No. 144.

REPORT

for the period 1 June 2019 to 1 September 2020, prepared by the Government of Finland, in accordance with Article 22 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organization, on the measures taken to give effect to the provisions of the

Tripartite Consultation (International Labour Standards) Convention, 1976, No. 144.
ratification of which was registered on 2 October 1978.

Article 5 (1)

2019:

In 2019, the Finnish ILO Committee adopted reports to the ILO under Article 19 of the ILO Constitution on five Recommendations and reports to the ILO under Article 22 on eight Conventions ratified by Finland (C 27, C 87, C 98, C 108, C 137, C 144, C 152, MLC).

On the basis of a presentation by Hanna Sutela representing Statistics Finland, the Committee discussed the conduct and outcomes of the International Conference of Labour Statisticians taking place on 10–19 October 2018. Two Committee meetings were held to discuss Finland’s initiative for the Global Coalition on Occupational Safety and Health on the basis of presentations by Päivi Hämäläinen representing the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health.

Finland is a member of the ILO Governing Body in 2017–2020. In relation to the agenda of the Governing Body, the Committee heard representatives of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs on UN reforms. The impacts of the reforms on the status and role of the ILO and the proceedings in the matter within the UN and the ILO were also discussed.

In relation to the meetings of the Governing Body, the Committee discussed developing the activities of the ILO, including its labour standards and the reform of their supervision, reforming the activities of the International Labour Conference and the ILO Governing Body, and topics for the upcoming International Labour Conferences.

In autumn 2019, Finland held the EU Presidency and was responsible for EU coordination with the ILO Governing Body. As a foundation for EU coordination with the ILO Governing Body, during its Presidency Finland prepared Council Conclusions on EU support for the implementation of the ILO Centenary Declaration. The Conclusions were adopted by the EU Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council at its meeting of 24 October 2019.

The potential for complying with the invitation to ratify a Convention extended by the ILO to member States in its Centenary Ratification Campaign was examined. While the Committee ultimately did not propose ratification to take place in 2019, the Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention No. 102 came up as a possible instrument to be ratified at a later date. The Ministry of Social Affairs and Health continues to look into the matter. The Committee also saw no impediments to ratification of the Working Conditions (Hotels and Restaurants) Convention No. 172. The Committee found that Finland, in any case, is assessing the potential for ratifying the most recent ILO Violence and Harassment Convention No. 190 within the coming year (see below).
The Committee discussed the proposal of the ILO that Finland should denounce the Workmen's Compensation (Accidents) Convention and the Workmen's Compensation (Occupational Diseases) Convention (Nos. 17 and 18, respectively), since Finland has ratified the more recent Conventions covering the same topics. The matter is under review in the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health (see also below).

In addition, the ILO Committee had discussions on events related to the ILO Centenary in Finland and Geneva (see below).

In 2019, the Committee held a joint meeting with the International Labour Conference delegation to discuss the topics and practical arrangements of the conference. Follow-up on the resolutions of the Conference was discussed after the Conference was held.

On 23–27 September 2019, Finland attended the ILO Meeting of Experts to Adopt Guidelines on the Promotion of Decent Work and Road Safety in the Transport Sector. Finland prepared for the consideration of the Guidelines in the Committee’s Convention Division together with the ministries and the representatives of the social partners representing the sector.

2020

In 2020, the Finnish ILO Committee to date has adopted the reports to the ILO under Article 19 of the ILO Constitution. The reports concern the Nursing Personnel Recommendation No. 157 (Convention No. 149 has already been ratified) and the Domestic Workers Recommendation No. 201 (convention No. 189 has already been ratified).

Finland took part in the meeting on Decent Work in the World of Global Supply Chains taking place in Geneva on 25–28 February 2020. The agenda of the meeting was considered by the ILO Committee’s Convention Division and the Committee was also provided with information on the topic.

The Convention Division has additionally discussed the possible ratification of the Violence and Harassment Convention. The government proposal on this is to be submitted to Parliament towards the end of 2020.

The government proposal to Parliament on approving and implementing the 2018 amendments to Code of the Maritime Labour Convention (MLC) and on certain other legislative amendments concerning maritime labour was submitted to Parliament in April 2020 (see the report on MLC).

In relation to the COVID-19 pandemic, the ILO Committee was informed in written procedure of matters including the cancellation of the 109th International Labour Conference and the adjusted reporting procedure for reports to be submitted to the ILO in 2020. The Committee was also in receipt of information on the possibility of virtual attendance at the ILO Global Summit on the topic of COVID-19 and the World of Work (Europe and Central Asia Regional Event 1 July 2020).

Questions raised in the Governing Body were addressed at meetings of the ILO Committee.

Currently pending is the ILO initiative on possible denunciation of Conventions No. 17 and 18. Another matter for discussion is the ratification potential of the Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention No. 102 and the Working Conditions (Hotels and Restaurants) Convention No. 172.
The Committee will consider Finland’s responses to the ILO Framework for Quality Apprenticeships questionnaire. The ILO proposal of withdrawing the Fee-Charging Employment Agencies Convention No. 34 will also be discussed.

Article 5 (2)

In 2019, the ILO Committee convened a total of 5 times.

This year, the Committee had convened 2 times by the time the report was sent. The Committee has also considered matters in written procedure.

Events organised by Finland to mark the ILO Centenary

In the context of the ILO Centenary, the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment, the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health and the ILO Committee organised three events. The first event took place in Tampere in May 2019, the second event in Rovaniemi in September 2019. The third, a high-level seminar to celebrate the centenary of Finland’s membership of the ILO, was held in Helsinki on 11 February 2020. The keynote address at this seminar was given by ILO Director-General Guy Ryder. Topics discussed at the seminar were the ILO and its effectiveness as well as means to enhance the world of work and social dialogue. The seminar also heard viewpoints from the Finnish social partners and other high-level experts.

On 27 November 2019, Finland organised an ILO-related Future of Work Summit in Geneva together with Switzerland, Ireland and the EU Delegation. The Summit was held at and in cooperation with the Geneva Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies. The day consisted of four parallel thematic workshops (on the topics of life-long learning, new forms of work, social dialogue and the international governance of work) and a high-level panel. Panel participants included former President of Finland Tarja Halonen and ILO Director-General Guy Ryder. The panel can be watched at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YUyiWbncDVo

I LEGISLATION AND REGULATION

Nothing new to report.

II-V

Nothing new to report.

VI

A copy of this report has been sent to the following labour market organisations:

1. The Confederation of Finnish Industries (EK)
2. The Central Organisation of Finnish Trade Unions (SAK)
3. The Finnish Confederation of Professionals (STTK)
4. The Confederation of Unions for Professional and Managerial Staff in Finland(Akava)
5. Local Government Employers (KT)
6. Office for the Government as Employer (VTML)
7. The Federation of Finnish Enterprises
8. The Commission for Church Employers

Statements of the labour market organisations