



International
Labour
Organization

Media opportunities at the 17th Asia and the Pacific Regional Meeting (APRM)

6-9 December 2022 - Singapore, Raffles City Convention Centre

The Asia and the Pacific Regional Meeting (APRM) of the International Labour Organization (ILO) brings together representatives of governments, employers' and workers' organizations from Asia, the Pacific and the Arab states. The 17th APRM comes at an important juncture for the world of work as the region faces multiple challenges, including the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic compounded by the global food, energy and finance crises. More information can be found here: www.ilo.org/aprm2022

This will be the first APRM for new ILO Director-General Gilbert F. Houngbo. President of Singapore H.E. Halimah Yacob will give a special opening address. Some 15 ministers from across the two regions will also attend.

There will be a number of media opportunities for coverage as follows (see following programme for details):

- **Media briefing with Director-General of the International Labour Organization (ILO)**
- **Thematic plenary and special sessions** on major world of work issues. These will follow a moderated panel discussion format. The sessions will feature high-level representatives of governments as well as employers' and workers organisations from Asia and the Pacific and the Arab States. Speakers/participant names for all sessions will be confirmed on the official APRM programme available [here](#). *Please note that media will be able to follow but not pose questions during the sessions. These sessions can be followed online on the [ILO Live web platform](https://live.ilo.org/) (https://live.ilo.org/)*
- **Media briefings with ILO specialists** – a number of briefings with ILO specialists will be held on key issues. Themes and times TBC
- **Interviews with ILO officials, government, employers and workers representatives from participating countries** – media can pitch for interviews with APRM participants. The list of participants can be found [here](#)
- **Photographs, B-roll and footage packages** (links will be available [here](#))

The working languages of the 17th APRM will be Arabic, Chinese and English.

For further media information and requests, please contact ILO Communication and Public Information Officers:

For the Asia and the Pacific Region: Steve Needham needham@ilo.org

For the Arab States Region: Salwa Kanaana kanaana@ilo.org

The full programme for the APRM is available at www.ilo.org/aprm2022

Specific events of potential media interest are as follows:

Tuesday, 6 December 2022

10.00-10.45 Media briefing with Director-General of the International Labour Organization Gilbert F. Hougbo (Moor Room, 4th floor RCCC)

ILO Director-General Gilbert F. Hougbo took office on 1 October 2022. The DG will provide his insight into the world of work issues facing the regions as well as how the APRM will help set the ILO's agenda for the coming years.

12.15-13.30 Opening session of the APRM

- **12.15-12.40** Special opening address by President of Singapore H.E. Halimah Yacob
- **12.45-13.30** Opening statements of APRM chairperson, ILO Director-General and representatives of workers and employers.

15.00-17.00 Thematic Plenary Session: “Integrated policy agenda for a human-centred recovery that is inclusive, sustainable and resilient”

The session will set the scene for the APRM by discussing the broad economic and labour market context of the Asia and the Pacific and Arab States regions. Participants will reflect on economic and employment policies, both at national and regional levels needed to promote a human-centred recovery, foster inclusive economic growth and development as well as help address longstanding structural inequalities. An information note on this session is available [here](#)

Wednesday, 7 December 2022

09.30 – 10.30 Media briefing with Sara Elder, Senior Economist ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific on the recently launched (28 Nov) Asia Pacific Economic and Social Outlook Report (APESO) Venue: Moor Room

14.00–15:30 Thematic Plenary Session: “Institutional framework to support transitions towards formality and decent work”

Despite many efforts over the years, levels of informality in both the Asia and the Pacific and the Arab States remain persistently high at close to 70 percent of total employment. The session will focus on the legal frameworks and labour market institutions needed for the transition to formal employment, that support worker mobility and provide improved governance of labour migration and protection of migrant workers. An information note on this session is available [here](#)

18:00–19:00 Special Session: “Strengthening multilateral cooperation to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all”

The COVID-19 crisis reversed years of progress towards development and attaining the SDGs. This session will discuss multilateral actions to support SDG8 on Decent Work and Economic Growth to reinforce labour market resilience and to promote decent work in the two regions. Experiences in building partnerships and strengthening multilateralism will be shared. An information note on this session is available [here](#)

Thursday, 8 December 2022

10.30–12.00 Thematic Plenary Session: “Strong foundations for social and employment protection and resilience”

The pandemic, rising living costs, environmental crises and structural transformations linked to technological change have widened existing inequalities among workers, enterprises and sectors, within and across countries, and exacerbated pre-existing vulnerabilities. Migrants, young people, women, refugees, and workers in the informal economy have been hit hardest. The session will reflect on how weaknesses of labour market institutions and policies impacted pandemic crisis response. It will focus on lessons learned and the actions needed to overcome these deficits. An information note on this session is available [here](#)

13.30–15.00 Thematic Plenary Session: “Revitalizing productivity growth and skills for more and better jobs”

The pandemic struck as the regions face a variety of long-term challenges shaping the future of work, notably accelerated technological advancement, demographic change, decarbonization and greening. Regardless of changes to come, major concerns remain in the regions regarding job quality and equality. The session will seek solutions for revitalizing productivity and skills pathways to create more and better jobs, promote a human-centred recovery, and facilitate inclusion. Discussions will highlight innovative policy measures that can drive productivity growth, quality job creation and skills development. An information note on this session is available [here](#)

15.30–17.00 Special Session: “Promotion and application of the ILO Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy in Asia and the Pacific”

ILO’s MNE Declaration provides the framework to encourage the positive contribution that multinational enterprises can make to economic and social progress and the realization of decent work for all. The session will discuss opportunities and challenges for decent work and structural transformation that trade, investment and operations of multinational enterprises offer at national and regional levels. An information note on this session is available [here](#)

Friday, 9 December 2022

11.30–13.00 Adoption of the conclusions of the 17th Asia and the Pacific Regional Meeting and closing ceremony