

KEY RESOURCES

Global Jobs Pact (pdf 65 KB) FR (pdf 76 KB) SP (pdf 77 KB)

Participants at the ILO Summit on the Global Jobs Crisis FR SP (pdf 16 KB)

Programme of the Summit on the Global Jobs Crisis FR SP (pdf 40 KB)

Reports presented to the 98th Session of the ILC (2009)

CEB Communiqué (pdf 32 KB)

Statement of the Officers to the ILO Committee on the Crisis – Governing Body, November 2008 (pdf 114 KB)

D-G Statement to the Programme, Financial and Administrative Committee – March 2009 (pdf 117 KB)

Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization (pdf 137 KB) FR (pdf 143 KB) SP (pdf 144 KB)

Decent Work

VIDEO

Sittings of the Committee of the Whole
World Leaders' Remarks to the Summit



Recovering from the Crisis: A Global Jobs Pact

The way forward is through a productive vision that protects people and generates the type of investment and growth that will permit us to get out of the crisis now and to have a stable future. - Juan Somavia, ILO Director-General, 19 June 2009

A global strategy

Two weeks ago the International Labour Conference unanimously adopted a Global Jobs Pact negotiated by representatives of governments, employers and workers organizations of ILO member countries. It is an urgent call to put employment and social protection at the heart of recovery policies. Inside are practical and operational policy options that have worked well in many countries and which can be tailored to national situations. The Global Jobs Pact is the productive response of the real economy actors to the excesses and mismanagement of the financial economy which underlies this crisis.

Guided by the four pillars of the Decent Work Agenda – employment, social protection, social dialogue and fundamental rights at work, and following in the footsteps of the 2008 *Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization*, the Global Jobs Pact does not push for an end to globalization, but toward a fairer, greener and sustainable globalization with a moral compass and without the imbalances that led to the crisis. This Pact can inform national and international decision-making: it gives people, governments, organizations and the multilateral system the chance to *act*, to be inspired, and to move not just countries, but the global economy toward a sustainable recovery.

Recovery from the crisis: A decent work response

The central objective is to shorten the usual lag time of several long years between growth recovery and employment recovery. To do so, the Pact calls for a coordinated global policy for strengthening national and international efforts on jobs, sustainable enterprises and public services. It also focuses on people – their rights, voice and participation in the recovery process.

Principles for promoting recovery and development: A framework

The policy recommendations comprise a framework covering long- and short-term action; support to vulnerable groups, including youth, women and migrant workers; encouraging State and market synergies; avoidance of protectionist solutions; and ILO collaboration with international agencies, financial institutions and Member States.

Policy options include:

Accelerating employment creation, jobs recovery and sustaining enterprises

Jobs: Implementing labour market policies; limiting and avoiding job losses, helping enterprises retain their workforce through social dialogue and collective bargaining; supporting job creation, recognizing the multiplier effect of targeted efforts

Training and Skills: Vocational and entrepreneurial skills programmes, investing in skills development, upgrading and reskilling

Wages: Boosting effective demand and maintaining wage levels through macroeconomic stimulus packages

Infrastructure. Creating public employment guarantee schemes and emergency public works programmes, including in the informal economy; increasing investment in infrastructure and public services

Small and Medium Businesses and Cooperatives. Access to available credit; recognizing that cooperatives provide jobs

Green Jobs. Investing in 'green' production and services; stimulating sustained economic activity

Building social protection systems and protecting people

Social Protection Floor. Implementing cash transfer schemes; building a basic social protection floor including health care, income security for older people and those with disabilities and child benefits; extending the duration and coverage of unemployment benefits; minimum pension and health care for workers; adequate coverage for temporary and non-regular workers

Skills Development. Connecting the long-term unemployed to the labour market through skills development; training in and enforcement of rights for vulnerable groups

Avoiding Deflationary Wage Spirals. Social dialogue, collective bargaining, and statutory or negotiated minimum wages

Wages. Regular review, adaptation, promotion and respect for the minimum wage; narrowing the gender pay gap

Strengthening respect for international labour standards

Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work. Achieving the elimination and prevention of forced and child labour and discrimination at work; ensuring respect for freedom of association and collective bargaining for productive social dialogue

Other Key ILO Conventions and Recommendations. Respect for employment policy, wages, social security, the employment relationship, termination of employment rules, labour administration and inspection, migrant workers, labour conditions in public contracts, occupational safety and health, working hours and social dialogue mechanism.

Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy. A tool for multinational enterprises and global supply chains in responding to the crisis in a responsible manner.

Social dialogue: Bargaining effectively, identifying priorities, stimulating action

Strengthening. In times of crisis, strengthening and respecting social dialogue, including collective bargaining is vital

Policy Making. Social dialogue is a mechanism for designing policies to fit national priorities, it provides a strong basis for building the commitment of employers and workers to join with governments to overcome the crisis

Workers' Rights. Strengthening the capacity of labour administration and inspection services is important for worker protection, social security, labour market policies and social dialogue

The Way forward: Shaping a fair and sustainable globalization

At a special [ILO Summit on the Global Jobs Crisis](#) during the ILC, ten Presidents and Prime Ministers, six Vice-Presidents, and numerous ministers gave their strong support to the Global Jobs Pact, emphasizing that business as usual is not an option.

The Global Jobs Pact is the ILO's contribution to stronger policy convergence and coherence in the decisions taken by the governance bodies of the UN System and with the Bretton Woods Institutions and regional organizations and banks. Cooperation between these groups is essential for building a better regulatory framework and for shifting to a low-carbon economy, while the global recession also requires attention to be paid to large-scale unemployment, underemployment and poverty in developing countries.

With a global approach in place, work at the country level now begins. The ILO is taking action to support the work of its constituents and other organizations to implement its newest instrument: the Global Jobs Pact.

Multilateral and international commitments

The G20 London Summit in April called upon the ILO to work with other relevant organizations to "assess the actions taken and those required in the future on employment and social protection issues". The recent UN Conference on the crisis invited the ILO to present the Global Jobs Pact to the UN ECOSOC currently meeting in Geneva.

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