Update on trade union engagement on SDGs at global and regional level

Giulia Massobrio, Coordinator, Trade Union Development Cooperation Network (TUDCN), ITUC
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TUDCN-AP Regional Meeting (Bangkok, March 2023)

Delegation to 10th APFSD (UN-ESCAP, Bangkok, March 2023)
SDG country reports for AP in 2023

**Bangladesh**

A Trade Union Focus on the SDGs

**Workers Demand a New Social Contract for Recovery and Resilience**

The Bangladesh government has introduced specific measures to tackle the multiple crises, giving priority to food security, climate change and mitigating the impact of COVID-19. In its recent National Action Plan for the 2023-2020 period, it has introduced the plan to combat these crises. The plan includes social, economic and environmental initiatives to achieve the targets set by the SDGs.

**Are Trade Unions at the Table?**

The government of Bangladesh has integrated the SDGs into its eighth Five-Year Plan (2020-2025). The Ministry of Planning is coordinating the SDG integration and implementation, along with the SDG coordinator in the office of the Prime Minister. The government has developed national-level SDG tables and published progress reports on the implementation of Agenda 2030. However, there have been instances where social partners have been engaged in discussions on SDG implementation and the implementation of the High-Level Dialogue. Trade unions report that the government prioritizes the input of employers and that trade unions and workers’ representatives have made little progress in implementing the framework and the High-Level Dialogue.

**Maldives**

A Trade Union Focus on the SDGs

**Workers Demand a New Social Contract for Recovery and Resilience**

In the wake of the crisis posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Maldives’ government, with the support from International Financial Institutions (IFIs), has been working on introducing reforms to create and implement an active and integrated labor market policy. The government has been prioritizing sustainable energy projects to address the challenges of energy crises.

**Are Trade Unions at the Table?**

In response to the global economic downturn, the Maldives government has increased trade union bargaining, making an integral part of public finances and the annual budget. This addresses the climate crisis. The government has been prioritizing sustainable energy projects to address the challenges of energy crises. However, trade unions report that in the absence of a tripartite social dialogue, these discussions are not well coordinated with social partners and lack meaningful consultation processes.

Trade unions welcome the fact that the Maldives government has increased trade union bargaining over the past decade, making it an integral part of public finances and the annual budget. However, a more tripartite approach to the fight against climate change is needed through just transition plans negotiated with social partners, including trade unions, in line with the policy implementation.
Our SDGs advocacy: highlights 2023

UN High Level Political Forum on Sust. Dev.
July, New York

"Despite the fact that right to #CollectiveBargaining & to #FreedomOfAssociation are a pre-requisite to achieve the #SDGs & #SocialJustice, the limitations to these rights persist in the #Maldives"

response of @Fathimathzimna to her Gov's #VNR #timefor8 #HLPF2023 @mtucMV
Timefor8 campaign 2023

Workers are the backbone of global efforts to save the planet. They stand ready to engage in constructive social dialogue and reinforce global governance. Midway to 2030, the Sustainable Development Goals are more relevant than ever to deliver a New Social Contract. The time to act is now.

Akiko Gono, ITUC President.
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SDG Summit, Sept, New York
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SDGs Roadmap for 2024

**High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development**
8-17 July, New York

**Global and regional Advocacy**

**ITUC-AP Delegation to 11th Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (UN-ESCAP, Bangkok, 20-23 Feb)**

**Summit of the Future**
sept, New York

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**Summit of the Future**
22-23 September 2024
Multilateral Solutions for a Better Tomorrow
High Level Political Forum 2024

- **Schedule:** 8-17 July, UN, New York ([official website](https://www.un.org/highlevelpoliticalforum/))
- **Objectives:** review of selected SDGs and presentations of voluntary national reviews by 41 countries (e.g. Nepal and Samoa)
- **Expected outcome:** HLPF Ministerial Declaration
- **SDGs under review in 2024:**
Summit of the Future 2024

Schedule: 22-23 September, New York (website)

Objectives: Address gaps in global governance hindering the achievement of the SDGs.

Expected outcome: “Pact for the Future” on:
1) sustainable development & financing for development;
2) international peace & security;
3) science, technology, digitalization;
4) youth and future generations;
5) global governance.

Process: a zero draft, released in January, will be negotiated among governments - limited space for civil society participation.
Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions

Objectives:
1) 400 ml decent jobs created by 2030 (green, care and digital economy);
2) 4 bl people covered by social protection floors;
3) ust digital and climate transitions for all.

Process:
• The ILO leads around 20 other UN agencies.
• implementation strategy and priority countries were identified in 2022.
• 1st implementation phase between 2023-26.
Global Accelerator: priority countries In A-P

A) Initial Engagement with the Government
- Philippines
- Pakistan
- Nepal
- Viet Nam

B) High-Level Political Commitment Confirmed
- Uzbekistan

C) Roadmap Development in Progress:
- Cambodia
- Indonesia

→ More info [here](#)
World Social Summit 2025

**Schedule:** TBC - Probably in Sept 2025.

**Objectives:** 1) Strengthen UN’s framework for social development; and 2) pave the way to the post-2030 Agenda.

**Strategic Value:** ITUC will push for:
1) The centrality of labour within the global social agenda – role of the ILO Global Coalition for Social Justice.
2) Putting equality and inclusion at the centre of the "beyond 2030 agenda" debate.
3) Include the topic of financing social development as a priority that goes together with social policies
Thank you!

(more info on the **TUDCN webpage**)