

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE
BUREAU INTERNATIONAL DU TRAVAIL
OFICINA INTERNACIONAL DEL TRABAJO

Imbore op 10/10



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Réf. BIT/ILO ACD 5-3

Votre réf.

Mr. Lauris Beets
Director for International Affairs
Ministry of Social Affairs and
Employment
Anna van Hannoverstraat 4
Postbox 90801
2509 LV THE HAGUE
Pays-Bas

*ingenomen als fax op 10/10
onder registratienr. IZ/IA/2006/31644*

Dear Mr. Beets,

- 7 AVR. 2006

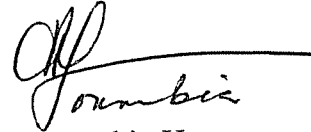
I refer to your letter of 28 February 2005 requesting the Office to give an informal opinion on the compatibility of the draft Health Insurance Act (Zfw) with the provisions of the ILO Maternity Protection Conventions Nos. 3 and 183, as well as to your letter of 22 April 2005 requesting another informal opinion regarding the compatibility of the new maternity insurance scheme for the self-employed with ILO Conventions Nos. 100, 103, 111, 156 and 183 and the subsequent correspondence on this matter.

You will recall that the response of the Office was postponed pending the provision of a verified full text translation of the relevant draft legislation that would enable the Office to give a fully informed opinion. This translation has, however, not been received so far.

Furthermore, according to the information at the Office's disposal, the two legislative texts concerning the reforms regarding the object of the Government's requests have entered into force in The Netherlands. While the Office is readily available to the constituents to provide informal opinions in writing on their draft legislation in the light of international labour standards, the authority for determining the compatibility of a law which has entered into force with a ratified Convention rests solely with the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations. Therefore, as regards ILO Conventions Nos. 100, 103, 111 and 156, all ratified by The Netherlands, the above-mentioned legislative text will be examined by the Committee of Experts within the framework of the ILO supervisory mechanism. The Office's reply to the Government's requests will consequently be

prepared only with regard to the provisions of Convention No. 183, which had not been ratified by The Netherlands, as soon as the translations of the relevant legislation have been received. I would kindly request you to transmit to us a copy of the legislation on receipt of this communication

Yours sincerely,
For the Director-General:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Cleopatra Doumbia-Henry', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Cleopatra Doumbia-Henry,
Director of the International
Labour Standards Department.