

Draft

Strengthening the institutional structures for sustainable development: role of social protection.

A side –event at the occasion of the 56th session of the Commission for Social Development organized by ICSW, IASSW, ILO, EU-SPS Project

Friday, 2 February 2018, 1.15-2.30 pm, Conference Room D, UN Headquarters

A transformative development framework requires substantial changes at the normative and institutional levels, underpinning the common aspiration for a sustainable future. Social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, have been widely recognized not only as a vital tool in the fight against poverty and inequality, but also as an important mechanism for creating synergies among social, economic and environmental dimensions of development. A holistic framework, social protection grounded in universalism facilitates the quest for most effective enablers of sustainable development, reducing vulnerability, strengthening resilience and promoting empowerment.

The side- event aims at discussing some conceptual issues as well as practical solutions pertinent to the work of the 56th session of the Commission for Social Development.

Should social protection be considered a new international social norm?

What approaches are the best in making social and environmental policies mutually supportive?

What role can social protection play in changing mindsets, principles and rules to put sustainable development at the core?

Building sustainable capacities for social protection at the national and regional levels: lessons learned and obstacles encountered

Panel discussion:

Dr. **Valerie Schmitt**, Deputy Director, ILO Social Protection Department

Dr. **Timo Voipio**, EU-SPS project, Finland

Prof. **Lynne Healy**, Special Representatives of the IASSW to the UN

Prof. **Sergei Zelenev**, ICSW Executive Director

Prof. **Shirley Gatenio Gabel**, Fordham University, US

*Moderator: Ms. **Wenyan Yang**—Chief, Social Perspective on Development Branch, Division for Social Policy and Development, UN/DESA,*