

**INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION  
OFFICE FOR THE UNITED NATIONS**

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**Statement by: Mr. Vinicius Pinheiro,  
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**Mr. Chair,**

The global economic recovery hasn't translated so far into substantive improvements in the labour market indicators.

The global unemployment rate in 2018 is projected to remain at a similar level to last year's - 5.6 percent with the total number of unemployed exceeding 192 million persons.

Even though global unemployment has stabilized, decent work deficits remain widespread. Vulnerable employment is on the rise and the pace of reduction in working poverty is slowing. Almost 1.4 billion workers are estimated to be in vulnerable employment in 2017, and an additional 35 million are expected to join them by 2019. In developing countries, vulnerable employment affects three out of four workers.

Participation rates among women remain well below those for their male counterparts. Women are also more likely to face inferior quality of jobs and lower salaries.

Looking ahead, structural shifts and changes in world of work will add further pressures on labour markets.

Globalisation, demographic transition, climate change and technological progress are leading to deep and accelerated changes in the world of work, impacting both the quantity and quality of jobs available, as well as how work is organised.

The future of work offers unprecedented opportunities, but there are also significant challenges. Together, these structural trends will affect countries' ability to achieve full and productive employment and decent work for all and fulfil the promise of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The ILO estimates that 600 million decent jobs will be needed in the next 15 years to achieve this ambitious goal.

The impact of rapid technological evolution on the number and quality of jobs, the nature of work and the structure of labour markets in 2030 is still uncertain. Many are concerned with the fact that labour-saving technologies could constrain the capacity of labour markets to generate sufficient jobs for the growing young population, leading to segmentation and worsening income inequality.

Likewise, over the last decade there has been a rise in part-time employment, especially among women. In the majority of countries with available information, part-time jobs outpaced gains in full-time jobs between 2009 and 2015. In some cases, non-standard forms of work can be the entry door to the job market. However, these emerging trends can also lead to widespread insecurity.

To address these issues, policies should take into consideration the evolution of the world of work, stimulating investment opportunities to boost job creation and productivity, while also ensuring adequate income security to all types of workers, both women and men, not just those on stable contracts.

Skills development, social protection, social dialogue, equal opportunity, occupation safety and health and adequate labour market regulations are essential components of the policy responses needed to shape a future of work with sustained and sustainable economic growth and decent work for all.

The theme “Future of Work” has been chosen as the overarching theme to mark the 100th anniversary of the International Labour Organization (ILO) 1919 – 2019. To respond effectively to the ongoing changes in the world of work, the ILO has established a Global Commission on the Future of Work. Its job is to undertake an in-depth examination of the future of work that can provide the analytical basis for the delivery of social justice in the 21st century.

The Commission has taken an approach that calls for stronger coordinated action and regulations to help shape the future of work we want. It will deliver its report in January 2019 covering issues such as the platform economy, skills policies and systems, the informal economy, global value chains, social protection, migration, and the situation and aspirations of youth, examining both developing and developed country perspectives in each case.

The ILO is looking forward to sharing the outcomes of the Future of Work Commission in order to help inform the work of this Committee.

I thank you