The 100th Anniversary of the ILO:

Advancing Social Justice,
Promoting Decent Work
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The ILO, the UN specialized agency for the world of work, will be celebrating its 100th anniversary throughout 2019. The Centenary year will also be referred to as “ILO100” under the theme: Advancing social justice, promoting decent work”.

The theme echoes the ILO Conference resolution on Advancing Social Justice through Decent Work (2016), and reaffirms the relevance of the ILO’s social justice mandate and Decent Work Agenda.

The overarching goals of the ILO Centenary are to:

- Increase the visibility of the ILO and reaffirm its relevance
- Build stronger support for the ILO social justice mandate and Decent Work Agenda
- Chart the way for the future of the Organization in its second century
History of the ILO

Born out of the ashes of the First World War, the ILO was created in 1919, as part of the Treaty of Versailles that ended the War. It was founded on the belief that social justice is essential to universal and lasting peace. It became the first UN specialized agency in 1946.

As the specialized UN agency for the world of work, the ILO sets international labour standards, promotes rights at work and encourages decent employment opportunities, the enhancement of social protection and the strengthening of dialogue on work-related issues.
By June 2018, the ILO had adopted 189 Conventions and 205 Recommendations, which have become the framework for national labour legislation.

The ILO’s International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) has contributed to removing over 86 million children from child labour situations worldwide.

With ILO’s assistance and services, some 85 per cent of ILO member States have created tripartite institutions to address labour-related matters.

Most countries have in place social protection schemes anchored in national legislation, covering all or most policy areas of social protection. 45 per cent of the global population are effectively covered by at least one social protection benefit, more than 29 per cent of world population by comprehensive social security systems and 68 per cent of older persons around the globe receive a pension.

**Millions of people are able** to escape poverty through decent work and employment.
The ILO’s work affects all our lives including, for example, the hours we work and rest, our safety and health at work, jobs and wages, as well as our pensions and overall working conditions among others.
Some of the key ILO milestones are as follows:

- The Declaration of Philadelphia (1944) enshrined a number of key principles that embodies the work of the ILO, including the principle that labour is not a commodity. It established basic human and economic rights for States to uphold.

- The Organization was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1969 at its 50th anniversary.

- The Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (1998) created a set of core labour standards.

- The Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization (2008) outlined the contemporary vision of the ILO’s mandate in the era of globalization, with decent work at its centre.

- Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development (2015) places decent work for all at the heart of policies for sustainable and inclusive growth and development.
Seven Centenary Initiatives of the ILO

In the run up to 2019, seven Centenary Initiatives are being implemented.

1. The Future of Work Initiative
2. The End to Poverty Initiative
3. The Women at Work Initiative
4. The Green Initiative
5. The Standards Initiative
6. The Enterprises Initiative
7. The Governance Initiative

The Future of Work Initiative is the centrepiece of the ILO’s activities to mark the Centenary.

The Global Commission on the Future of Work was established under the Future of Work Initiative to undertake an in-depth examination of the future of work and provide the analytical basis for designing a future of work shaped by ILO values. The report of the Global Commission will be a central focus of the centenary year, and will
be submitted to the Centenary session of the International Labour Conference in June 2019 as basis for its deliberation.

While the future of work will be at the heart of the Centenary, the 100th commemoration will also be broader in scope, featuring other Centenary initiatives and diverse activities with historical perspectives and major national inputs.

The Office has put in place institutional arrangements for the effective preparation of the Centenary, including one taskforce for the future of work and another for ILO2019. The ILO 2019 taskforce is responsible for the overall planning and coordination of the ILO approach and activities leading up to and during 2019.

Towards the 21st Century

The Declaration of Philadelphia was adopted by the ILO in 1944. It established that labour is not a commodity, that freedom of expression and association are essential to sustained progress and that poverty anywhere constitutes a danger
to prosperity everywhere. As we look into the future of work and our societies, the principles put forward by the Declaration of Philadelphia are more relevant than ever.

However, the world of work faces major changes and challenges such as robotization, the transition to a green economy and the emergence of the so-called “gig economy” leading to swift changes in the traditional relationship between employers and employees. We need a strong ILO to make sure no one is left behind and to pursue efforts towards more decent work and social justice.

Not only is the ILO aware of these challenges but it is also at the forefront of research on these topics. It is both a knowledge centre and an organization that has a direct impact on the lives of working women and men, especially through international labour standards which have multiple effects on the daily lives of millions of people throughout the world.

New conventions and recommendations reflect up to date issues such as the transition from the informal to the formal economy, the persistence of forced labour and the need to tackle sexual
harassment. Through international partnerships such as the Equal Pay International Coalition (EPIC), we also fight for equal pay for women and men.

Main achievements of the ILO and Indonesia

- Indonesia has become the member of the ILO since 11 June 1950. In the same year, Indonesia ratified its first ILO Convention: The ILO Convention No. 29 on Forced Labour (one of the ILO’s eight core Conventions). Within a few years, Indonesia ratified two other ILO core Conventions: the ILO Convention No. 98 on Right to Organize and Collective Bargaining in 1957 and No. 100 on Equal Renumeration in 1958.

- In 1970, ILO established an office in Jakarta. Since 2003, the ILO Jakarta Office has covered both Indonesia and Timor-Leste.

- The millennium year of 2000 marked the achievement of Indonesia as the first Asian country to ratify all eight ILO fundamental
Conventions following the ratification of Convention No. 182 on Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in 2000, the ratification of the three core Conventions in 1999 (the Convention on Abolition of Forced Labour No. 105, Discrimination in Respect of Employment and Occupation No. 111 as well as the Minimum Age for Admission to Employment No. 138).

- Indonesia is an important actor in international maritime trade, and ratified the ILO’s Maritime Labour Convention (MLC, 2006) in 2017. The ratification confirmed the commitment of Indonesia to achieve decent work for seafarers and to ensure fair competition for quality shipowners.

- In 2015, Indonesia also ratified the ILO Convention No. 187 on the Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health as one of the ILO’s essential instruments in safety and health at the workplace. Through the ratification, Government of Indonesia, in partnership with social partners, reinforced its commitment to achieve sustained and continuous improvement of OSH to prevent occupational injuries, diseases and deaths.
Following the enactment of the Industrial Relations Dispute Settlement Act No. 2 of 2004, Indonesia has completed a labour law reform programme begun pursuant to the reformasi commitment to ratify and implement all ILO fundamental Conventions (with the enactment of Trade Union Act 21/2000 and Manpower Act No. 13/2003). Started in 1998, the reform also marked the beginning of more democratic system of industrial relations in Indonesia. After 20 years of reformasi, Indonesian Employers’ Association (Apindo) and major trade union confederations (such as KSPSI, KSBSI, KSPI and other new emerging confederations) have strengthened their capacities and roles in influencing labour policies and laws through better a social dialogue system. President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono visited the historic 100th International Labour Conference (ILC) in Geneva on 14 June 2011.
The historic visit marked the first time that an Indonesian President has addressed the Conference.

- Three years later, in December 2014, the ILO Director-General, Guy Ryder, visited Indonesia. The visit also marked the first visit of the ILO Director-General to Indonesia.

- Indonesia has already made a commitment to eliminate the worst forms of child labour by 2022, and has identified poverty reduction and education as the key strategies towards meeting this objective. The collaboration between Indonesia and the ILO over the
last two decades has put in place a strong foundation for this work, and has highlighted a number of key directions for future education policy development as an effective instrument for eliminating child labour.

- In 2003, Indonesia became a lead country in the Youth Employment Network after establishing the Indonesia Youth Employment Network (IYEN). Indonesia also adopted National Action Plan to address the challenge of youth unemployment. With support from the ILO, Indonesia set up the Indonesian Youth Employment Network Secretariat in the National Planning and Development Agency (Bappenas).

- The setting up of BPJS Ketenagakerjaan in 2015 has improved employment-related social security and provision of pension scheme. These improved schemes have marked the reform of Indonesian social security system and has underlined the collaboration between Indonesia and the ILO over the last three decades. The collaboration has put in place a strong foundation and underlines the importance of social security for all.
Recognizing the role of Indonesian migrant workers to the country’s economy and the society, Indonesia has continued to provide stronger protection to the rights of the Indonesian migrant workers through the enactment of the Law No. 18/2017 on the protection of migrant workers. Indonesia and ILO have continued collaborating on labour migration to provide safe and fair migration for all.

The Padat Karya Infrastructure Programme of the Ministry of Manpower adopted the ILO’s local resources-based (LRB) in order to support improvements in both the quality of assets and work opportunities generated. The adoption is based on projects implemented by the ILO from 2006 onwards that demonstrated the application of the LRB approach in disaster recovery and climate change mitigation in Aceh and Nias and Mentawai Islands.

The 2003 signing of the Tripartite Commitment to Combat HIV and AIDS in the World of Work by the Government of Indonesia, workers’ and employers’
organizations, and the enactment of the Decree of the Minister of Manpower No. 68/2004 on HIV and AIDS Prevention and Control in the Workplace highlight the importance of the private sector to collaborate with workers in preventing the spread of HIV and AIDS in the workplace.