

## WORKERS AND TRADE UNION MAJOR GROUP Inputs on the REVISED ZERO DRAFT (8 JUNE) Political Declaration SDG Summit

To face the current interconnected challenges, the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)<sup>1</sup> has been calling for a **New Social Contract** rooted in a gender transformative agenda for recovery and resilience. This New Social Contract embodies demands on the creation of 575 million new and decent jobs by 2030 and the formalisation of at least one billion informal workers, on rights and fair wages, on universal social protection, and on equality and inclusion. These are crucial if we want to move towards the realisation of the **SDGs**. Our success will also depend on the governance of financing global recovery. We need an **inclusive multilateral system** with a strong and effective ILO and with social partners on board at global, regional and national levels, able to establish policy priorities and sound financing strategies

### Amendments proposals on the text of the Revised Zero Draft of the 8<sup>th</sup> of June:

**Para 12:** we strongly suggest adding reference to **full employment and to the international labour standards**. Therefore: “ (...) We also remain resolved to create conditions for sustainable, inclusive and sustained economic growth, shared prosperity, full and productive employment and decent work for all, in line with international labour standards taking into account different levels of national development and capacities”.

**Para 15:** we stress the need for **universal access to education and social protection**, therefore: “We resolve to realize our vision of a world with universal access to inclusive and equitable quality education, universal health coverage and quality health care, universal social protection, food security and improved nutrition, safe drinking water and sanitation and hygiene, affordable, reliable and sustainable energy and quality and resilient infrastructure for all.

**Para 17:** we strongly suggest to include labour market institutions and **social dialogue** that are fundamental to social cohesion. Therefore: “Sustainable development cannot be realized without peace and security; and peace and security will be at risk without sustainable development. We reaffirm the need to build peaceful, just and inclusive societies that provide equal access to justice and that are based on respect for human rights including the right to development, on effective rule of law and good governance at all levels and on transparent, effective and accountable institutions, including labour market institutions and social dialogue.”

**Para 22:** the huge impact of these multiple crises on the **world of work** cannot be missed, therefore: “We are concerned about the persistent and long-term impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic, continued poverty and widening inequalities, and the multiple interlinked crises that are pushing our world to the brink, particularly in developing countries and for the poorest and most marginalized. Climate change, biodiversity loss, desertification and pollution, including plastic, air, and chemical pollution, threaten planet and people. Irregular migration and forced displacement, the cost-of-living crisis, water related challenges, food security and nutrition, financial and energy crises, and the growing impact of natural disasters are increasing humanitarian needs and derailing progress on the Sustainable Development Goals, impacting drastically on the world of work”.

**Para 24:** “given the dramatic impact of the multiple crises in the labour market, we suggest adding: We acknowledge that the cascading global crises have highlighted and exacerbated existing gender inequality, such as unequal access to healthcare, education, decent work and economic opportunities.”

**Para 29:** we strongly suggest to insert the reference to the **UN Accelerator on jobs and social protection for Just transitions** as it is central to the SDGs achievement. Therefore: “We are deeply concerned by the marked increase of the SDG financing gap and recognize the urgency of providing sufficient development finance to developing countries. Efforts

<sup>1</sup> The [International Trade Union Confederation \(ITUC\)](#) represents 200 million workers in 168 countries and territories and has 338 national affiliates

should be made to support the policies promoted by the UN Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions will be key to foster SDGs ambitions”.

**Para 36: decent jobs creation and universal social protection** systems are key to fight inequalities. “We commit to achieving sustainable development and shared prosperity for all by focusing our policies and actions on the poorest and most vulnerable. We will endeavour to identify those who are being left behind and reach those who are the furthest behind first. People who are in vulnerable situations must be protected and empowered. Those whose needs are reflected in the 2030 Agenda include all children, youth, women and girls, persons with disabilities, people living with HIV/AIDS, older persons, Indigenous Peoples, ethnic and racial minorities, refugees, internally displaced persons, and migrants. We intend to see the Goals and targets met for all nations and peoples and for all segments of society. We will take action to combat inequalities within and among countries and pursue policies that stem the tide of rising inequality, including through decent work creation, social protection systems and universal health coverage (...)”.

**Para 36:** we very much support the reference to the **World Social Summit in 2025** at the end of the paragraph.

**Para 36: women’s economic integration** and inclusion into the labour market need to be added. Pay equity needs also to be stressed along with addressing the gender gap in education. Therefore:

“a) We commit to targeted and accelerated action to remove all legal, social, and economic barriers to achieving gender equality, the empowerment of all women and girls, including those with disabilities, and the realization and enjoyment of their human rights, their economic integration and participation into the labour market, addressing the employment and gender pay gap.” ~~and~~ In this regard we commit to eliminating, preventing and responding to all forms of violence against women and girls in public and private spaces both in person and in digital contexts, such as sexual and gender-based violence, and call for women’s full access to justice and effective legal remedies”.

For **technological change** to serve the common good, investments and regulatory frameworks must be designed and implemented in order to ensure access to technology for all, including addressing global digital divide, and reinforce fundamental ILO standards and other internationally recognised human rights in a rapidly changing world. Therefore:

“c) “We will continue to take action to bridge the digital divides and spread the benefits of digitalization. We will expand participation of all countries, in particular developing countries, in the digital economy by building their capacities and access to technological innovations through stronger partnerships and aim to improve digital literacy including information and media literacy. We will leverage digital technology to expand the foundations on which to strengthen social protection systems. We will implement policies and regulations governing technology, data and deployment of algorithms that are employment- and worker-friendly and ensure privacy and people’s control over and ownership of their own data, including through promotion of collective bargaining. We commit to building capacities for inclusive participation in the digital economy and strong partnerships to bring technological innovations to all countries and reaffirm that the same rights that people have offline must also be protected online. We look forward to the elaboration of a Global Digital Compact to accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goal.”

Investments for **decent and climate-friendly jobs with Just Transitions** are essential transformative actions to the SDG. Therefore:

“g) We will take steps to ensure universal access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all, we will increase investments for just transitions to net-zero carbon economies, including through enhanced international cooperation to assist developing countries. We will increase substantially the share of renewable and clean energy. “

We very much support the inclusion of a reference to the UN Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions in the revised text of letter “i)”: “i) We will ensure significant mobilization of resources from a variety of sources, including through enhanced development cooperation, strengthening the capacity to mobilize domestic resources and private sector investment in order to provide adequate and predictable means of implementation for developing countries, in particular the least developed countries, and to implement programmes and policies to create decent jobs, including through the implementation of the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions, to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions”.

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