

# ILO Governance

# Introduction

The ILO is a specialized agency of the United Nations System, but

Founded before the United Nations

with a unique tripartite structure

and a standard-setting mandate supported by a supervisory system



# Main bodies



International Labour  
Conference

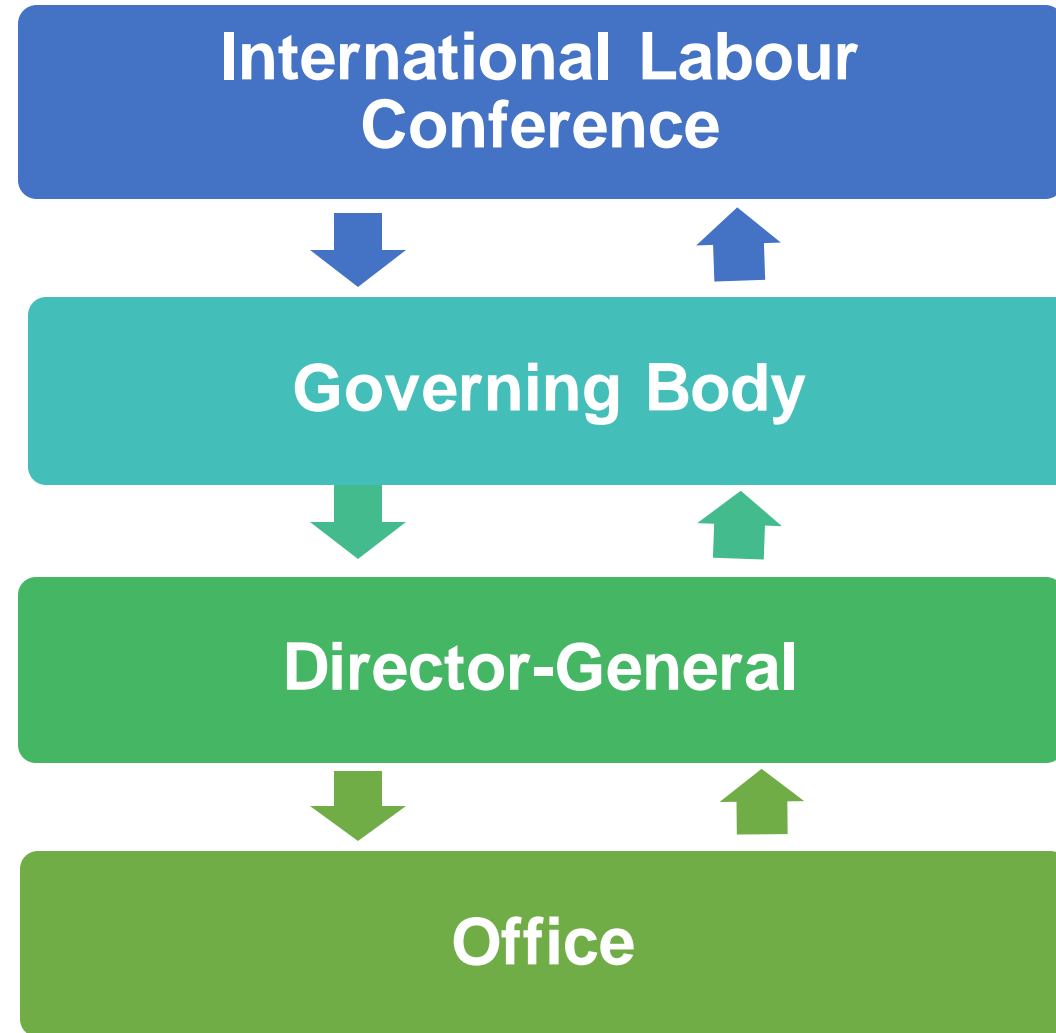


Governing Body



International Labour  
Office – Secretariat

# ILO Governance flow



# Other ILO bodies

**Regional Meetings**

**Tripartite meetings convened by  
the Governing Body**

**Symposia, seminars,  
workshops and similar  
meetings**

**Specialized meetings**

- **STC - MLC**
- **Conference of Labour  
Statisticians**

# ILO Governance texts

- ILO Constitution
  - 1998 Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work
  - 2008 Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization
  - 2019 Centenary Declaration for the Future of Work
- Standing Orders of the Conference
- Compendium of rules applicable to the Governing Body of the ILO
- Rules for Regional Meetings
- Standing Orders for for technical meetings and meetings of experts
- Financial Rules
- Handbook of procedures relating to international labour conventions and recommendations (ILO supervisory system)



# International Labour Conference



# Conference: Who participates?

## COMPOSITION

Delegation of each Member State  
must be tripartite





# Conference: anyone else?



**In addition to delegates and advisers, the following attend sessions of the Conference:**

- Heads of State/Government, Ministers, Deputy Ministers
- Representatives of non-Member States
- Representatives of other international intergovernmental organizations
- Representatives of international non-governmental organizations
- Secretariat, Press

# Content of Conference discussions

## STANDARD AGENDA

### **Standing items**

- I. Reports of the Chairperson of the Governing Body and of the Director-General (thematic)
- II. Programme and budget proposals and other questions
- III. Information and reports on the application of Conventions and Recommendations

### **Technical Items placed by the Governing Body**

- IV. General discussion
- V. Standard-setting committee
- VI. Recurrent item discussion under the 2018 ILO Social Justice Declaration



# Conference: How does it work?

## The Conference Plenary



## Conference Committees



# Conference Plenary

## PLENARY SECTIONS

I. Opening Ceremony

II. Discussion of the reports of the Chairperson of the Governing Body and of the Director-General

III. World of Work Summit

IV. Adoption of committee outputs and other decisions

V. Closing ceremony

# Conference Committees

## **Standing committees**

- Finance Committee
- Credentials Committee
- Application of Standards
- Selection Committee

## **Technical committees**

- General Discussion Committee
- Standard-setting Committee
- Recurrent Discussion Committee



# Governing Body of the ILO





# Governing Body: Who participates?

## COMPOSITION

56 Regular members (28 G, 14 E, 14 W)

66 Deputy members (28 G, 19 E, 19 W)



# Regional distribution of seats

## Government group

Regions	Regular seats		Deputy seats	Total elective seats	Total
	<i>Non-elective</i>	<i>elective</i>			
Africa	0	6	7	13	13
Americas	2	5	6	11	13
Asia and the Pacific	3	4	8	12	15
Europe	5	3	7	10	15
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>56</b>

# Governing Body: main functions

- **Functioning of the Organization**

- Election of the Director-General
- Place and agenda of ILC
- Place, agenda and rules for Regional Meetings and other official meetings
- Review of reports of those regional and other meetings

- **Standard related functions**

- Form of article 19 and 22 reports
- Constitutional procedures (articles 24 & 26 of the Constitution of the ILO)

- **Oversight of Office activities**

- Approval Staff Regulations
- Direction concerning office activities
- Control over expenditure of funds

# Governing Body at work

Governing Body functions in a continuous plenary,  
under thematic sections and segments

- INS – Institutional Section
- POL – Policy Development Section
- LILS – Legal Issues and International Labour Standards Section
- PFA – Programme, Financial and Administrative Section
- HL – High Level Section

.... but can also appoint committees or working parties

- CFA – Committee on freedom of association
- WP/GBC – Working Party on the Functioning of the GB & ILC
- WP/SDL – Working Party on the social dimensions of globalization





# International Labour Office



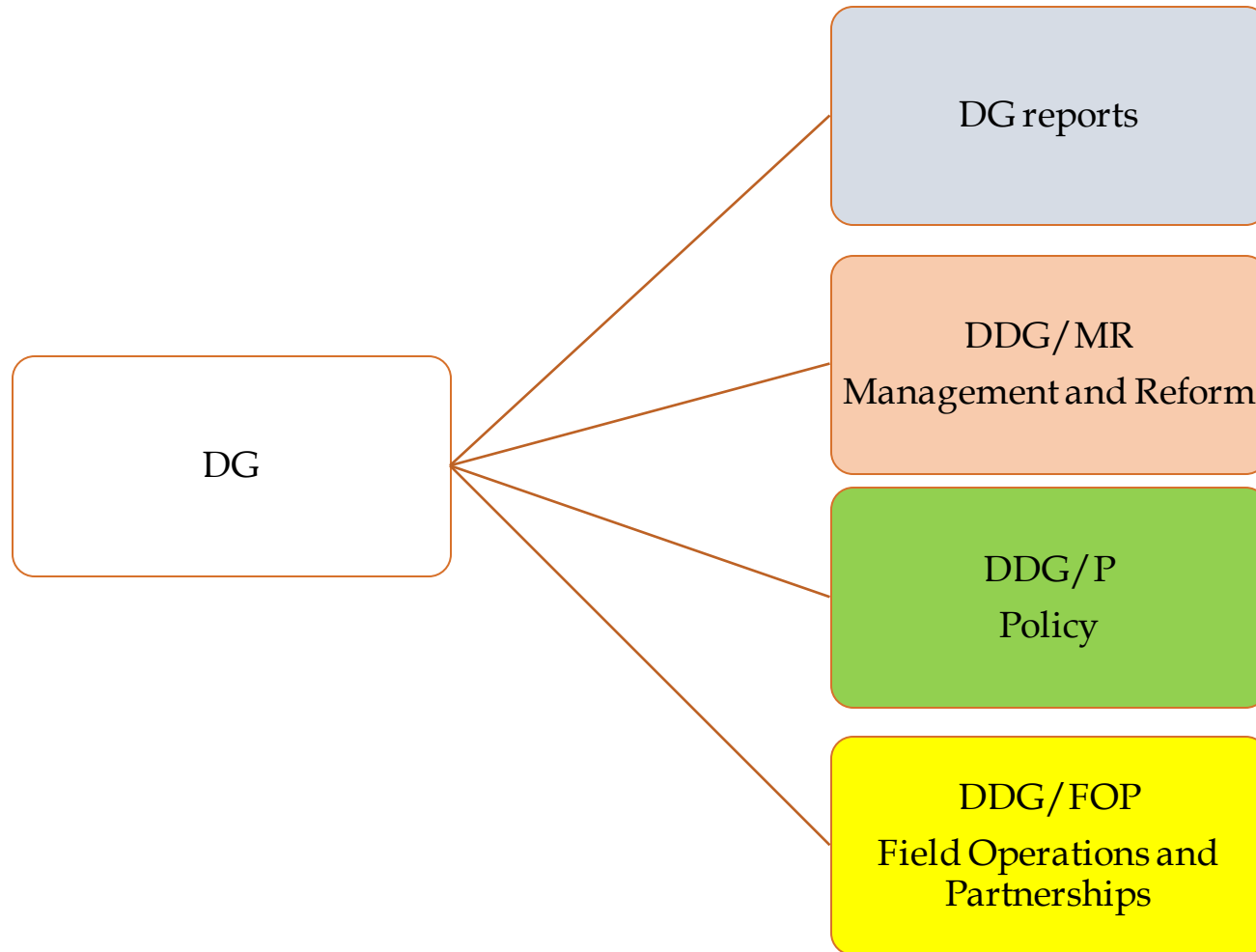
# Director-General of the ILO

Elected every five years by the Governing Body for up to two terms of five years each.

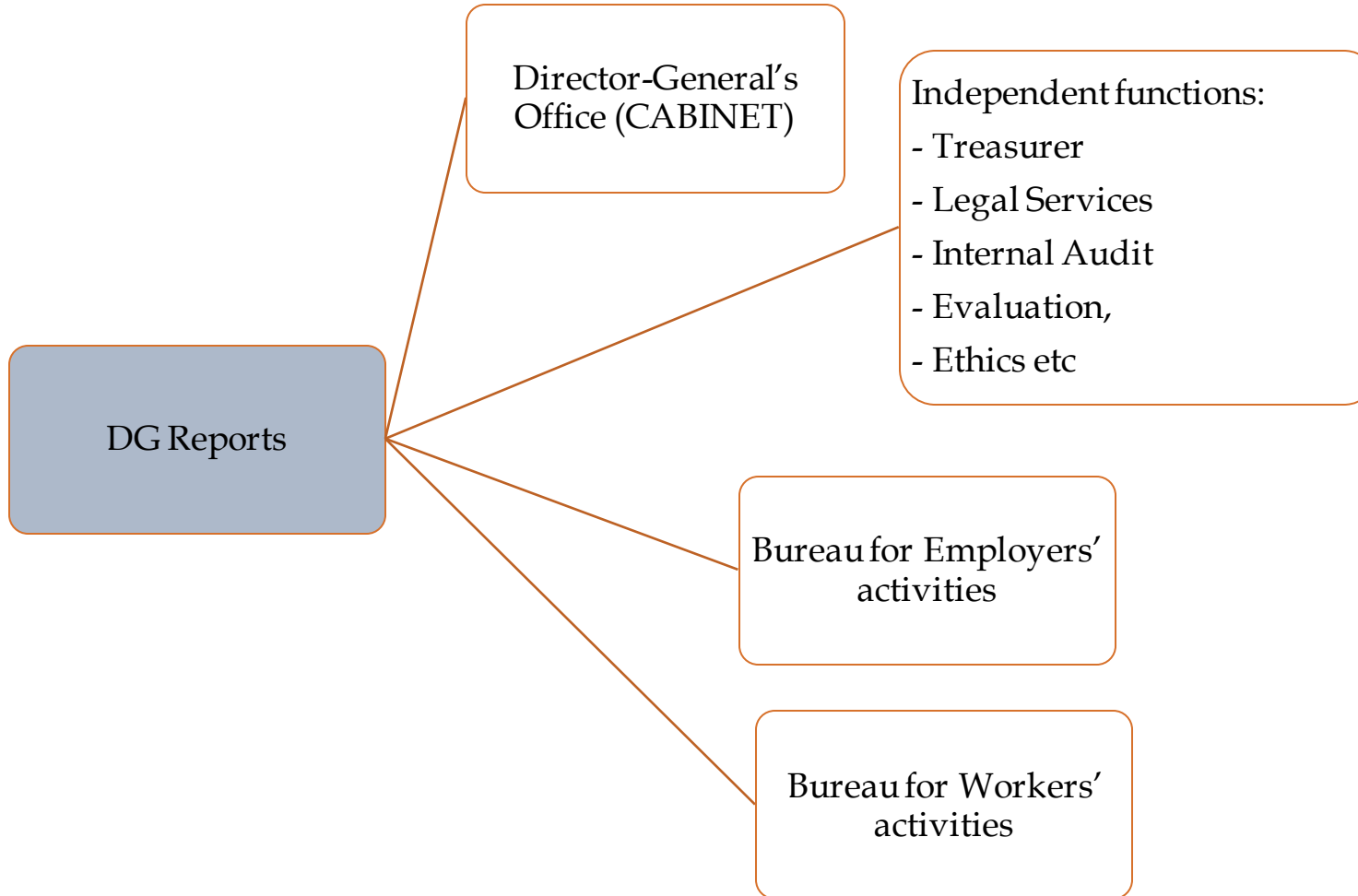
- 2012-2022 Mr Guy Ryder UK
- 1999-2012 Mr Juan Somavia Chile
- 1989-1999 Mr Michel Hansenne Belgium
- 1974-1989 Mr Francis Blanchard France
- 1970-1973 Mr Wilfred Jenks UK
- 1948-1970 Mr David A. Morse US
- 1941-1948 Mr Edward Phelan Ireland
- 1939-1941 Mr John G. Winant US
- 1932-1938 Mr Harold Butler UK
- 1919-1932 Mr Albert Thomas France



# ILO Governance: The Office



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# ILO Governance: The Office

DDG/MR

Communication and Public Information (DCOMM)

Financial Management (FINANCE)

Human Resources Development (HRD)

Information and Technology Management (INFOTEC)

Internal Services and Administration (INTSERV)

Strategic Programming and Management (PROGRAM)

Official Meetings, Documents and Relations (RELMEETINGS)



# ILO Governance: The Office

DDG/P

RESEARCH

STATISTICS

International Labour Standards (NORMES)

Employment Policy (EMPLOYMENT)

Enterprises (ENTERPRISES)

Social Protection (SOCPRO)

Governance and tripartism (GOVERNANCE)

Conditions of work and equality (WORKQUALITY)

Sectoral Policies (SECTOR)



SOCIAL JUSTICE  
DECENT WORK

# ILO Governance: The Office

DDG/  
FOP

International Training Centre (ITC)

Africa

Arab States

Asia and the Pacific

Europe and Central Asia

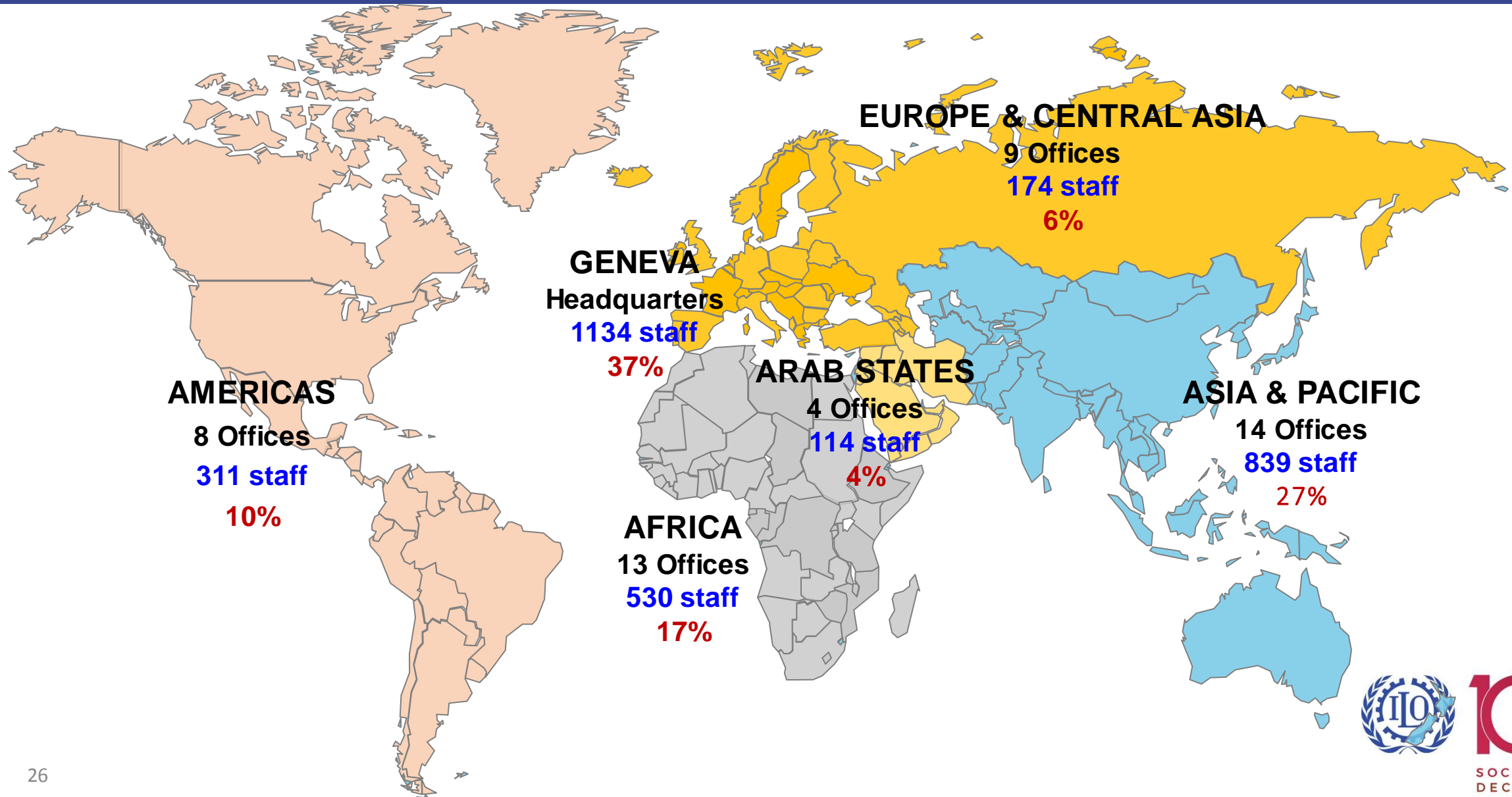
Latin America and the Caribbean

Partnerships and Development Cooperation (PARDEV)

Multilateral Cooperation (MULTILATERALS)



# ILO Presence





“The end”.....