

CAS 6/6/16

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Conclusions Turkmenistan C. 105

The Committee took note of the information provided by the Government representative and the discussion that followed on issues raised by the Committee of Experts.

The Committee welcomed the Government's stated commitment to continuing to cooperate with the ILO in its efforts to apply Convention 105. The Committee noted with concern the allegations of the widespread use of forced labour in relation to the annual state sponsored cotton harvest in Turkmenistan.

Taking into account the discussion of the case, the Committee **urged** the Government to:

- In compliance with Article 1(a) of Convention 105, take measures in law and practice to ensure that no penalties involving forced labour may be imposed for the peaceful expression of political opinions opposed to the established system.
- In compliance with Article 1(b) of Convention 105, take effective measures in law and in practice to ensure that no one, including farmers and public and private sector workers, is forced to work for the state sponsored cotton harvest, and threatened punishment for the lack of fulfilment of production quotas under the pretext of "needs of economic development". In this regard, repeal section 7 of the Law on the Legal Regime Governing Emergencies of 1990.
- Prosecute and sanction appropriately any public official who participates in the forced mobilization of workers for the cultivation or harvest of cotton in contravention to Convention 105.
- Seek technical assistance from the ILO in order to comply with the Convention in law and practice and to develop a national action plan to eliminate forced labour in connection with the state sponsored cotton harvest.
- Allow the social partners, and civil society organisations, to monitor and document any incidences of forced labour in the cotton harvest without fear of reprisals.