



**INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION
OFFICE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS**

48th Session of the Commission on Population and Development

Agenda item 4: "Realizing the future we want: integrating population issues into sustainable development, including the post-2015 development agenda."

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**Statement delivered by:
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Madame Chair,
Excellences,
Esteemed Delegates,

The ILO latest estimations based on the world population dynamics suggests that 600 million jobs will need to be created by 2030 just keep up with the growth of the labour force. If we assume a reduction of the gender gap in the participation rates this number can increase to 800 million.

Every year, around 40 million young people join the labour force, but only a few will find a decent job.

It is not easy to be young in the labour market today.

Almost 74 million young people (aged 15–24) were looking for work in 2014. The youth unemployment rate is practically three times higher than the average. Youth not in education, employment and training (NEETs) is increasing in most countries. Out of those who found a job, the most part are likely to be in precarious and informal employment, including temporary employment and part-time work.

Against this background, we welcome the targets on youth employment proposed by the Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals, notably the targets on skills for employment and decent jobs (4.4); full employment and decent work for all, including young people (8.5) and on youth not in employment, education or training (8.6).

It is now time to focus on how countries will deliver on these targets. In this perspective, we strongly encourage the call made in the OWG report to “develop and operationalize a global strategy for youth employment”, including through the implementation of the Global Jobs Pact of the ILO. A Global Partnership could be established to advance youth employment policies.

Madame Chair,

We would also like reiterate the need to improve the situation of migrant workers.

Today, more than 200 million migrant workers worldwide ought to receive the dignity and respect they deserve.

For the ILO, migration is linked substantially to the quest for productive employment and decent work opportunities. As a result, it is our view that there can be no proper discussion of international migration and mobility without consideration of decent work: these are two sides of the same coin.

We are pleased to see that migration-related targets were included as part of the SDG 8 on productive employment and decent work and 10 on inequalities, in particular targets on ensuring on labour rights for all workers, including migrant workers (8.8) and on orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people (10.7).

This can only truly be realized through cooperation among governments and other stakeholders (employers, trade unions, civil society) on mechanisms for the fair governance of labour migration.

Finally, we would like to highlight the importance of extension social protection floors for all.

The extension of social protection floors is an investment that pays by itself given its multiplying effects on GDP growth and tax revenues.

Member States may consider establishing a Global Fund for Social Protection Floors which could contribute to making social protection floors a national reality for low income and LDCs that still have underdeveloped or fragmented social protection systems.

This would assist in achieving several of the proposed Sustainable Development Goals and targets, notably the proposed SDG 1 on ending poverty and SDG 10 on reducing inequality.

The Global Fund could help realize social protection floors in conformity with the guiding principles articulated in ILO's Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202).

To conclude, ILO stands ready to continue cooperating with member states to help tackling the youth employment crisis, promoting fair migration and decent work for migrant workers and in extending social protection floors for all.

I thank you!