



## Trade Union Seminar on the Post-2015 Development Framework

*Istanbul, 24-25 September 2012*

Seminar Report

International Trade Union Confederation

Trade Union Development Cooperation Network

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Brussels, October 2012

## Agenda

### 25 September

Morning session

#### Opening session

Wellington CHIBEBE, ITUC Deputy Secretary General  
Ahmet SELAMET, Vice-Mayor of Istanbul  
Pevrul KAVLAK, General Secretary of TURK-IS  
Mahmut ASLAN, Hak-is President  
Adnan SERDAROGLU, General Secretary of DISK,  
Lami OZGEN, KESK President

#### Panel discussion: Lessons learned from the MDGs

Degol HAILU, Economic Policy Advisor, UNDP  
Amitabh BEHAR, GCAP Global Council Co-Chair  
Aurelio PARISOTTO, Senior Economist at the Policy Integration Department, ILO  
Jan VANDEMOORTELE, independent researcher and lecturer, one of the architects of the MDGs  
*Moderation:* Alison Tate, ITUC

#### Plenary Debate

Afternoon session

#### Panel discussion: Visions for post-2015

Ali ALTINTA, Representative of the secretariat of Kadir Topbaş, the Mayor of Istanbul  
Francoise MOREAU, Head of unit Forward Looking Studies and Policy Coherence, DEVCO,  
European Commission  
Paul QUINTOS, Policy Officer, IBON  
Aurelio PARISOTTO, Senior Economist at the Policy Integration Department, ILO  
*Moderation:* Ann De Jonghe, World Solidarity

#### Concluding remarks

Wellington Chibebe and Alison Tate, ITUC

#### Working groups: TU priorities in the post-2015 development framework

### 26 September

Morning session

#### Presentation of the official UN process for post-2015

#### Outline of the plans for engagement of other actors

#### Working groups: Trade union engagement in the post-2015 framework process

Afternoon session

#### Presentations of the Working Groups and debate in plenary

#### Further trade union engagement in the process

## Report from sessions

### Day 1 – September 25<sup>th</sup> 2012

#### Opening session

The seminar started with a welcome speech by ITUC Deputy Secretary General Wellington Chibebe. In his speech Chibebe stressed the importance of trade union engagement in the elaboration of the new global development framework. He referred to the mixed experience of the Millennium Development Goals framework and the opportunity of improving a global agreement under the post-2015 framework. Chibebe reminded that trade union and civil society engagement is crucial for the elaboration, implementation as well as the monitoring of the new framework, not only at international level, but at country level in particular. Welcoming the participants and speakers to the seminar, he called for an active engagement of the ITUC affiliates and regional organisations in the process.

Chibebe's remarks were followed by the speeches of Mr Huseyin Eren, Deputy Secretary General of Istanbul, Mr Pevrul Kavlak, General Secretary of TURK-IS, Mr Mahmut Aslan, President of Hak-is, Mr Adnan Serdaroglu, General Secretary of DISK and Mr Lami Ozgen, KESK President, who welcomed the participants of the seminar and outlined the situation of trade union and workers right as well as the state of social dialogue in Turkey.

#### Panel discussion: Lessons learned from the MDGs

The panel, moderated by the ITUC Director of External Relations Alison Tate, focused on the question of the lessons learned from the Millennium Development Goals. The panel started with a speech of Mr Jan Vandemoortele, an independent researcher and lecturer and one of the architects of the MDG framework. Vandemoortele outlined the background of the creation of the MDGs, the strong and weak points of the framework as well as his perspective on the future framework. His speech was followed by presentations of Mr Degol Hailu (UNDP), Mr Aurelio Parisotto (ILO) and Mr Amitabh Behar (GCAP).

Hailu (UNDP) outlined the strong and weak points of the MDG framework, including (strong points) the focus on poverty and contribution to the coordination of ODA and support especially for the Low Income Countries as well as (weak points) lack of ambition, lack of reference to means of achieving the goals, lack of clarity of some of the goals and the top-down genesis of the framework. As main challenges for the new framework, Hailu listed the need to keep clarity and preciseness while ensuring comprehensiveness, the danger of overloading the framework as well as the need to outline the development strategy ('means'), not only targets ('ends'). He presented briefly the UN Task Team proposal for the structure of the future framework, elaborated in the [UNTT Report: Realizing the Future We Want](#).

Parisotto (ILO) presented the topic of [Decent work and the post-2015 development agenda](#). He outlined the current trends in employment in the context of the global financial crisis and stressed the need for a structural approach to addressing growing income inequality. He referred to a number of good examples of countries that have succeeded in creating quality employment and reducing inequalities: Vietnam, Indonesia and Brazil.

Behar (GCAP) stressed the importance of rooting the new framework in the Millennium Declaration as well as in the principles of human dignity and justice. As one of the main shortcomings of the MDG framework Behar listed the MDGs' focus on tackling the symptoms of global problems rather than addressing the structural challenges and leading to a transformative change.

The panellists then took part in a plenary debate, engaging with the participants of the seminar.

➔ See: [Advancing the UN development agenda post-2015: some practical suggestions by Jan Vandemoortele](#); [Decent work and the post-2015 development agenda – presentation by Parisotto](#)

## **Panel discussion: Visions for post-2015**

The second panel, moderated by Ann De Jonghe (World Solidarity, Belgium), included presentations of Mr Ali Altinta (representative of the secretariat of Mr Kadir Topbaş, the Mayor of Istanbul and a member of the UN High Level Panel on the Post-2015 Development Framework), Ms Françoise Moreau (European Commission, DEVCO), Mr Paul Quintos (IBON) and Mr Aurelio Parisotto (ILO). The panel was followed by a plenary debate and a reaction from the ITUC, presented by Chibebe and Tate.

## **Working groups: TU priorities in the post-2015 development framework**

For this session the participants of the seminar broke into four working groups, where they discussed the key elements and features of the post-2015 development framework that would support their work.

The working groups generated a number of concrete suggestions on the trade union priorities in the post-2015 framework that can be summarized in the following points:

- ⇒ Decent work (as understood in the ILO Decent Work Agenda) should be central to the post-2015 framework, with particular attention to the challenge of youth unemployment and migrant workers.
- ⇒ The framework should address not only unemployment, but also the issue of precarious work, informal employment and fair wages
- ⇒ The framework should refer to and strengthen the existing international agreements, in particular the ILO conventions and recommendations as well as the existing ILO indicators, stressing the responsibility of states in the delivery of MDGs and other commitments
- ⇒ The framework should adopt the Human Rights Based Approach and foster a model of sustainable, inclusive, social development, based on democratic governance and ownership, freedom of association and peace
- ⇒ The framework should promote policy coherence for development through, among others, adequate financial regulation, fair trade rules, productive and sustainable investment regulations as well as ODA as a development levy
- ⇒ The framework should address the broader macroeconomic policy and promote inclusive economic growth as well as income redistribution strategies
- ⇒ When advocating for social protection, we should not limit ourselves to the minimum underpinned by Social Protection Floors and always remember that social protection is an essential pillar of the Decent Work Agenda
- ⇒ The framework should address the issue of climate change and promote green jobs
- ⇒ Education should still remain a key priority
- ⇒ The framework should focus on results rather than outputs
- ⇒ ITUC should adopt an action-based strategy and push for ambitious goals, but expect to compromise in the course of political negotiations
- ⇒ ITUC should provide guidance for and foster affiliates' engagement in the consultations at national and regional level

## **Day 2 – September 26<sup>th</sup> 2012**

### **Presentation of the official UN process on the post-2015 development framework**

A [presentation outlining the UN process relating to the post-2015 development framework](#) was delivered by Kasia Szeniewska (ITUC) and followed by a round of questions and answers, where important details about the process were clarified by Hailu (UNDP) and Parisotto (ILO).

### **Report from the UN Thematic Consultations on Growth and Employment (Tokyo, May 2012)**

Parisotto (ILO), Hailu (UNDP) and Kivanc Eli Acik (DISK, Turkey), who were present at the UN Thematic Consultations on Growth and Employment that took place in Tokyo in May 2012, provided their perspectives on the meeting and its outcomes. Speakers pointed out to the underrepresentation of the

trade unions as well as the employers at the meeting. Concerning the discussions at the consultation meeting, they focused on the economic aspects of poverty alleviation and stressed the need for a structural change of the LICs into more labour-intensive economies as well as addressing the challenges of resource-rich economies. The meeting stressed also the importance of policy coherence as well as integrating all three pillars of sustainable development: social, economic and environmental. Particular focus was paid to the issue of environmental sustainability and green jobs. The report of the meeting is available online and has fed into the UN Task Team report. Parisotto signaled that a follow up of the consultation meeting is planned for early 2013.

→ See: [Report from UN post-2015 consultations on employment and growth](#)

### **Outline of the plans for engagement of other actors**

Paul Quintos (IBON), Amitabh Behar (GCAP) and Matt Simonds (TUAC) briefly presented the plans of IBON, GCAP and the OECD in relation to the engagement in the post-2015 development agenda process.

IBON is organising a seminar on the post-2015 framework which will take place on October 2-3 2012 in Nairobi. ITUC will be represented there by Yahya Msangi (ITUC-Africa). In their strategy, IBON plans to reach out to social movements, building on the existing campaigns. They also plan to take up the issue of migrant groups and workers in the informal economy.

GCAP has been working closely with the Beyond 2015 campaign and CAFOD. In cooperation with the UN NGLS (UN Non-Governmental Liaison Service), GCAP has supported the creation of the [worldwewant2015.org](#) website, which is the online hub for UN consultations on post-2015. GCAP has been also leading on the Mobilisation Task Force, a subgroup of the multistakeholder Strategic Outreach Planning group convened by the UN Millennium Campaign. GCAP campaign on the post-2015 development framework, including civil society consultations in 30 countries, is foreseen at least until September 2013.

OECD's engagement in the post-2015 development framework process is built around three structures: the OECD DAC, the new OECD Development Strategy and the newly established Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation (GPEDC, the post-Busan structure). The post-2015 framework was a topic of a discussion at the Senior Level Meeting of the OECD DAC in April 2012, informed by a paper *Global Development Goals Beyond 2015*.

→ See: [IBON website](#), [Montreal Declaration \(GCAP\)](#), [Global Development Goals Beyond 2015 \(OECD\)](#)

### **Working groups: Trade union engagement in the post-2015**

The participants broke again into four groups to discuss the strategy for trade union engagement in the post-2015 process. The working groups' reflections and suggestions can be summarized as follows:

- ⇒ ITUC should advocate a single track for the post-2015/SDG process
- ⇒ ITUC should prioritize Decent Work in its advocacy on the post-2015 process and select/develop 1-2 SMART indicators per DWA pillar
- ⇒ Other key issues in post-2015 should include: fundamental rights, employment and wages, social protection, social dialogue
- ⇒ ITUC should develop a system of evaluation of the MDG indicators
- ⇒ ITUC and its affiliated organizations should strengthen alliances with other major civil society coalitions, while clarifying and maintaining the identity of the labor movement in the process
- ⇒ ITUC affiliates should set up agendas with their respective governmental institutions to influence the country level and international processes

### **Further trade union engagement in the process**

The final debate of the seminar focused on the further plans for trade union engagement in the process. The conclusions are summarised in the following chapter.

## Conclusions and follow up

ITUC has committed to ensure a representative and meaningful trade union engagement in the post-2015 development cooperation process. In order to do that, it has committed to follow the process, coordinate the inputs to the international process (incl. the Thematic Consultations) and provide affiliates with information and policy support in their engagement at country level (incl. the Country Consultations and engaging with the High Level Panel members).

Following commitments have been made at the seminar:

### ITUC affiliated organisations will:

- ⇒ Engage actively in their respective country consultations led by UNDP
- ⇒ Engage actively in the dialogue with High Level Panel members
- ⇒ Engage actively in country dialogues facilitated by GCAP

### ITUC will:

- ⇒ Ensure information flow and updates about the process
- ⇒ Provide guidance to the national centers for country consultations
- ⇒ Develop a position paper presenting in detail the ITUC position on the post-2015 development framework and process, prioritizing the Decent Work Agenda
- ⇒ Provide financial support to regional and national work, within the capacities of the ITUC
- ⇒ Liaise with the ILO concerning the post-2015 process
- ⇒ Engage actively in the international consultation processes (incl. the Thematic Consultations)

## Relevant documents

### ITUC documents

- ITUC GC resolution on trade union priorities for post-2015 [to be published in November 2012]
- Guide to the trade union engagement in the post-2015 process [www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/pdf/120917\\_ituc\\_guide\\_on\\_post2015.pdf](http://www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/pdf/120917_ituc_guide_on_post2015.pdf)
- ITUC and ETUC submission to EC consultations on post-2015 [www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/pdf/consultations\\_on\\_post-2015\\_ituc\\_and\\_etuc\\_submission.pdf](http://www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/pdf/consultations_on_post-2015_ituc_and_etuc_submission.pdf)
- ITUC statement to the 2010 UN MDG Summit: [www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/pdf/No\\_33\\_-\\_Annexe\\_3\\_-\\_ITUC\\_Statement\\_to\\_September\\_Summit\\_2010\\_on\\_the\\_MDGs.pdf](http://www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/pdf/No_33_-_Annexe_3_-_ITUC_Statement_to_September_Summit_2010_on_the_MDGs.pdf)

### UN documents

- UNDG presentation on the process [www.undp.org/content/seoul\\_policy\\_center/en/home/library/post-2015-\\_-un-preparations/](http://www.undp.org/content/seoul_policy_center/en/home/library/post-2015-_-un-preparations/)
- UN Task Team Report: Realizing the Future We Want: [www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/Post\\_2015\\_UNTTreport.pdf](http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/Post_2015_UNTTreport.pdf)
- UNTT Thematic Think Piece: Social protection: [www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/untaskteam\\_undf/thinkpieces/16\\_social\\_protection.pdf](http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/policy/untaskteam_undf/thinkpieces/16_social_protection.pdf)
- UNTT Thematic Think Piece: Employment: [www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/Think%20Pieces/5\\_employment.pdf](http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/Think%20Pieces/5_employment.pdf)
- UNTT Thematic Think Piece: Inequalities [www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/10\\_inequalities\\_20July.pdf](http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals/pdf/10_inequalities_20July.pdf)
- Report from UN post-2015 consultations on employment and growth [www.ilo.org/global/meetings-and-events/events/WCMS\\_185832/lang-en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/global/meetings-and-events/events/WCMS_185832/lang-en/index.htm)

### CSOs and think tank resources

- Montreal Declaration on post-2015 (GCAP, Civicus, Beyond 2015 - 4 Sept 2012): [whiteband.org/sites/default/files/Montreal%20Declaration%20and%20Plan%20of%20Action.pdf](http://whiteband.org/sites/default/files/Montreal%20Declaration%20and%20Plan%20of%20Action.pdf)
- Portal on post-2015 run by the ODI [www.post2015.org](http://www.post2015.org)
- Beyond 2015 campaign [www.beyond2015.org](http://www.beyond2015.org)

## List of participants

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