

Request of the Government of Georgia, under
paragraph 4 of article 13 of the Constitution
of the International Labour Organization, for
permission to vote

7. The Committee had before it a request (document C.F./D.9) from the Government of Georgia for permission to vote at the Conference. This request was referred to the Finance Committee as a matter of urgency in accordance with paragraph 1 of article 31 of the Standing Orders of the Conference. The text of the request, dated 18 May 2005, is as follows:

Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia

Tbilisi, May 18, 2005

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of Georgia wishes to regularize the arrears of contributions due by it to the International Labour Organization (ILO) and regain its right to vote, and at the same time would like to make a proposal to settle its arrears of contributions.

I would like to point out that the non-payment of contributions by the previous Government of Georgia was due to the following reasons:

- Economic crisis caused by the dissolution of the former USSR; Georgia is among the transition economies that have suffered most during the past decade.
- Civil unrest and conflicts in Abkhazia and Tskhinvali region in early 1990's.
- Georgia has 300,000 refugees and internally displaced persons from the "frozen conflicts" in Abkhazia and Tskhinvali region that are still heavy burdens for our budget.
- A number of external shocks did in fact greatly influence the economic development of Georgia in 1998-2001. Among them the most negative impacts on Georgian economy have Russian and Turkish financial crises.
- Severe droughts in 1998 and in 2000 affected almost all of the country and created energy shortages by limiting hydroelectric power generation.
- The increase in the price of energy imports, as well as some other additional negative facts, also had a considerable adverse impact on the country's development.

Thus, the abovementioned problems during the time of the transition period did not permit the previous Government of Georgia to settle the arrears of contribution.

Measures provided by the new Government of Georgia directed for generating economic development and increasing of tax collection allow Georgia to begin settlement of outstanding arrears of contributions with major International Organizations. The Government of Georgia hereby reaffirms its commitment to the goals and principles of ILO and would like further to take its full part in the activities of the Organization.

I would therefore kindly request that you submit the following proposal for the settlement of Georgia's arrears of contribution to the Finance Committee of the International Labour Conference at its 93rd session.

- (a) For 2005, Georgia will pay in full its assessed contribution of 10,645 Swiss francs in order to demonstrate our commitment.
- (b) Georgia will settle, up to the end of 2010, the arrears of contribution that have accumulated, amounting in total to 3,071,902 Swiss francs, by 14 annual instalments in accordance with the following schedule.

| Years | % of arrears | Amount (in Swiss francs) |
|-------|--------------|--------------------------|
| 2006 | 1.5 | 46 079 |
| 2007 | 2.0 | 61 438 |
| 2008 | 2.0 | 61 438 |
| 2009 | 2.0 | 61 438 |
| 2010 | 2.0 | 61 438 |
| 2011 | 4.0 | 122 876 |
| 2012 | 5.0 | 153 595 |
| 2013 | 5.0 | 153 595 |
| 2014 | 10.0 | 307 190 |
| 2015 | 12.0 | 368 628 |
| 2016 | 12.0 | 368 628 |
| 2017 | 14.0 | 430 066 |
| 2018 | 14.0 | 430 066 |
| 2019 | 14.5 | 445 427 |
| Total | | 3 071 902 |

- (c) Georgia also will settle subsequent years' contributions in the year in which they become due.

On behalf of the Government of Georgia, I would further request that you transmit to the 93rd session of International Labour Conference my Government's request that it be permitted to vote and enjoy other rights in the Organization in accordance with article 13, paragraph 4 of the ILO.

In the hope that this proposal will receive favourable consideration, I assure you, Mr. Director-General, of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

[Signed]

Salome Zourabishvili.

8. The Committee noted the provisions of paragraph 4 of article 13 of the Constitution of the ILO, also articles 31 and 32 of the Standing Orders of the Conference, the texts of which appear in Appendix 1 to this report.
9. Georgia became a Member of the Organization on 22 June 1993 since which it had made no payments to the ILO in respect of its assessed contributions. Contributions outstanding at 31 December 2004 amounted to 3,071,902 Swiss francs, covering the assessed contributions from 1993 to 2004. The 2005 contribution of 10,645 Swiss francs had also not been paid.
10. *The Committee, being satisfied that the failure of Georgia to pay its arrears was due to conditions beyond its control, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 4 of article 31 of the Standing Orders of the Conference, reports to the Conference as follows:*
 - (a) *that the failure of Georgia to pay in full the amounts owing was due to conditions beyond its control as explained in the letter in paragraph 7 above;*
 - (b) *that the financial relations between Georgia and the Organization have been set out in paragraph 9 above.*