

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL 2015 INTEGRATION SEGMENT

**“Achieving sustainable development through employment creation and decent work for all”
30 March - 1 April 2015**

PROGRAMME [As of 28 March]

DAY I (Monday, 30 March)

10:00 – 13:00

Opening of the Integration Segment

10:00 – 11:30

Opening remarks by the Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council, His Excellency Mr. Vladimir Drobnyak (Croatia)
Address by the President of the General Assembly of the sixty-ninth session, His Excellency Mr. Sam Kahamba Kutesa (Uganda)
Address by the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, H.E. Mr. Jan Eliasson

Keynote Addresses

His Excellency Mr. Jakaya Kikwete, President of the United Republic of Tanzania

His Excellency Mr. Perry Gladstone Christie, Prime Minister of the Commonwealth of the Bahamas and Chair of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)

His Excellency Mr. Stefan Löfven, Prime Minister of Sweden

Perspectives from Business and Labour

Ms. Sharan Burrow, General Secretary, International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)

Mr. Daniel Funes de Rioja, President, International Organization of Employers (IOE)

11:30 – 13:00

The ‘Big Think’ on Jobs and Growth

This opening session will provide an overview of the current global economy and discuss an effective framework that supports inclusive and balanced growth with full employment and decent work as a core macroeconomic policy objective. Speakers will discuss ways to boost global economic growth in a sustainable way. This will include the role and limits of monetary, fiscal and trade policies in creating decent jobs and the need to significantly boost the productive investment on infrastructure in various regions of the world.

Participants

Mr. Richard Quest, CNN (moderator)

H.E. Ms. Marianne Thyssen, European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Mobility

Mr. Guy Ryder, Director-General, International Labour Organization

Mr. Min Zhu, Deputy Managing Director, IMF

Prof. Dr. Joseph Stiglitz, Nobel Laureate and Professor of Economics, Columbia University

13:15 – 14:45

Side events

Organized by Member States, UN system and civil society

15:00 – 16:35

Mind the gap: How widening inequalities undermine development

This panel will discuss the social and political consequences of widening income inequality and policies to contain and revert a further widening of income differentials. This will include a focus on wage policy (including minimum wages), collective bargaining and social protection floors.

Participants:

Mr. Matthew Bishop, Globalisation Editor, The Economist (Moderator)

H.E. Mr. Alfonso Navarrete Prida, Minister of Labour and Social Welfare, Mexico

H.E. Mr. Hu Xiaoyi, Vice Minister, Human Resources and Social Security, People's Republic of China

Ms. Sharan Burrow, General Secretary, International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)

Professor Stephanie Seguino, University of Vermont

16:35 – 16:45

Report back from country level consultation in Indonesia, “Achieving sustainable development through employment creation and decent work for all”

H.E. Mr. Hanif Dhakiri, Minister of Manpower, Indonesia

Report back from preparatory meeting for Latin America and the Caribbean, Lima, Peru. Consultations on, “Decent Work, Climate Change and Sustainable Development”

H.E. Ambassador María Emma Mejía Vélez, Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations and Vice-President of the Economic and Social Council

16:45-18:00

Voices from the Real Economy

This session will provide an opportunity to present a variety of strategies that are being implemented at the local and sectoral levels to tackle sustainable development challenges with decent work solutions. Recognizing that as much as 40–80 per cent of the real economy in many developing countries is comprised of workers in the informal economy, the panel will also discuss practical policy initiatives and approaches that can help facilitate the transition from informal to formal employment.

Participants

Dr Michael Shank, Director of Media Strategy at Climate Nexus and Senior Fellow at the JustJobs Network (moderator)

H.E. Councillor Nomvuzo Shabalala, Deputy Mayor of Durban, South Africa

Dr. Sanjay Kumar, Director of SEWA Bharat

Ms. Vicenta Trotman, Community leader and member of the Administrative Board of Rural Water Supply in the Ngäbe-Buglé indigenous territory of the Ño-Kribo region, Panama

Mr. Paul Hazen, Executive Director, Overseas Cooperative Development Council (OCDC), International Co-operative Alliance

DAY 2 (Tuesday, 31 March)

10:00 – 11:30

Solutions to Climate Change: Growing Decent Jobs

This session will discuss how climate change and the promotion of environmental sustainability can be turned into opportunities for decent job creation. The panel will highlight national challenges and solutions.

Participants:

Mr. Michael Renner, Senior Researcher, The Worldwatch Institute
(moderator)

H.E. Mr. Miles Sampa, Deputy Minister of Commerce, Trade and
Industry, Zambia

Professor Robert Pollin, Political Economy Research Institute, University
of Massachusetts

Ms. Gayle Schueller, Vice President, Global Sustainability, 3M Company

Mr. Peter Poschen, Director, Job Creation and Enterprise Development
Department, ILO (*discussant*)

11:30 – 12:45

Making Dignity and Prosperity the Norm

Faster economic growth alone will not ensure political stability and social cohesion. There must also be respect for the international frameworks of agreed human rights to promote social justice. This panel will focus on the implementation of international labour standards as a basis for promoting a “high road” to economic growth. The panel will discuss how the normative framework set out by the ILO Conventions, especially the eight fundamental Conventions, can help reduce exploitation in the workplace and encourage innovation and higher productivity.

Keynote: Mr. Guy Ryder, Director-General, International Labour
Organization (ILO)

Participants

H.E. Ambassador Bénédicte Frankinet, Permanent Representative of
Belgium to the United Nations and Co-Chair of the Group of
Friends of Decent Work for Sustainable Development (Moderator)

H.E. Mr. Luis Eduardo Garzón, Minister of Labour, Colombia

H.E. Mr. Radosław Mleczo, Deputy Minister of Labour and Social
Policy, Poland

Mr. Phil Jennings, General Secretary, UNI Global Union

Mr. Edward E. Potter, Chair of Labour and Employment Committee of
the United States Council for International Business; and Director
of Global Workplace Rights, The Coca-Cola Company

12:45 – 13:00

Assessing progress 20 Years after Beijing and Copenhagen

H.E. Ambassador Simona Mirela Miculescu, Permanent Representative
of Romania to the United Nations and Chairperson of the
Commission for Social Development

H.E. Ambassador Antonio de Aguiar Patriota, Permanent Representative
of Brazil to the United Nations and Chairperson of the Commission
on the Status of Women

13:15 – 14:45

Side events

Organized by Member States, UN system, and civil society

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At Work in Africa

Despite encouraging levels of economic growth, much of Africa continues to face persistent challenges of under- and unemployment, particularly amongst its burgeoning youth population, as well as high incidences of informality and challenges posed by lack of peace and security. Economic growth on its own, if concentrated in the hands of a few, or in an enclave economy, can be detrimental to a nation and may perpetuate insecurities or hinder development in post-conflict countries. The panel will discuss policies aimed at translating sustained economic growth with broad-based and job-rich outcomes to generate inclusive sustainable development. The African Union's transformative Agenda 2063 envisions that African economies will create shared growth, decent jobs and economic opportunities for all. Moreover, the Common African Position (CAP) on post-2015 development agenda which was adopted by African Heads of States and Governments reiterates that, "the post-2015 development agenda process should galvanize political will and international commitment for a universal development agenda, focused on the eradication of poverty and exclusion as well as the pursuit of sustainable inclusive development.

Participants

- H.E. Ambassador Ismael Abraão Gaspar Martins, Permanent Representative of Angola to the United Nations and Co-Chair of the Group of Friends of Decent Work for Sustainable Development (moderator)
- H.E. Mr. Ebrahim Patel, Minister for Economic Development, South Africa
- H.E. Mr. Hakim Ben Hammouda, Former Minister of Finance, Special Advisor to the African Development Bank (AfDB) President
- Mr. Aeneas Chuma, Assistant Director-General and Regional Director for Africa, ILO
- Mr. Alioune Sall, Executive Director of the African Futures Institute
- Mr. Maged Abdelaziz, Under-Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Africa (discussant)

16:30-18:00

General Debate

DAY 3 (Wednesday, 1 April)

10:00 – 11:30

Finding the Opportunities: Matching Education and Skills to Market Demands

This panel will focus on building innovation and competitiveness through targeted interventions and active labour market policies, particularly in the areas of entrepreneurship, apprenticeships and skills development. The session will explore why youth unemployment remains a major problem regardless of the level of development in a country. The session will also consider the implications of new technologies, in particular in the field of ICTs, on education, skills and training. The session will highlight practical solutions for addressing multiple development challenges by investing in women and youth as a fundamental business and economic growth strategy. It will also discuss effective ways for linking entrepreneurs to global supply chains.

Participants

- Mr. Antonio Prado, Deputy Executive Secretary, ECLAC (moderator)
- H.E. Ms. Omobola Johnson, Minister, Federal Ministry of Communication Technology, Nigeria and Chairperson of the Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD)

Ms. Elizabeth A. Vazquez, CEO and Co-Founder, WeConnect International
Mr. Ron Bruder, Founder, Education for Employment
Mr. Zach Sims, Co-founder and CEO, Codecademy

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Means of Implementation: Financing for Development and Partnerships for Decent Work

This session will address the relationship between fiscal policy, ODA and national development strategies. In many low income countries, limited resources require trade-offs in investment decisions. Since employment drives earnings and thus spurs demand, where could investments be targeted to generate the greatest jobs potential? How can revenue from natural resources be effectively leveraged to deliver maximum development impact to all? The panel will emphasize the importance of political will and showcase conducive national planning strategies which encompass the three pillars of sustainable development and the creation of decent work.

Participants

H.E. Mr. George Wilfred Talbot, Permanent Representative of Guyana to the United Nations, and Co-Facilitator of the preparatory process for the Third International Conference on Financing for Development
H.E. Dr. Rania Antonopoulos, Alternate Minister of Labour and Social Solidarity, Greece (*via video link*)
Prof. Dr. Robert Shiller, Nobel Laureate and Professor of Economics, Yale University
Mr. Martin Khor, Executive Director, The South Centre
Mr. Richard Kozul-Wright, Director, Division on Globalization and Development Strategies, UNCTAD (*Discussant*)

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Wanted: 600 Million Jobs!

This panel will bring together policy makers to discuss how the challenge of creating 600 million decent jobs in the next decade can be achieved while also promoting environmental sustainability. The panel will provide perspectives ranging from global to local levels to discuss the various prospects for job creation.

Participants

Mr. Ali Velshi, Host, Al Jazeera America (Moderator)
H.E. Mr. Alexander Mora, Minister of Foreign Trade, Costa Rica
Ms. Marie-José Nadeau, Chair of the World Energy Council
Mr. Pavan Sukhdev, Founder-CEO of GIST Advisory
Dr. NS Rajan, Chief Human Resources Officer and Member of the Group Executive Council, Tata Group

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Closing Remarks

Mr. Guy Ryder, Director-General, International Labour Organization (ILO)
Mr. Thomas Gass, Assistant-Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Inter-Agency Affairs, UN-DESA
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