

TUDCN GENERAL MEETING CONCLUSIONS

16 – 18 MAY 2018

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Preliminary conclusions

Knowledge Building on Global Challenges

Achievements and Challenges 2017-18

1. The SDGs are a priority for trade unions. The recognition of the 2030 Agenda among trade unions is increasing, as a stepping stone for upholding trade union priorities enshrined in the decent work agenda;
2. Full coherent approach and collaboration from labour organisations at national, regional and global level is working: the number of national country reports has doubled from last year;
3. Remarkable work is undertaken at national level. Trade unions are mobilising to initiate dialogue with national governments and other civil society actors, steering coordination processes. Serious challenges remain in many countries though. The support of the regional and global levels is key;
4. The global and regional progress reports have been endorsed.

Strategising our commitments

Trade Union involvement on the 2030 Agenda

1. The ILO should better support trade unions at national level, both from the technical and financial point of view. The current design of the UN reform is challenging the role of the ILO within the UN system. Trade unions should reach out to the ILO at national/sub-regional level to ensure support in getting involved in policy dialogues. This would help VNRs process become more accountable;
2. The ILO should also be more supportive to trade unions in the context of the SDGs UN regional fora;
3. We will need to ensure coordination with the ILO in setting a road map towards 2019: thematic review on goal 8 (meeting of experts - April), HLPF (July), stock-taking Summit of heads of states (September);
4. Country reports will continue to be produced and updated. A Global Shadow report focused on the Decent Work Agenda will be produced for the 2019 HLPF;
5. More efforts should be devoted to the dissemination of the country reports in order to give them greater visibility at national level, at the UN Regional fora on Sustainable Development, and at the HLPF;

6. Our strategy to enhance social dialogue in the context of SDGs is endorsed. We will continue our research on social dialogue for a just transition and our engagement with key development stakeholders at the DAC. Regional dialogues involving employers on how we can foster a greater role for social dialogue in the implementation of the SDGs will be put in place. Considerations on the enabling environment for social dialogue and democracy building need to be strengthened (especially related to goal 16).

ILC Discussion on Effective Development Cooperation:

1. The contents of the briefing note are well received by the members.
2. The main demands remain:
 - Reaffirm tripartism and the normative framework as the main assets of the ILO development cooperation;
 - Uphold the role of the ILO and social partners within the UN system reform (DWCP in UNDAF);
 - Reaffirm the accountability of private sector engagement by the ILO.
 - Reaffirm the role of constituencies within ILO South-South development cooperation;
 - Strengthen tripartite monitoring on the allocation and utilisation of ILO development cooperation resources;
 - Ensure a more prominent role of the ILO within development policy-making arenas (UN, OECD, GPEDC...), as well as a steering role of the ILO among other CSOs in the context of the SDGs;
 - Prioritise an ownership-based capacity building of constituencies by the ILO in terms of financial and technical support, besides the support to social dialogue processes;
 - Give recognition by the ILO development cooperation system to the trade union development effectiveness principles, which are a reference for trade union international solidarity work.

Setting the road map:

1. The evaluation report is noted and concrete steps are already in place following-up the recommendations.
2. The side event for the ITUC Congress was outlined and the recommendations will be taken into account in further development.
3. The global and regional work plans are endorsed

