President's Committee on the International Labor Organization

Membership Balance Plan

By Executive Order, the President's Committee on the International Labor Organization (PC/ILO) consists of the Secretaries of Labor (Chair), State, and Commerce, the Assistant to the President for National Security Affairs, the Assistant to the President for Economic Policy, and one representative each from organized labor and the business community, to be designated by the Secretary of Labor.

All government members are ex officio, and the Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB), which is responsible for managing the PC/ILO, has no discretion with regard to the appointment of these members.

The business and labor members of the PC/ILO are representative members, the aim being to ensure participation by the most representative organizations of U.S. employers and workers engaged in ILO matters. Consistent with Executive Order 12216 of June 18, 1980, which created the Committee, and all subsequent Executive Orders continuing the Committee, the business and labor members are the presidents of their respective organizations or their designated representatives, per the wish of the organizations themselves. This long-standing practice is further confirmed by ILO Convention No. 144 on Tripartite Consultations, ratified by the United States in 1988, which requires that, for the purpose of consultations on ILO matters, the representatives of employers and workers shall be freely chosen by their representative organizations. To the extent a president of the representative business or labor organization delegates his or her responsibilities under the Executive Order, and to the extent permitted by the Federal Advisory Committee Act and other laws, we would encourage him or her to make such a delegation consistent with achieving the greatest impact, scope and credibility among diverse stakeholders.

The non-government members of the PC/ILO are invited by the Secretary to serve two-year terms. In making these appointments, the candidates are reviewed through the Department of Labor's internal vetting process to assure compliance with all legal and ethical requirements.

ILAB reports on all matters relating to the appointment of Committee members to the Secretary.