



PR#072-26

PRESS RELEASE

Belize Commended by ILO for Fulfilling Obligation to Submit International Labour Standards to the National Assembly

Belmopan, March 13, 2026.

The Government of Belize, through the Labour Department, has achieved an important milestone in fulfilling its obligations under the International Labour Organization (ILO).

The ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations has commended Belize for meeting its constitutional obligation to submit international labour standards adopted by the International Labour Conference to the National Assembly.

In September 2025, the Government of Belize submitted 43 international labour instruments, including Conventions, Recommendations, and Protocols adopted between 1990 and 2019, to the House of Representatives and the Senate. These submissions addressed previously pending instruments and marked an important step in ensuring Belize's compliance with its obligations under the ILO Constitution.

Further advancing this process, the Government also submitted the Safe and Healthy Working Environment (Consequential Amendments) Convention, 2023 (No. 191), the Safe and Healthy Working Environment Recommendation, 2023 (No. 207), and the Quality Apprenticeships Recommendation, 2023 (No. 208), adopted at the 111th Session of the International Labour Conference. These were submitted to the National Assembly on Tuesday, March 10, 2026, by the Hon. Kareem Musa, Minister of Immigration, Governance, and Labour.

Minister Musa welcomed the recognition from the ILO and emphasized the Government's commitment to strengthening labour governance in Belize. He stated, "Belize takes seriously its responsibilities as a member of the International Labour Organization. By ensuring the submission of these international labour standards to the National Assembly, we are reinforcing our commitment to transparency, good governance, and the protection of

workers' rights. This recognition by the ILO Committee of Experts reflects the dedication of our Labour Department and the Government of Belize to align our national policies with international labour standards.”

In its observation, the ILO Committee of Experts noted with satisfaction the steps taken by Belize and stated, “The Committee notes with satisfaction the information provided by the Government regarding the submission, on 12 and 15 September 2025, to the House of Representatives and the Senate of 43 instruments adopted by the Conference at 22 sessions held between 1990 and 2019, as well as the Safe and Healthy Working Environment Convention (No. 191) and Recommendation (No. 207), 2023, and the Quality Apprenticeships Recommendation, 2023 (No. 208). The Committee commends the efforts made by the Government in fully meeting its constitutional obligation of submission.”

With these submissions, Belize has now fulfilled its constitutional obligation under Article 19 of the ILO Constitution regarding the submission of international labour standards.

The Ministry of Immigration, Governance and Labour remains committed to promoting decent work, strengthening labour governance, and ensuring that Belize continues to align its policies and legislation with international labour standards.

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