

Tripartite round table on pension trends and reforms

Overall assessment of the pension system

Côte d'Ivoire (Government)

1) Fulfilment of the core principles of the ILO:

- a) **Based on your evaluation of your country's pension system, which core principles embodied in ILO standards does the pension system fully or partially observe? Please explain your answer.**

The core principles embodied in ILO standards observed by the pension system of Côte d'Ivoire are as follows:

Principles observed	Level	Observations
Principle 1: Progressive realization of universal coverage	Observed	Through Ordonnance No. 2019-636, of 17 July 2019, Côte d'Ivoire launched a social security scheme for independent workers in order to expand social coverage to other sectors of the population.
Principle 2: Social solidarity and collective financing	Partially observed	Basic retirement schemes in Côte d'Ivoire operate on a "pay as you go" model, which is based on a strong sense of solidarity among generations. They are funded by employers and workers from both the private and public sectors. We are, however, currently taking steps to establish a minimum old-age pension for older persons without an income as part of a national solidarity programme.
Principle 3: Right to adequate and predictable benefits	Observed	The domestic legal framework guarantees the right to a pension for persons who have contributed to a social security scheme, and a minimum monthly pension greater than or equal to 50 per cent of the intertrade minimum wage.
Principle 4: Overall and primary responsibility of the State	Observed	The State assumes overall responsibility for the proper administration and financing of social security institutions and services, as well as for the provision of benefits in the prescribed form.
Principle 5: Non-discrimination, gender equality and	Observed	The national legislation provides for the same rules for men and women regarding access to old-age benefits.

Principles observed	Level	Observations
responsiveness to special needs		
Principle 6: Financial, fiscal and economic sustainability	Observed	According to the actuarial studies conducted as part of the 2012 reform of the social security system, the long-term stability of pension schemes will be maintained as a result of the system of governance introduced and the management oversight of social insurance institutions.
Principle 7: Transparent management and administration	Observed	Legal provisions, including Act No. 99-476 of 2 August 1999, defining and organizing the social insurance institutions, ensure the transparency, soundness and accountability of the administration and management of pension scheme funds.
Principle 8: Involvement of social partners and consultations with other stakeholders	Observed	In accordance with the applicable regulations, social partners participate in the administration of social insurance institutions and are consulted on all related matters, which includes pensions.
Principle 9: Periodic review of pensions to match the evolution of the cost of living and level of earnings	Observed	Since 2012, the Government of Côte d'Ivoire has reviewed retirement pensions, in accordance with the Social Insurance Code (<i>with an increase of at least 19 per cent in the private sector since that date</i>).

b) In your view, which core principles of ILO standards are not observed or area only partially observed by the pension system? Please explain your answer.

Regarding **principle 2: Social solidarity and collective financing**, it should be noted that we are currently trying to launch a minimum old-age pension scheme to enable all older persons without an income to benefit from a minimum old-age pension.

2) What is your overall assessment of your country's pension system?

The pension system in Côte d'Ivoire is rapidly expanding as a result of the reforms that were undertaken in 2012 with a view to ensuring the system's sustainability, improving its efficiency and ensuring the uninterrupted payment of old-age pensions over the long term. As a result of these reforms, we now have an old-age pension system that works very well, with regular pension payments and an ever-improving quality of service.

As part of efforts to expand social coverage, and in accordance with ILO recommendations, the Government of Côte d'Ivoire has, through Ordonnance No. 2019-636 of 17 July 2019, established a social security scheme for independent workers, which will be put into effect in early 2021. This scheme will allow all independent workers, most of whom participate in the informal sector, to receive social benefits, including old-age pensions.

3) In what ways could the pension system be strengthened?

4) The following actions could be taken to improve the pension system:

- ✚ Accelerate implementation of the social security scheme for independent workers
- ✚ Establish a minimum pension for older persons without an income
- ✚ Introduce a fully funded pension scheme for private-sector workers in order to improve the level of pension provided
- ✚ Conduct actuarial studies regularly in order to ensure the sustainability of the pension system
- ✚ Build the capacities of those administrations with responsibility for regulating the pension system.