human beings at work, irrespective of levels of development of individual member States”; these “rights are a precondition for all the others in that they provide for the necessary implements to strive freely for the improvement of individual and collective conditions of work”:¹

Freedom of association

- Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize Convention, 1948 (No. 87)
- Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98)

The abolition of forced labour

- Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29)
- Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105)

Equality

- Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111)
- Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100)

The elimination of child labour

- Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138)
- Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182)

II. Other ILO conventions

Among many other conventions adopted by the ILO are the following, in chronological order:

- Labour Inspection Convention, 1947 (No. 81)
- Protection of Wages Convention, 1949 (No. 95)
- Migration for Employment Convention (Revised), 1949 (No. 97)
- Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952 (No. 102)
- Weekly Rest (Commerce and Offices) Convention, 1957 (No. 106)
- Employment Policy Convention, 1964 (No. 122)
- Labour Inspection (Agriculture) Convention, 1969 (No. 129)

¹ See ILO website: www.ilo.org/global/standards/lang-en/index.htm.

- Workers' Representatives Convention, 1971 (No. 135)
- Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138)
- Human Resources Development Convention, 1975 (No. 142)
- Tripartite Consultation (International Labour Standards) Convention, 1976 (No. 144)
- Merchant Shipping (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1976 (No. 147) and Protocol of 1996
- Labour Administration Convention, 1978 (No. 150)
- Labour Relations (Public Service) Convention, 1978 (No. 151)
- Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 1981 (No. 155)
- Workers with Family Responsibilities Convention, 1981 (No. 156)
- Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (Disabled Persons) Convention, 1983 (No. 159)
- Occupational Health Services Convention, 1985 (No. 161)
- Asbestos Convention, 1986 (No. 162)
- Working Conditions (Hotels and Restaurants) Convention, 1991 (No. 172)
- Protection of Workers' Claims (Employer's Insolvency) Convention, 1992 (No. 173)
- Prevention of Major Industrial Accidents Convention, 1993 (No. 174)
- Part-Time Work Convention, 1994 (No. 175)
- Safety and Health in Mines Convention, 1995 (No. 176)
- Recruitment and Placement of Seafarers Convention, 1996 (No. 179)
- Seafarers' Hours of Work and the Manning of Ships Convention, 1996 (No. 180)
- Maternity Protection Convention, 2000 (No. 183)