FOURTH ITEM ON THE AGENDA

Trade Unions’ Training Committee of the International Training Centre of the International Labour Organization

Report on the 29th meeting, held on October 19-20, 2010
(Turin, Italy)
Summary Report on the 29th Meeting of the Trade Unions’ Training Committee

Held on October 19-20, 2010

Members present:

Nitte M. Adyanthaya (Member of the Workers’ Group) – Chair person
Arnaldo Souza Benedetti (Member of the Workers’ Group)
Cinzia Del Rio (Member of the Workers’ Group)
Maria Fernanda Carvalho Francisco (Substitute Member of the Workers’ Group)

Raquel González (Secretary of the Workers’ Group)
Esther Busser (Assistant Secretary of the Workers’ Group)

Dan Cunniah (Director ACTRAV - ILO Geneva)
Raghwan Raghwan (ACTRAV – ILO Geneva)

Dario Arrigotti (Deputy Director – ITCILO)
Antonio Graziosi (Director, Training Programmes - ITCILO)

Arun Kumar (Secretary of the Trade Union Training Committee)
Conclusions and Recommendations

Committee consensus was reached on the following points:

1. While recognizing the structural imbalance and the shrinking resource base of the ITC, the Committee expressed concern at the emerging ‘market approach’ for supporting ITC which could have adverse consequences for training on subjects of concern to workers and ILO mandate in general.

2. Committee expressed concern at the reduction of workers’ participation in ITC training activities and urges the Centre to take steps to ensure that workers are better represented.

3. While appreciating the efforts of Actrav-Turin for capacity building of trade unions, the Committee recommended the Programme to strive for better balance between campus based and field training activities, between regional and interregional training initiatives, between dealing with emerging issues and focusing on fundamentals topics such as Freedom of Association, Collective Bargaining, Wages, Precarious work and Social Security issues, while also ensuring sufficient access to training for participants from Lusophone countries and taking into account issues that emerge out of policy dialogue within ILO and the priorities of the Workers’ Group.

4. Committee expressed the need for continuing efforts to increase the participation of women in the training programmes. The Committee expressed particular concern at low participation of women in Arab and Asian Regions and requests a strengthening of the current strategy for it to be addressed.

5. Regional resources: The Committee asked the Programme to develop a strategy with Actrav Geneva to ensure that a fair share of regional ILO resources meant for ITC-Turin are also devoted to Workers capacity building;

6. The Committee urged the Programme to improve its coordination with Actrav-Geneva and field so as to ensure better contribution towards achieving ILO’s Programme and Budget Outcomes and promotion of Decent Work Agenda

7. Continue and expand the development of training materials with a great focus on permanent updating of the contents.
8. While appreciating the integration of distance education in our training approach (for knowledge building, experience sharing, follow-up and building educational networks) the Committee recommended that Actrav-Turin should undertake an evaluation of distance education activities across regions, taking into account the specific approach adopted for Latin America Region.

9. In the context of current discussions on EC-ILO/ILO-ITC joint management agreement instead of call for proposals, the Committee recommended ACTRAV Geneva and ITC-ILO to ensure that ACTRAV Turin continues to have full opportunity to access the budget line (Industrial relations and social dialogue of DG Employment) for consolidating and expanding the training in capacity building programme of trade unions in EU 27 and candidate countries affiliated to European Industrial Federations and ETUC.

10. Actrav-Turin should undertake an assessment of the role and impact of its training activities for Trade Unions Organizations in different regions with a view to improve the quality of training and to ensure the highest impact nationally.