

**Convention No. 159: Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment
(Disabled Persons), 1983**

Observation 2000

General observation

The Committee notes the substantial progress made in Latin America and Eastern Europe in enabling persons with disabilities to participate more fully in the open labour market, particularly in light of the limited resources available. The Latin American Group for Professional Rehabilitation (GLARP) has facilitated the success of numerous countries in developing innovative programmes for rehabilitation and integration into the labour market, through pooling of information and some resources. European Union assistance and sharing of information has also contributed substantially to improvements in several Eastern European countries. The Committee notes with interest these intergovernmental cooperative efforts, and encourages other member States to explore ways to share ideas and resources. Rehabilitation and employment of persons with disabilities is an important issue that poses challenges for all member States which have much to learn from each other's experiences.