

# International Labor Organization Governing Body Sessions Away from Geneva, 1927-1938

The International Labor Organization (ILO), a part of the League of Nations during its existence (1919-1946), was created in 1919 as part of the World War I Peace Treaties. ILO headquarters has been in Geneva, Switzerland except for the period 1940 to 1948 when it was in Montreal, Canada. ILO is governed by the annual International Labor Conference and the ILO Governing Body which meets between conferences, usually about 5 times a year. Most of the Governing Body sessions have been held in Geneva. However, between the years 1927 to 1938, seven sessions were held in other cities. When the United Nations replaced the League in 1946, ILO became a specialized agency of the UN.

## Exhibit Focus

This exhibit documents the postal history of the seven sessions of the ILO Governing Body held away from Geneva between 1927 to 1938. This will be done by showing service mail from these sessions. For four of these sessions, the host country overprinted stamps for the session. All seven of the sessions had special post offices using a special postmark.

## Exhibit Plan

## Pages

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>37th Session, Berlin, Germany</b><br/>October 10-15, 1927.....</li> <li>2. <b>42nd Session, Warsaw, Poland</b><br/>October 4-10, 1928.....</li> <li>3. <b>48th Session, Paris, France</b><br/>April 14-29, 1930.....</li> <li>4. <b>50th Session, Brussels, Belgium</b><br/>October 7-12, 1930.....</li> <li>5. <b>60th Session, Madrid, Spain</b><br/>October 24-28, 1932.....</li> <li>6. <b>81st Session, Prague, Czechoslovakia</b><br/>October 6-10, 1937.....</li> <li>7. <b>85th Session, London, England</b><br/>October 25-27, 1938.....</li> <li>8. <b>Epilogue, 110th Session, Mysore, India,</b><br/>December 1949-January 1950.....</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2-3</li> <li>4</li> <li>5-6</li> <li>7</li> <li>8</li> <li>9</li> <li>10-11</li> <li>12</li> </ol> |
|--|---|
- Special stamps, corner card cover,  
Registry label, Post Card
- Special postmark
- Special stamps and postmark,  
Covers sent to England, France,  
Switzerland and Uruguay
- Special stamps, stationery, postmark
- Special stationery, postmarks
- Special stamps, stationery, postmarks
- Special stationery, postmarks  
Covers sent to Ireland, New Zealand,  
Switzerland
- Special origin cachet, post office  
bulletin



Special Stationery from the 37th Session of the ILO Governing Body, held in Berlin in 1927  
Three German stamps overprinted for the session, with Special Postmark for the session, Oct. 13, 1927.

## Rarity

**Rarely observed items in this exhibit are bordered in dark blue.**

The Governing Body is the executive body of the International Labor Organization (the Office is the secretariat of the Organization). It takes decisions on ILO policy, decides the International Labor Conference agenda, adopts the draft Program and Budget of the Organization for submission to the Conference, and elects the Director-General.

It was composed of 38 members (18 Governments, 10 Employers and 10 Workers) and 15 deputy members (5 Governments, 5 Employers and 5 Workers). Some of the member government seats are permanently held by states of industrial importance (China, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States). The other Government members are elected by the Conference every three years. The Employer and Worker members are elected in their individual capacity.