



INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION
Office for the United Nations

**FIRST ANNUAL PRINCIPALS-LEVEL MEETING OF
THE UN GLOBAL COUNTER-TERRORISM COORDINATION COMPACT
COMMITTEE**

**Statement by Mr. Vinicius Carvalho Pinheiro, ILO Special Representative to the UN and
Director**

Conference Room 8

New York, 6 December 2018

Mr. Secretary General, Excellencies, Dear colleagues,

I am grateful for the invitation to the first meeting of the UN Global-Terrorism Coordination Compact Committee.

The ILO became the 35th organization to join the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact in July this year.

Mr. Secretary General,

I cannot agree more with you when you said that “the creation of open, equitable, inclusive and pluralist societies, based on the full respect of human rights and with economic opportunities for all, represents the most tangible and meaningful alternative to violent extremism and the most promising strategy for rendering it unattractive.”

While academic debates on the appropriateness of referring to root causes of terrorism are still ongoing, I believe that few people will disagree that factors such as poverty, lack of employment and socioeconomic opportunities, inequalities and exclusion, - do play a role.

As the ILO is approaching its centenary in a few months, I wish to remind you that the driving forces for ILO's creation in 1919 arose precisely from peace and security – “If you seek peace, cultivate social justice” is the motto enshrined in the foundations of the ILO’s original building in Geneva.

These past aspirations are still more relevant than ever. The ILO continues to make contributions to conflict prevention and sustaining peace, including in the normative field by adopting in 2017 the [Employment and Decent Work for Peace and Resilience Recommendation, 2017 \(No. 205\)](#) that provide responses to contemporary crisis situations arising from conflicts and disasters.

Particularly relevant to our discussions today is the issue of youth employment.

Allow me to recall that in 2016 about 408 million youth (aged 15-29) live in settings affected by armed conflict or organized violence, that is roughly one quarter of all youth.

At the ILO we are leading the UN-wide Global Initiative on Decent Jobs for Youth, thus spearheading the system's delivery on the key SDG 8 of the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.

This platform is a hub for catalysing partnerships, collaboration and coordinated action grounded in evidence-based strategies. We are very pleased to have recently also welcomed the United Nation's Office of Counter Terrorism among our UN partners.

We have already worked well together, such as our collaboration in Pakistan and Bangladesh on Technical Vocational Education and Training as a tool to Prevent Violent extremism and youth skills development.

But we want to do more. We specifically welcome your intention, Mr. Voronkov, to expanding this work from to Indonesia and the Maldives.

Let me also highlight the contribution of the ILO's Jobs for Peace and Resilience flagship programme which is a modular local-resource-based approach combining employment intensive investments, technical, vocational and entrepreneurial skills training, employment and private sector and local economic development approaches in a coherent and context-specific manner. The approach focuses on 1) Providing direct job creation and income security, 2) Enhancing skilling for employability, 3) Supporting self-employment, enterprises and cooperatives and 4) Bridging labour supply and demand. To date the flagship programme is under implementation in six countries: Central African Republic, Comoros, Myanmar, Sierra Leone, Somalia and Sri Lanka;

Dear colleagues,

Very specifically on today's agenda, I would welcome the suggestion of both new operational Working Groups, namely on 1. Mapping and Coordination of Projects and Resource Mobilization and 2. Monitoring and Evaluation, as the latter will be instrumental in providing us the evidence we need to make our joint resource mobilization successful. Finally, I see the benefit a High-Level Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact meeting once a year and do welcome that the chairs of the thematic and operational Working Groups provide regular oral briefings to Member States, as this too is likely to support our resource mobilizing efforts.

In closing I look forward to enhancing the collaboration and continuing to work with all of you to rid the world of the scourge of terrorism and reiterate our commitment to the key objectives of the Coordination Compact.

Thank you.