

International Labour Office
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The Minister of Foreign Affairs
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Rép. de Géorgie

7 February 2018

**Meeting of Experts to adopt Guidelines on Decent Work
in Public Emergency Services**
(Geneva, 16-20 April 2018)

Dear Sir,

In accordance with a decision taken by the Governing Body of the International Labour Office at its 331th Session (October-November 2017), it is my pleasure to invite your Government to be represented as an observer government at the Meeting of Experts to adopt Guidelines on Decent Work in Public Emergency Services, which will be held at the International Labour Office in Geneva, Switzerland, from Monday, 16 April to Friday, 20 April 2018.

The purpose of this Meeting is to revise the 2003 Guidelines on social dialogue in public emergency services in a changing environment so that they reflect the changing nature of emergencies and other developments that have occurred in the past decade.

The Meeting will be composed of 24 experts: eight Employer experts and eight Worker experts nominated, respectively, by the Employers' and Workers' groups of the Governing Body; and eight experts nominated by the Governments of Brazil, Italy, Japan, Peru, the Philippines, Sierra Leone, Tunisia and the United Kingdom. Should any of the governments mentioned above decline to nominate an expert, the government of one or more of the following members will be invited to do so: Colombia, France, Greece, Jordan, Pakistan, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda or the United States. The Meeting will also be open to interested Government observers. Certain intergovernmental organizations and international non-governmental organizations will also be invited to attend the Meeting as observers.

Your Government is therefore invited to nominate one or more representatives to attend as observers. Government observers to ILO Meetings of Experts are allowed to attend plenary sittings, as well as Government group meetings. While they cannot participate in the discussions in the plenary sittings, they are encouraged to actively participate during Government group meetings. Please note that the ILO cannot cover the cost of attendance by Government observers.

If you are able to accept this invitation, I should be grateful if you would send an **official letter of nomination**, before **1 March 2018**, with the name, title and **email address** of each of the observers and advisers from your Government (fax: +41 22 799 7050 or email: sectormeetings@ilo.org). Should your nomination not reach us by **1 March 2018**, we might not be able to provide the appropriate interpretation services during the Meeting.

The Office is preparing draft Guidelines in English, French and Spanish to be considered at the Meeting. The draft document will be shared electronically with all participants and observers prior to the Meeting and will also be posted online at www.ilo.org/sector.

To ensure that the Guidelines are of the highest quality and will be useful to members, it is important that qualified experts review the document, offer their recommendations and give their approval. Participants should have a good understanding of public emergency services and related decent work issues.

When nominating Government observers, please bear in mind the resolutions adopted by the International Labour Conference calling upon member States to include a greater number of women in their delegations to ILO meetings.

Please note that the Office does not provide participants with health insurance coverage and that participants are responsible for obtaining such coverage for the entire duration of the Meeting, including any time spent travelling to and from the event.

Lastly, please note that any delegates requiring an entry visa for Switzerland, which is part of the Schengen Area, will need to obtain it in their own country well before their departure, and that the ILO does not provide a hotel reservation service.

We look forward to receiving a positive reply from your Government.

Yours faithfully,

For the Director-General:



Alette Van Leur
Director
Sectoral Policies Department