TRADE UNIONS HLPF 2019 Engagement Strategy

The 2019 High Level Political Forum

The High Level Political Forum in 2019 will address the theme, 'Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality' and will conduct an in-depth review of the following goals. In addition to SDG 17 which is reviewed every year:

Thus, 2019 is a critical year for trade unions with 3 out of the 6 priority SDGs under review, notably, SDG 8 with the following targets:

- **8.3:** Promote development-oriented policies that support productive activities, decent job creation, entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation, and encourage the formalization and growth of micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through access to financial services;
- **8.5:** By 2030, achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all women and men, including for young people and persons with disabilities, and equal pay for work of equal value;
- **8.7:** Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms;
- **8.8:** Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment.

Trade Unions actively involve as well in the monitoring of SDG 17, especially, on its linkages with the Financing for Development process.

1. **Objective**
   Influence the narratives HLPF 2019 related processes, including the HLPF 2019 Ministerial Declaration, around the goals under review.

2. **Outcomes and related Activities**

   → **At NATIONAL level**

   **Outcomes & Activities:**

   - Trade Unions are invited to national consultations on the Agenda 2030:
     → Active engagement with national governments and demanding trade unions involvement in 2030 Agenda national plans implementation.
   - Trade Union priorities and demands receive echo in the government’s initiatives on Agenda 2030:
     → Foster social dialogue as a way to implement the SDGs with governments and employers
     → Engage with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and with other international agencies in your country.
   - Trade Unions are invited to join the official governmental delegations to HLPF 2019:
     → Trade Unions are involved in government preparations towards the 2019 HLPF, namely in the run up for the reporting process.
• Other relevant policy actors (i.e. broader civil society organisations) are interested and support the Trade Union priorities and demands:
  → Participate in multi-stakeholder platforms and alliances for 2030 Agenda implementation.

• Trade Unions contribute to SDGs implementation:
  → SDGs county reports produced, showing progress status, challenges and trade unions asks.

→ At REGIONAL level (lead by regional secretariats)

Outcomes & Activities:
Trade Union priorities and demands receive echo and are incorporated in the regional UN mechanisms on Agenda 2030:
  → Support trade union delegations and participation in UN regional mechanisms for 2030 Agenda monitoring, review and follow-up;
  → Take part in regional CSOs coordination mechanisms on 2030 Agenda implementation;
  → Advocate trade union priorities to regional bodies dealing with 2030 agenda (ECLAC, UNECA, ESCAP, UNECE).

→ At GLOBAL level (lead by global secretariat)

Outcomes & Activities:

• Trade Unions key priorities are visible and their engagement in the lead up to 2019 HLPF is ensured:
  → Trade Unions submission to 2019 HLPF;
  → ILO led Experts Group Meeting, April 2019: Multi-stakeholder thematic dialogue.

• Participation and Visibility of trade unions is ensured in the review in the 2019 HLPF:
  → Coordination delegation to the 2019 HLPF;
  → Speaking slots during both thematic and ministerial segments ensured;
  → Conceptualise and organise at least two-side events during the 2019 HLPFs – one of them being the Workers and Trade Unions constituency official side-event1;
  → Dissemination of the national SDGs trade union reports;
  → Possible thematic report on Goal 8.

• Trade Unions have a prominent role in the Major Group and Other Stakeholders mechanism:
  → Engage in the preparations of the HLPF 2019, including, engagement in the MGoS VNR process, in which collective statements are produced;
  → Actively engage in the ECOSOC’s review of the HLPF mechanism.

• Trade Union priorities are incorporated in the Ministerial Declaration:
  → Coordinate national and global advocacy towards the drafting and negotiations around the HLPF 2019 Ministerial Declaration, as well as with GUFs;
  → Participation in the MGoS advocacy task force: monitoring of the negotiations, sharing intelligence with affiliates and gathering inputs.

3. Deliverables

• At least 15 national SDGs trade union reports, and, eventually, additional updated reports;
• A report on Goal 8 – trade unions review of Goal 8 targets on decent work;
• An HLPF 2019 submission – trade unions position paper;
• At least 1 trade-union side-event in the official agenda, plus 1 additional side-events in the UN premises or outside.

1 In coordination with GUFs (notably, EI and PSI).
Additional notes:
It is suggested to at least prioritise the following countries and trade union members within:

- Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chad, Central Africa Republic, Chile, Congo (Republic of), Côte d’Ivoire, Fiji, France, Ghana, Guatemala Indonesia, Lesotho, Mauritius, Mongolia, New Zeland, Northern Ireland, Pakistan, Philippines, Tanzania (United Republic of), Tunisia, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, South Africa.
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