



**No. 24 February 2013**

## HIGHLIGHTS

**Ryder: Social justice, the smart solution to economic recovery**



ILO Director-General, Guy Ryder, has called for “smart social policies” to tackle the global economic recovery which, he said, hangs in the balance. “Tipping that balance towards sustainable growth and development means tackling social injustice,” he said, in a statement marking World Day for Social Justice. According to Ryder, “the world of work is now at the centre of discontent and must be an integral part in shaping a different, more just, global order for the future.” Ryder

underlined his argument by referring to the dismal global situation the world of work is facing: 200 million unemployed, a further 870 million working poor, some 74 million unemployed youth, persisting child and forced labour and more than half of the world population having no social security at all. [Read more...](#)

## INTERVIEW

**New skills for new jobs**



With high unemployment workers are increasingly finding themselves looking for work in new occupations where they lack the skills employers are looking for. This skills mismatch means unemployed people are taking longer to find a new job, and this is driving up long-term unemployment rates, says ILO Labour Economist Theo Sparreboom, especially for young people. [Read more...](#)

## FOCUS

**ILO: Tougher measures needed to curb forced labour**



A new ILO report highlights the need for tougher measures to combat forced labour, which claims 21 million victims worldwide – men, women and children coerced into jobs they can't leave, trapped in debt bondage, trafficked for sexual exploitation and even born into slavery. [Read more...](#)

**Skills mismatches hurt job creation prospects**



The crisis has forced millions of workers to seek new jobs but their skills are often not those that employers are seeking, and this skills mismatch is driving up unemployment levels. [Read more...](#)

## Comment and Analysis

### Worker Cooperatives as a Response to the Crisis: by Pierre Laliberté



In this article, Pierre Laliberté highlights the virtues of worker cooperatives as these are run by workers themselves. Laliberté notes, however, that they do not proliferate as quickly as their more conventional competitors and their collaboration with trade unions remains limited. [Read more...](#)

## International Labour Standards

### Two countries ratify ILO Conventions



Ecuador and Switzerland have ratified a series of ILO Conventions in February 2013. [Read more...](#)

## ASIA AND PACIFIC

### India: Workers detained in Jail



Many workers are currently detained in the central jail of Gurgaon (India) in violation of their rights to freedom of association and collective bargaining. The dispute began in 2011 as a result of the management action to victimise workers because they had formed a union. [Read more...](#)

### The world I want: migrant workers need support



Future migrant workers expect more administrative and financial support to go abroad while returning migrant workers hope Viet Nam will soon become as developed as the countries where they used to work. The recommendations were among the major findings during the International Labour Organization consultations with migrant workers last January in Ha Noi. [Read more...](#)

## EUROPE

### Switzerland firms up commitment to employment and social rights



During a working visit to Bern, ILO Director-General Guy Ryder joined Federal Councillor Johann N. Schneider-Ammann, head of the Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research (EAER), in reaffirming the importance of the ties between Switzerland and the International Labour Organization (ILO). [Read more...](#)

### ILO Office welcomes social dimension and social dialogue being part of future EMU roadmap



The ILO Office welcomes this important development and hopes that this roadmap will result in concrete orientations and initiatives. The social dimension will be part of the roadmap to be developed by European Council President Herman van Rompuy by June 2013 in close consultation with the stakeholders. [Read more...](#)

### Jobs, social inclusion and growth should top EU agenda



ILO Director-General Guy Ryder discusses the priorities of the European Union in the context of his first official visit to Ireland, which holds the rotating Presidency of the Council of the EU. [Read more...](#)

## **ILO, Bosnia and Herzegovina to promote Decent Work**



The International Labour Organization (ILO) and Bosnia and Herzegovina will work together to address labour market challenges, with the aim of creating more and better jobs, under a partnership agreement signed on 6 February 2013 in Budapest, Hungary. [Read more...](#)

## **Workers strike in Kazakh west to demand pay rise, cut in foreign staff**



Over 150 workers of the ship-building limited liability partnership Keppel Kazakhstan are striking in Aktau (administrative centre of Mangistau Region in western Kazakhstan) for a second day now. [Read more...](#)

## **AFRICA**

### **Drop the gun and take a pen**



Countries have stepped up their efforts to fight piracy and warlordism in Somalia. The ILO has partnered with other UN agencies to address the root causes of the conflicts: chronic unemployment and a lack of prospects for youth. [Read more...](#)

## **ARAB STATES**

### **Kuwait renews support for ILO programmes in the Occupied Palestinian Territory**



Since 2009 the Government of Kuwait has provided support to the programme of the ILO in Arab States, and particularly in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, for a total of US\$ 2.5 million. [Read more...](#)

## **AMERICAS**

### **ILO head in Latin America: More, but also better jobs are needed**



ILO Director-General, Guy Ryder, has stressed the need for Latin America to focus on creating more employment, while at the same time improving the quality of existing jobs in the ubiquitous informal sector. [Read more...](#)

## **PUBLICATIONS**

### **Manual for trade union education on social dialogue in new EU Member States and Candidate Countries**



This new manual is designed for trade union trainers responsible for organizing courses at the sectoral or national level. A particular focus is put on the Central and Eastern European Countries, both EU New Member States and Candidate Countries. [Read more...](#)

### **Thailand - A labour market profile**



This publication brings together available labour market indicators to provide the most up-to-date picture of the Thai labour market in a simple, easy-to-read style. It spans a wealth of socio-economic and labour market information - from gross domestic product growth rates, disparities, employment and unemployment to migration, labour shortages and working time and includes the gender and regional implications. [Read more...](#)

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