
**ILO
SUPERVISORY
MACHINERY AND
BODIES
MECHANISMS**

Mechanisms Table

Mechanism	Composition	Role	Role of employers' and workers' organizations	Periodicity	Outcome
Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations	20 independent experts	Established in 1926. Under ILO Constitution, articles 22 and 23 – regular reporting obligation on implementation of ratified Conventions in law and practice	Employers' and workers' organizations may submit observations in the context of the examination of the Government's report. These observations are examined by the Committee of Experts.	3 years – for fundamental and governance Conventions 5 years for all other Conventions	Observations and directs requests to Governments. General survey on particular Conventions for broader guidance. Annual report with observations, as well as general survey, submitted to Conference Committee
Conference Committee on the Application of Standards	Equal representation of workers', employers' and government delegates	Standing Committee of the annual International Labour Conference. Examines the annual report of the	Employers' and workers' organizations take part in the discussions and in the adoption of conclusions	Approximately 25 individual cases examined annually – chosen at the beginning of the Conference by the Committee's officers	Conclusions recommending specific steps be taken. Follow-up missions and technical assistance often result. Situations of special concern are highlighted in "special

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		Committee of Experts and its general survey.			paragraphs" of the Committee's report. Discussion further feeds Committee of Experts' reflections.
Representation (article 24)	Three-member committee of the Governing Body – one worker, one employer and one Government representative.	Under articles 24 and 25 of the ILO Constitution, examines allegations of failure to secure effective observance of a ratified Convention.	Representations can be submitted only by workers' and employers' organizations, and a workers' and employers' representative sits on the tripartite committee that examines each case.	The Committee is established by the Governing Body for each representation which is has determined to be admissible.	Report to the Governing Body with information submitted, conclusions and recommendations. This report further feeds Committee of Experts' examination.
Complaints (article 26)	The Governing Body may establish a Commission of Inquiry, the ILO's highest-level	Under article 26 of the ILO Constitution, a complaint against a member State for non-compliance with a ratified	As a delegate to the International Labour Conference, a workers' or employers' organization can initiate a complaint.	The Governing Body determines if a Commission of Inquiry will be established.	The Commission of Inquiry investigates the complaint and adopts a report with recommendations. When a member State refuses to fulfil the recommendations, the Governing Body can take

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	investigative procedure, consisting of three independent members.	Convention may be filed by another member State having ratified the Convention, a delegate to the International Labour Conference, or by the Governing Body. A Commission of Inquiry is set up to address persistent and serious violations.			further action under article 33 of the ILO Constitution, to secure compliance.
The Committee on Freedom of Association (CFA)	Eighteen members (titular and deputy) – 6 representatives of government, 6 of workers' organizations, and 6 of employers' organizations,	A standing Governing Body Committee. Established in 1951 to examine complaints of violations of freedom of association, irrespective of ratification of the	Employers' and workers' organizations can submit complaints to the CFA and are also represented on the CFA.	Complaints are addressed as they are received. CFA meets and adopts reports three times per year.	CFA reviews complaints and either recommends no further action or issues recommendations and requests Government to keep it informed. CFA may also propose a "direct contacts" mission to address the issues.

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	with an independent Chair.	relevant Conventions.			
Fact-Finding and Conciliation Commission on Freedom of Association	3, independent experts. Similar to the article 26 complaint, but with a focus on freedom of association	Constituted on the basis of an agreement with the UN Economic and Social Council. Ratification of the relevant Conventions is not necessary, nor is membership in the ILO (UN would obtain consent)	Employers' and workers' organizations can submit complaints and provide evidence for the investigation.	The Governing Body decides whether to appoint a Fact-Finding and Conciliation Commission.	The Fact-Finding and Conciliation Commission investigates the complaint and adopts a report with recommendations, which is followed up by the CFA.

NORMLEX: Date Base of International Labour Standards

All ILO instruments, observations and direct requests, and reports of the supervisory bodies are available through NORMLEX, the ILO's information system on international labour standards. The database is easily searchable by country, subject, Convention, key words, etc. Country profiles are also available on NORMLEX, providing a quick overview of ratifications, reporting obligations, and the most recent comments or reports of the supervisory bodies, and have quick links to national legislation. See <http://www.ilo.org/normlex>. The database is available in English, French and Spanish.