In international labour law, there are many conventions, based on the notion of social justice and designed to create international obligations for the states that ratify them. Ratification of respective conventions can contribute to the consolidation of national labour legislation by acting as a guarantee against backsliding by governments responding to economic conditions.

Lawyers, law students and counsel increasingly recognize the importance of having a global perspective on labour and employment law. Corporate lawyers frequently have to deal with a variety of labour and employment problems.

**ISSUE BRIEF No.5. Negotiating for decent working time – a review of practice**

Table 1: Collective bargaining on working time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Regions</th>
<th>Africa</th>
<th>Asia &amp; Pacific</th>
<th>Europe &amp; Central Asia</th>
<th>Americas &amp; Caribbean</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

A bargaining unit is a group of employees with identifiable community of interests who are represented by a single trade union in collective bargaining (e.g. white collar workers in the public sector). The bargaining units define who is covered by collective agreements. The concept of bargaining units originates from the United States of America and Canada.