



PARLIAMENT OF THE COOK ISLANDS

PARLIAMENT PAPER NO. 05

Rarotonga.

Madam Speaker,

I have the honour to present the International Labour Organization (ILO) submissions to Parliament.

I have the honour to be,

Ma'am

Anne Herman
Secretary of Internal Affairs

The **HON. V. MOKOROA**, Minister of Internal Affairs



Government of the Cook Islands

Minister of Police, Internal Affairs, Youth and Sports,
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ILO Submissions to the Parliament

As part of our International Labour Organization (ILO) membership obligations, we are required to submit to the Parliament's attention, all new legal instruments adopted by the ILO at their annual international labour conference (ILC). The Labour division prepares the submission with a recommendation for the Parliament and then transfers Parliament's feedback to the ILO through reporting mechanism.

At present, two recommendations need to be submitted to the Cook Islands Parliament.

Firstly, at its 104th Session (2015), the International Labour Conference (ILC) adopted the Recommendation concerning the transition from the informal to the formal economy (Transition from the Informal to the Formal Economy Recommendation, 2015 (No. 204)) based on strong tripartite consensus and near unanimous vote, following a two-year process of consultations.

This new Recommendation is of strategic significance for the world of work and for the future of work: it concerns half of the global labour force and more than 90 percent of small and medium enterprises worldwide who are working and operating in conditions of informality. This is the first international labour standard to focus on the informal economy in its entirety and diversity and to point clearly in the direction of transition to the formal economy as the means for realizing decent work for all and for achieving inclusive development.

The Recommendation No. 204, of universal relevance, acknowledges the broad diversity of situations of informality including specific national contexts and priorities for the transition to the formal economy and provides practical guidance to address these priorities. It clearly defines a broad and detailed scope of application to all workers and economic units - including enterprises, entrepreneurs and households - in the informal economy. Such informal work may be found in all economic sectors and in public and private spheres.

Recommendation No 204 provides guidance to Members to pursue a threefold objective:
(a) facilitate the transition of workers and economic units from the informal to the formal economy, while respecting workers' fundamental rights and ensuring opportunities for income security, livelihoods and entrepreneurship,

(b) promote the creation, preservation and sustainability of enterprises and decent jobs in the formal economy and the coherence of macroeconomic, employment, social protection