



European Union

Statement

ILO Governing Body, 319th session

(16 – 31 October 2013)

**"Follow-up to the resolution on the trade union situation in Fiji, adopted
by the Governing Body at its 316th Session (November 2012)"
(GB.319/INS/8)**

and

**Complaint concerning non-observance by Fiji of the Freedom of
Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention 1948 (No.
87) made by delegates to the 102nd Session (2013) of the International
Labour Conference under article 26 of the ILO Constitution - (to be
published after the meeting of the Officers on 22 October)
(GB 319/INS/15)**

Geneva, 31 October 2013

- CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY -

ILO Governing Body, 319th session

(16 – 31 October 2013)

**"Follow-up to the resolution on the trade union situation in Fiji, adopted by the Governing Body at its 316th Session (November 2012)"
(GB.319/INS/8)**

and

**Complaint concerning non-observance by Fiji of the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention 1948 (No. 87) made by delegates to the 102nd Session (2013) of the International Labour Conference under article 26 of the ILO Constitution - (to be published after the meeting of the Officers on 22 October)
(GB 319/INS/15)**

EU Statement

Thank you chair,

I speak on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

The following countries align themselves with this declaration: Turkey^{*}, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia[†], Montenegro[†], Iceland[‡], Serbia[†], Albania[†] and the Republic of Moldova and Armenia.

We attach great importance to human rights, including freedom of association, and recognise the important role played by the ILO in developing, promoting and supervising international labour standards. We call on all States to ratify and implement the core labour rights Conventions.

We call on the Government of Fiji to respect its commitments regarding human rights and fundamental freedoms, respect for democratic principles and the rule of law. We urge the Government to ensure that freedom of expression and assembly are respected.

We have already invited the Government to engage with the ILO to enable the organisation of a new fact finding mission before the end of the year. We have taken note of the response of the Government to the ILO Director-General's letter.

^{*} Candidate country

[†] The Candidate countries former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia as well as potential candidate countries Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

[‡] Candidate Country Iceland continues to be a member of the EFTA and of the European Economic Area.

We urge again the Government to accept **the return of** the direct contacts mission before the end of the year. **We support decision point 6 contained in document INS/8(Revised).** On this basis we **agree** to **defer** the decision to establish a Commission of Inquiry to the March 2014 session of the Governing Body. **Therefore we support decision point 11 contained in document INS/15/1.**

Thank you chair.