

## INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL DIALOGUE

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Nedlac interacted with several international social dialogue institutions.

The Executive Director participated in the ILO-MLC study tour to Ireland, the Netherlands and Switzerland. Meetings were also held with SERV, the Flemish socio-economic council, SER, the Netherlands socio-economic council and the French socio-economic council. The purpose of these discussions was to explore the possibility of collaboration between these bodies and Nedlac on potential joint projects.

Nedlac constituency representatives participated in the ILO Annual General meetings in Geneva in July 2001.

The Executive Director attended the International Association of Socio-Economic Councils and Similar Institutions board meeting in Paris. A number of issues were discussed, including the role that Nedlac will be asked to play in the activities of the African section of IASEC.

The overall business convenor for Nedlac, Professor Raymond Parsons, represented Nedlac at the bi-annual meeting of the Council in the Hague, Netherlands in July 2001.

The Executive Director attended a Unido sponsored seminar in Maputo hosted by Unido and the Mozambique government on social dialogue in Mozambique.

## RESEARCH

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### Socio-Economic Trends Bulletin

As a result of certain delays, the publication of the bulletin, a succinct document setting out the main socio-economic development trends, did not take place in the year under review. The first edition is planned for the second quarter of 2002.

### Roundtables

The roundtable discussions have been ongoing in Nedlac since 1999, the idea behind them being that the social partners will be able to engage on an informal basis on issues that are of particular relevance in South Africa at this time. At the roundtable discussions the social partners are exposed to academic and other research and then given an opportunity to engage on the topic.

Two roundtables were held in the year under review. The first was on the State of South African Education, held in April 2001. Mr. Thami Mseleku, Director-General,