

Tribute to Ed Potter, on the occasion of his retirement

By: Iranian Confederation of Employers' Associations (ICEA)

For seven years, from 2004 to 2011, Ed Potter led the Employers in the ILO Conference Committee on the Application of Standards – where Governments are challenged to make sure that they fully fulfil their freely chosen international legal obligations.

We began to know Potter during our challenging period when the case of my country with regard to the Convention No: 111 on Discrimination were discussed in those years' Conference Committee on the Application of Standards.

With professional enthusiasm in defending the principles of non-discrimination, equality and human dignity, Potter fulfilled his responsibility fairly, while acting as a catalyst for a solution-seeking consensus.

Our compliments on the way Potter led the very challenging situations in the Committee on the Application of Standards. Potter handled the controversies remarkably well. He has an enviable ability to stay cool, while giving a patient and tolerant hearing, and helping opposing parties reach agreement.

33 consecutive years of participating in the work of the ILO, practicing law for 26 years, and many years' serving as promoter of global workplace rights is certainly a sign of his high ability, intelligence, as well as his unfailing commitment and engagement in every challenging situation.

Potter has been successful in his impressive career by being dutiful at his position, perseverance in activities, and dynamic in cooperation with his colleagues, as well as with delegates. His example is a lesson for all of us.

We extend to him our sincere admiration and appreciation for his extra efforts, tenacity and for his many years of distinguished dedicated services and devotion to the ideals of the ILO.

We wish Potter a happy retirement filled with good health, fun and happiness in his new life phase.

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