



United Nations



## Partnering for Action: Implementation of the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions in the Complex Setting of Overlapping Crises

### Programme

Friday, 23 September 2022 – 11:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. EDT  
UN Headquarters, CR2, New York

11:15 –  
11:30

#### OPENING REMARKS

**Mr. António Guterres**

Secretary-General, United Nations

Introduced by Ms. Jayathma Wickramanayake, Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth

#### SETTING THE SCENE: INTEGRATED POLICIES FOR JUST TRANSITIONS

**H.E. Mr. Alexander De Croo**

Prime Minister of Belgium

Co-Chair of the Group of Friends of Decent Work

11:30 –  
11:33

#### GLOBAL ACCELERATOR IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

**Mr. Guy Ryder**

Director General, International Labour Organization

**Context:** One year since the launch of the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions, this High-Level Event will help to take stock of progress made, while engaging Member States and other stakeholders that have signalled an interest in supporting and implementing the Global Accelerator nationally and internationally.

11:33 –  
12:03

#### JOBS AND SOCIAL PROTECTION TO RECOVER FROM OVERLAPPING CRISES

**Mr. Achim Steiner**

Administrator, UNDP  
(Facilitator)

**Keynote Address**

---

**H.E. Mr. Micheál Martin**

*Taoiseach, Ireland*

**H.E. Ms. Jessica Alupo**

*Vice President, Uganda*

**Speakers****H.E. Mr. Md. Shahrir Alam**

*State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Bangladesh*

**H.E. Ms. Hala El-Said**

*Minister of Planning and Economic Development, Egypt*

**H.E. Ms. Vicky Ford, MP**

*Minister of State for Development, United Kingdom*

**Ms. Saadia Zahidi**

*Managing Director, World Economic Forum*

**Ms. Amina Mohammed**

*Deputy Secretary-General*

**Context:** Today, the world faces challenges of unprecedented scale, due to the complex setting of overlapping crises caused by COVID-19, climate change, and the War in Ukraine, which has created a once-in-a-lifetime cost of living crisis. In addition, prior to COVID-19 it had already been estimated that by 2030 approximately 80% of the world's extreme poor would be living in fragile states. Today, following years of compounding crises, levels of extreme inequalities and vulnerabilities have dramatically worsened. Yet, the severity of these crises has also put a spotlight on the importance of social protection and employment as effective mitigation and recovery measures.

**Overarching question:** In today's global context, how can decent jobs, social protection and just transition measures be integrated into crisis response strategies, and how could the Global Accelerator help achieve this goal?

12:03-  
12:33

---

**JOBS AND SOCIAL PROTECTION TO SUPPORT INCLUSIVE SOCIETAL GREEN AND DIGITAL TRANSITIONS****Mr. Omar Abdi**

*Deputy Executive Director, UNICEF  
(Facilitator)*

**Keynote Address****H.E. Mr. Rodrigo Chaves Robles**

*President, Costa Rica*

**H.E. Ms. Mia Mottley**

*Prime Minister, Barbados*

**Speakers****H.E. Mr. João Gomes Cravinho**

*Foreign Minister, Portugal*

---

**H.E. Ms. Mariam bint Ali bin Nasser Al Misnad**

*Minister of Social Development and Family of the State of Qatar*

**Ms. Mari Elka Pangestu**

*Managing Director of Development Policy and Partnerships, World Bank Group*

**Ms. Sharan Burrow**

*General-Secretary, ITUC*

**Mr. Desmond Aungoa**

*Youth Representative, Co-Founder, Green Africa Youth Organization (GAYO)*

**Ms. Amina Mohammed**

*Deputy Secretary-General*

**Context:** *Climate, technological and demographic changes require structural economic transformations that will have major consequences for societies and governments across the globe. To harness the benefits of these transitions, while minimizing their risks—such as workers temporarily displaced from jobs in the fossil fuel industry—efforts are needed to ensure that these transitions are inclusive and just, by promoting integrated employment and social protection strategies.*

**Overarching question:** *How can the extension of social protection floors and investments in decent jobs help minimize the risks of the societal, digital and green transitions while maximizing their benefits?*

12:33-  
1:10

---

**FINANCING JOBS AND SOCIAL PROTECTION**

**Mr. Mahmoud Mohieldin**

*Special Envoy on Financing 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (Facilitator)*

**Keynote Address**

**H.E. Mr. Lazarus Chakwera**

*President, Malawi*

**Speakers**

**H.E. Mr. Marcelo Ebrard Casaubon**

*Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mexico*

**Mr. Akinwumi Adesina**

*President, African Development Bank*

**Mr. Roberto Suárez Santos**

*Secretary-General, IOE*

**H.E. Ms. Meryame Kitir**

*Minister of Development Cooperation and Major Cities Policy, Belgium*

**Ms. Inger Andersen**

*Executive Director, UNEP*

*(If time permits, short interventions from the floor)*

**Context:** As has been powerfully shown over the past three years, the global financial system does not benefit the most vulnerable, particularly during crises, but also in times of peace. As a result, over sixty percent of developing countries are now in or at risk of debt distress, resulting in many being forced to re-direct resources away from investments in jobs, social protection, social services and human development to debt repayments. Yet, while the financial system has played a role in transmitting shocks across the borders, it could also hold the key to designing a more fair and equitable financial system—capable of redistributing resources where they are needed most and investing in long-term sustainable development.

**Overarching question:** What immediate and longer-term actions are needed to ensure countries have sufficient resources and fiscal space needed to withstand today's multiple crises, while protecting against future shocks?

1:10 –  
1:15

## CLOSING

**Ms. Amina Mohammed**

*Deputy Secretary General, United Nations*