Social protection / social dialogue / health and safety—on March 14, CGIL, CISL and UIL reached an agreement with the government and the main employers’ associations. This included agreed workplace standards to keep workers safe from contagion, and job security for workers who were key to the emergency phase, such as those working in essential public services, the supply of goods and production of food.

Health and safety / social dialogue – on March 25, after further discussions with CGIL, CISL and UIL, the government revised the list of essential production activities in the emergency phase in order to guarantee the safety of workers.

Social dialogue – the Italian unions were consulted when the government, assisted by a scientific committee, planned the reopening and recovery of production activities.

Social dialogue – specific agreements have been reached at the sector or company level on the use of smart working and other changes to working practices.

Social protection – in consultation with the unions, the government brought in measures to block layoffs until December 2020; give access to ‘cassa integrazione in deroga’ (a derogation of the unemployment benefit system) to help those who are not covered by a regular employment contract (self-employed, non-standard workers, disadvantaged groups); and provide an extension of the parental leave. This included the granting of residence permits and regular employment contracts for many migrant workers, in particular in the agri-food, construction and care work sectors. This reduced the risk of exploitation and discrimination and guaranteed the workers health and social protection.