



Governing Body

346th Session, Geneva, October–November 2022

Programme, Financial and Administrative Section

PFA

Programme, Financial and Administrative Segment

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Second item on the agenda

Matters relating to ILO premises

Update on the premises for the ILO Regional Office for Africa and Country Office for Côte d'Ivoire, Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger and Togo in Abidjan

1. At its 344th Session (March 2022),¹ the Governing Body was informed of the discussion between the Government of Côte d'Ivoire and the United Nations (UN) Resident Coordinator on the proposal to incorporate the future UN House into the renovation project of ILO-owned premises in Abidjan, located on Boulevard Lagunaire, with the aim of accommodating staff from approximately 13 UN agencies. The Governing Body took note of the fact that no response had been received at the time from the Government with regard to the financing of the project, which had a much larger scope than the one previously approved at its 340th Session (October–November 2020).²
2. In April 2022, at the request of the ILO, the Resident Coordinator sent another letter to the Government of Côte d'Ivoire reiterating the necessity for the ILO to understand its position on potential funding of the construction of a UN House at the site of the current ILO building. To date, no response from the Government to the Resident Coordinator's latest communication has been officially received.

¹ GB.344/PFA/4/2.

² GB.340/PFA/3.

3. In the meantime, the ILO continues to pay rental costs to the African Development Bank, while the maintenance costs of the ILO-owned premises are increasing as the building deteriorates due to lack of occupancy. In order to rationalize its costs, the Office decided not to wait any longer and to move forward with its approved project.
4. In August 2022, the ILO informed the Resident Coordinator in writing of its decision to proceed, as approved by the Governing Body in October 2020, with the construction of new ILO premises that will have space to accommodate a limited number of entities of the UN system. The Resident Coordinator responded on 26 August, thanking the ILO for its decision to move ahead with the renovation project as approved by the ILO Governing Body, with the possibility of housing some UN agencies.
5. The architects, who previously realized the preliminary design of the project, are currently finalizing the detailed design. Due to the time that has elapsed since the 2020 approval by the Governing Body, the architects are reviewing the cost estimate of the project as well as the schedule of works.
6. In parallel, the Office is preparing the official request for a construction permit and the tendering process for the contracting of a project management services company, that will assist the ILO in the execution of this project.
7. The detailed design and costing review of the project and the contracting of the project management services company should be completed by the end of January 2023.
8. The Office will provide an update on progress to the Governing Body at its 347th Session for its information.

▶ Draft decision

9. **The Governing Body:**
 - (a) **took note of the Office's decision to proceed with the redevelopment of the ILO-owned premises in Abidjan, as described in document GB.340/PFA/3, with a scope as approved in October 2020;**
 - (b) **requested the Office to provide an update on progress to the Governing Body at its 347th Session (March 2023); and**
 - (c) **requested the Director-General to continue the high-level collaboration with the Government of Côte d'Ivoire in support of the redevelopment project.**