

**Contribution of H.E. Amb. Zsuzsanna HORVÁTH, Permanent Representative of Hungary**

**TO THE DISCUSSION OF THE REPORT OF  
THE DIRECTOR GENERAL**

**(107<sup>th</sup> session of the International Labour Conference, Geneva 6 June 2018)**

Mr/Madam Chairperson!

Let me congratulate on behalf of the Government of Hungary to all officers of this year's Conference and their excellent job in running this session of the ILC. I would like to thank the Director General for the excellent report on the Women at Work Initiative. We are particularly glad that this important topic is at the heart of our discussions this year. The Hungarian Government fully supports the view that gender equality is one of the main pillars for achieving global social justice. Furthermore, in this context, I would like to express our appreciation for the global efforts led by the ILO to meet the ambitious commitments of the 2030 Agenda.

Hungary strongly believes that the goals of the Women at Work Initiative can and should be achieved. We simply cannot allow sitting idly by and watching the enormous inequalities among us, and the negative effects they impose on the World of Work. Therefore, we are committed to the efforts of ILO in this domain as we are preparing to celebrate the Centenary of ILO.

One of the main priorities of the Hungarian Government is to improve the responsiveness of the labour market by promoting job-creation and employability through stimulating both the supply and the demand side of the labour market. As part of our efforts, we have elaborated several strategies and implemented action plans for facilitating gender equality in the World of Work (e.g. Workplace Protection Action Plan, Road to the Labour Market Programme). The basic guiding principle of these policies is that reaching social justice is not possible without providing decent jobs and working conditions for women and men.

The Government also recognises the importance of the balance between family and work. Therefore a number of programmes and campaigns have been started, such as the Year of Families 2018. A wide range of subsidies are provided for families, like the Child Care Allowance Plus programme, which makes it possible for women to re-join the labour market six months after giving birth and still be entitled to receive child care allowance.

As a result of the measures taken by the Government of Hungary, the number of employed women in the country has risen substantially, regardless of age or qualification. Furthermore, we are proud to report that the rate of women's unemployment has fallen below the 5% threshold.

It needs to be emphasised that social partners are also essential in raising awareness and understanding the benefits of gender equality and creation of decent jobs. We must acknowledge that the commitment of all stakeholders is pivotal for adequate implementation of the afore-mentioned strategies, action plans and programmes.

Concerning the future, Hungary considers that the promotion of decent work for all and upholding of fundamental rights at work are imperishable objectives and have to remain at the heart of all ILO's activities.

On behalf of the Hungarian Government, I would like to reassure the Director General about our commitment to support the work of ILO in general and the Women at Work Initiative in particular. We are looking forward to participate in ILO's deliberations and invaluable work that leads towards the achievement of our shared goals.

Thank you for your attention.