



FOR DEBATE AND GUIDANCE

FOURTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Other questions

Follow-up to and promotion of the Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy: Strategic priorities for 2006-07

1. The Officers of the Subcommittee on Multinational Enterprises requested the Office to prepare a paper outlining possible strategic priorities for the current biennium (2006-07) to follow up and promote the Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy (MNE Declaration).
2. The strategic priorities proposed in the appendix include possible activities arising from the InFocus Forum on Corporate Social Responsibility and take account of the Plan of Action for 2005-07 submitted to and discussed by the Subcommittee in March 2005.¹ The full attainment of these priorities will require extra-budgetary resource mobilization.

Geneva, 10 February 2006.

Submitted for debate and guidance.

¹ GB.292/MNE/2(&Corr.).

Appendix

Strategic priorities

Description	Output
1. Follow-up to the Eighth Survey	
1.1. Knowledge development:	
(i) Analysis of good practice by MNEs in areas covered by the MNE Declaration, i.e. general policies, employment, training, conditions of work and life, industrial relations (paragraphs 100, 102 and 104). ¹	Publication to coincide with 30th anniversary
(ii) Analysis of impact of FDI, particularly in services, and identification of good practice and effective policies aimed at enhancing the positive contribution of FDI and minimizing and resolving any difficulties (paragraphs 91, 96 and 100).	Working paper
(iii) Analysis of benefits and difficulties arising from MNE operations in EPZs and SEZs in terms of employment, working conditions and industrial relations mechanisms (paragraph 110). ²	Working paper
(iv) Sectoral analysis: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Assess the impact of concentration of economic power on broader economic and social development (paragraph 97). ■ Assess practices of MNEs, their suppliers and contractors with respect to occupational safety and health standards in hazardous industries, with a view to enhancing the positive contributions of MNEs and minimizing and resolving any difficulties (paragraph 104). 	Working papers
1.2. Promotional activities and technical advisory services:	
(i) Translate and reproduce MNE Declaration (paragraph 108).	Updated MNE Declaration and executive summary
(ii) Provide assistance to developing countries that receive substantial FDI to adopt more effective policies and measures related to FDI, by facilitating dialogue between multinationals, governments, employers' and workers' organizations (paragraph 96).	Technical cooperation
1.3. Alternatives for the Ninth Survey paragraph 94)	Paper on alternatives
2. IFI on CSR	
2.1. Knowledge development:	
(i) Analysis of the different CSR initiatives emerging in various sectors (e.g. agribusiness, electronics, etc.).	Publication
(ii) Collecting good practice on how MNEs, including within their supply chain architecture, are giving effect to different aspects of the MNE Declaration through their CSR practices.	Input into publication for 30th anniversary
(iii) Analysis of the relationship between voluntary private initiatives and public regulation, in particular between public regulation and	Working papers

¹ Paragraph numbers in this section refer to the Eighth Survey on the effect given to the Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy: Analytical report of the Working Group on the reports submitted by governments and by employers' and workers' organizations (Part I). See GB.295/MNE/1/1.

² To be undertaken in collaboration with the InFocus Initiative on EPZs.

Description	Output
<p>inspection and the growing phenomenon of private assessment through social audits.</p> <p>(iv) Review of how labour issues are reflected in voluntary reporting practices and reporting guidelines.</p>	<p>Working papers</p>
<p>2.2. Tripartite and expert meetings to consider what constitutes good CSR practice:</p> <p>(i) InFocus forums:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ The relationship between public regulation and private systems of inspection, social auditing and certification. ■ Voluntary reporting practices. <p>(ii) International forum on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the MNE Declaration (see strategic priority 5).</p> <p>(iii) Other ILO tripartite meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Tripartite meeting on the production of electronic components for the IT industries: Changing labour force requirements in a global economy. ■ Tripartite meeting on the impact of global food chains on employment. 	<p>Recommendations on the ILO's role and concrete strategies to promote the MNE Declaration</p>
<p>2.3. Promotional activities and technical advisory services:</p> <p>(i) Training on how to give practical effect to the principles in the MNE Declaration, drawing on the collection of good practice case studies.³</p> <p>(ii) Technical cooperation projects.</p> <p>(iii) Upgrading BASI into a more user friendly format (see strategic priority 6).</p> <p>(iv) Building on dialogue with other intergovernmental organizations and engaging with other international initiatives related to CSR (see strategic priority 7).</p>	<p>Training package</p>
<p>3. Development of practical guidelines for implementation of the MNE Declaration</p>	<p>Guidelines</p>
<p>4. MNEs and industrial relations</p>	
<p>4.1. Knowledge development:</p>	
<p>(i) Analysis of the degree to which labour inspectorates, CSR frameworks and framework agreements are improving respect for freedom of association and collective bargaining, and the subsequent contribution of industrial relations to improvements in conditions of work and wages.</p>	<p>Working papers</p>
<p>5. International Forum on the occasion of the 30th anniversary of the MNE Declaration</p>	
<p>6. Upgrading BASI to be more user friendly</p>	
<p>7. Cooperation with other international organizations</p>	

³ In collaboration with the International Training Centre of the ILO.