



# Governing Body

349th Session, Geneva, 30 October–9 November 2023

Institutional Section

INS

**Date:** 17 October 2023

**Original:** English

Fourth item on the agenda

## Update on the Global Coalition for Social Justice

### Purpose of the document

This document provides further information on the arrangements for the Global Coalition for Social Justice. See the draft decision in paragraph 52.

**Relevant strategic objective:** All.

**Main relevant outcome:** All policy outcomes and enabling outcome A: Improved knowledge and influence for promoting decent work.

**Policy implications:** Yes.

**Legal implications:** None.

**Financial implications:** No.

**Follow-up action required:** Yes.

**Author unit:** External and Corporate Relations.

**Related documents:** [GB.347/INS/4](#); [GB.347/INS/4/Additional information](#); [GB.347/INS/PV\(Rev.\)](#); [GB.346/INS/17/1](#); [GB.346/INS/PV](#).



## ▶ Introduction

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1. At its 346th Session (October–November 2022) and 347th Session (March 2023), the Governing Body discussed the Director-General's proposal to forge a Global Coalition for Social Justice ("the Coalition") and provided guidance on its scope, focus areas and governance arrangements.<sup>1</sup>
2. At its 347th Session, the Governing Body welcomed the Director-General's initiative to forge a Global Coalition for Social Justice, including through the holding of a World of Work Summit on social justice during the 111th Session of the International Labour Conference (June 2023), and his proposal to hold tripartite consultations in preparation for the Summit. The Governing Body also welcomed the Director-General's commitment to take into account its guidance in preparing a governance structure and a thematic plan, and requested that the report to the Governing Body on further developments regarding the Coalition at its 349th Session.<sup>2</sup>

## ▶ A key highlight: the World of Work Summit: Social Justice for All

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3. The World of Work Summit held during the 111th Session of the International Labour Conference was convened around the central theme of "Social Justice for All". The key features of the Summit included addresses by Heads of State and Government, the Secretary-General of the United Nations (UN), the Director-General of the ILO and high-level representatives of employers' and workers' organizations. It also featured four panel discussions with high-level representatives of governments and employers' and workers' organizations, UN entities and other international organizations.<sup>3</sup> The Summit highlighted the need to prioritize social justice at the core of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the importance of collective action, and all stakeholders were urged to work together in a coherent and complementary manner.
4. High-level dignitaries emphasized the importance of promoting decent work, addressing inequalities and improving living standards. They also highlighted the significance of creating inclusive societies and providing equitable opportunities for just transitions. The discussions underscored the need for the enforcement of labour rights and the development of social policies that respond to societal demands. Speakers also emphasized the role of social dialogue, fair trade agreements, and the integration of social protection with other relevant issues. Key factors such as education, lifelong learning, skills development, sustainable enterprises and technology were recognized as being crucial to achieving social justice. The statements and panel discussions addressed a broad range of issues, including climate change, youth and women's empowerment, migration, informality, fair financing options and solidarity between different regions. In a special address to the Summit, the Secretary-General

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<sup>1</sup> GB.346/INS/PV, paras 579–633; GB.347/INS/PV(Rev.), paras 101–227.

<sup>2</sup> GB.347/INS/PV(Rev.), para. 227.

<sup>3</sup> The themes of the panels were: (a) Addressing inequalities, informality and facilitating inclusion; (b) Fostering equal opportunities and full, freely chosen and productive employment for all through education, lifelong learning and skills development; (c) Jobs and social protection for just transitions; (d) Trade, employment and sustainable development: Advancing human and labour rights.

of the UN welcomed the work to mobilize a Global Coalition for Social Justice, stating: “I see such a Coalition as a crucial force to help advance the Sustainable Development Goals and meet the challenges of today and tomorrow. At its heart, this effort is about rebuilding the social contract through people-centred policies grounded and guided by social justice.”<sup>4</sup>

5. The present document takes into account the guidance provided by the Governing Body at its 347th Session and by constituents during the tripartite informal consultations held on 26 April, 20 July and 21 September 2023. It also draws on the high-level statements made by constituents in the plenary of the 111th Session of the International Labour Conference (5–16 June 2023) and by high-level dignitaries during the World of Work Summit: Social Justice for All (14–15 June 2023) that have played an instrumental role in defining the scope, focus areas and governance arrangements of the Global Coalition for Social Justice included in the present document.

## ► Purpose of the Coalition

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6. As stated previously,<sup>5</sup> the Coalition will increase multilateral cooperation and partnerships in order to pursue the overarching objective of advancing social justice and decent work for everyone, everywhere, thereby accelerating the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Achieving the Coalition’s objectives will entail the active involvement of multiple stakeholders, as well as concerted action and policy coherence at the global, regional and national levels. The Coalition will build on the ILO’s experience of over 100 years’ in mobilizing tripartism and promoting social dialogue as an effective means to advance social justice.
7. The Coalition will serve as a platform to generate increased political commitments and investments and to foster concrete actions towards social justice and decent work, in support of national priorities. It will aim to reinforce existing processes set up to advance the delivery of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Coalition will also play a key role in advocating for social justice and galvanizing support for the recognition of social justice in the multilateral agenda, in particular at the UN Summit of the Future in 2024 and the proposed UN World Social Summit in 2025.
8. The Coalition’s scope of work will be guided by:
  - the [ILO Constitution](#), including the [Declaration of Philadelphia](#);
  - the [ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work](#) (1998), as amended in 2022;
  - the [ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization](#) (2008), as amended in 2022;
  - the [ILO Centenary Declaration for the Future of Work](#) (2019);
  - the [Global call to action for a human-centred recovery from the COVID-19 crisis that is inclusive, sustainable and resilient](#) (2021);
  - the [resolution and conclusions concerning inequalities and the world of work](#) (2021).

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<sup>4</sup> ILC.111/Record No. 8B, 5.

<sup>5</sup> GB.347/INS/4/Additional information.

These texts make the case for social justice, underscoring that it makes societies and economies function more cohesively and productively by reducing poverty, hunger, inequalities and social tensions. They define a “socially just society” as one where all human beings “have the right to pursue both their material well-being and their spiritual development in conditions of freedom and dignity, of economic security and equal opportunity”.<sup>6</sup> The aim is to mainstream this vision within a coalition established by the ILO to increase and broaden the ambition for and focus on social justice and to recognize social justice as one of the cornerstones of renewed multilateralism<sup>7</sup> – a rallying point that supports national efforts by translating commitments into effective action across a range of interconnected policy areas and interventions.

9. Partners who join the Coalition will benefit from increased visibility on the social justice dimensions of their respective mandates, with a view to enhancing support and increasing investments at the global, regional and national levels. In addition, by working together in a more coherent manner, partners will have an opportunity to increase the scale and impact of their respective actions, and to achieve outcomes that cannot be achieved individually: for example, effective access to health care and to quality education improves opportunities to access employment, while access to decent work enhances the likelihood that workers and their families will enjoy good health and adequate nutrition and will benefit fully from quality education. This will also support partners in their efforts towards the achievement of various SDGs, including Goals 1 (an end to poverty), 5 (gender equality), 8 (decent work and economic growth), 10 (reduced inequality) and 16 (peace, justice and effective institutions), while also contributing to targets under Goals 2 (zero hunger), 3 (good health and well-being), 4 (quality education) and 13 (climate action) as well as target 17.14 (enhance policy coherence for sustainable development). Moreover, partners will have the opportunity to leverage in their activities the potential of social dialogue and tripartism as a proven means to advance social justice.
10. This renewed focus on social justice is intended to give fresh impetus to the Decent Work Agenda and to Decent Work Country Programmes. The Coalition will act as a catalyst, conduit and amplifier for initiating or accelerating actions in policy areas where the realization of the ILO’s mandate requires greater solidarity and coordination with other partners. It also offers the potential to elevate related priorities within UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks. The Coalition will have the potential to promote a coherent approach to labour market governance through tripartism, social dialogue and international labour standards and to enhance the visibility and engagement of the social partners with other UN organizations that are partners in the Coalition.
11. The Coalition’s policy priorities and operating mechanisms will be aligned with the ILO’s constitutional mandate, principles, values, normative agenda and governance structure. Consequently, the Coalition will not operate as an independent institutional entity, nor will it duplicate governance or decision-making processes of programmatic activities. Rather, it will harness the mandates and priorities of each partner, tapping into their respective expertise and added value to foster collective efforts in order to increase the scale and impact of their respective individual and joint actions in pursuit of social justice. By leveraging existing structures, partnerships and activities within each partner organization or entity, including

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<sup>6</sup> Declaration of Philadelphia, Part II(a).

<sup>7</sup> In his report on the future of global cooperation and the multilateral system, *Our Common Agenda*, the UN Secretary-General presented his vision of a more networked multilateralism, which requires greater solidarity and a renewed social contract to restore trust in governance and in the UN common system.

governments and other actors, this platform will also facilitate the creation of new collaborative initiatives aimed at enhancing on-the-ground outcomes.

12. The essence of the Coalition lies in its voluntary nature, whereby institutions actively choose to participate, driven by their willingness to advance social justice and their recognition of the need for and value of collaborative efforts towards achieving this shared objective. Thus, the Coalition's means of intervention include actions to: enhance advocacy and agenda-setting to elevate the political debate on social justice; promote policy coherence and joint actions; and generate and disseminate knowledge. Partners may join the Coalition and support the cause of social justice in different and complementary ways, ranging from contributing to advocacy efforts (for example, events or workshops, and peer-to-peer mobilization) to providing in-kind support (such as expertise, tools and data) or making financial contributions.
13. The effectiveness of the Coalition's efforts will be measured on the basis of its ability to influence the global agenda and to generate greater investments and collaboration. This will consider factors such as the level of engagement and support for social justice, the visibility of advocacy actions, monitoring of progress, and the contribution to a repository of best practices. The Coalition will primarily leverage existing results frameworks and mechanisms, including the 'framework for monitoring progress on the SDGs, thereby ensuring consistency with their conclusions and recommendations, while also contributing to monitoring frameworks such as the UN High-Level Political Forum.<sup>8</sup> The Coalition cannot and will not duplicate Member States' reporting obligations under the ILO' supervisory system nor will it create any additional reporting obligations.

## Partnership in the Coalition

14. The governance arrangements and operating model of the Coalition seek, on the one hand, to foster ownership among tripartite constituents and their full, equal and democratic participation and engagement, while ensuring the necessary degree of openness and flexibility to attract other potential partners, on the other.
15. Partnership in the Coalition is voluntary and open to actors who are willing to contribute to its objectives and advocacy efforts. Becoming a Coalition partner represents a commitment to supporting the cause of social justice. It also offers an opportunity to: network and exchange knowledge, tools and expertise; build or strengthen engagement and partnerships with other relevant stakeholders; and share and showcase engagement and achievements with other partners. Participation in the Coalition's activities, especially at the operational level, will be governed by the rules and practices agreed by the partners involved in those activities. For instance, within the ILO, the guiding principles for public-private partnerships will apply under the usual conditions.
16. Any partner willing to join the Coalition will be expected to:
  - (a) advocate for social justice and uphold the principles and values of the UN and the ILO, including the fundamental principles and rights at work;
  - (b) contribute to advancing social justice and the SDGs at the global, regional and/or national levels, including through multilateral cooperation;

<sup>8</sup> The High-Level Political Forum, established by General Assembly resolution 70/299, is the central UN platform for the review of progress on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Goals at the global level.

- (c) commit to developing, independently or in collaboration with other actors, one or more actions or initiatives aimed at significantly advancing social justice.

The nature and scale of these commitments may vary according to the partners' capacities and priorities.

17. Partners will also be encouraged to voluntarily document their respective experiences and share information with other Coalition partners, through the Coalition secretariat, about the commitments they have undertaken and the progress they have made in fulfilling them.
18. To become a partner in the Coalition, interested actors will be requested to inform the Coalition secretariat of their interest in joining and formally expressing their adherence to the commitments described in paragraphs 15 and 16 above. The Coalition secretariat will then inform the other partners and make the information public.
19. Partners will include:
  - (a) governments;
  - (b) employers' and workers' organizations;<sup>9</sup>
  - (c) international organizations, funds, programmes, specialized agencies, related organizations, and other entities and bodies that are part of the UN system, including international financial institutions;
  - (d) regional and subregional intergovernmental organizations and regional development banks;
  - (e) enterprises and company foundations, through the secretariat of the ILO Employers' group;
  - (f) international non-governmental organizations (NGOs) that are included in the [ILO Special List of NGOs](#), that have in the past been accredited to attend the International Labour Conference, or that are accredited with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC);
  - (g) research and academic institutions that have partnerships with the ILO.
20. Participation in the Coalition will not entail any membership fees. Nonetheless, all costs related to participation in the Coalition's meetings, including travel and related costs to attend the Forum and the meetings of the Coordinating Group, will be borne by each participant.

## Coordinating Group

21. A Coordinating Group will be established among Coalition partners. In addition to their commitment to contribute to the objectives and advocacy efforts of the Coalition, members of the Coordinating Group will also commit to working together to organize and participate in the functioning and operations of the Coalition, including the planning and preparatory work.
22. The members of the Coordinating Group will commit to carrying the Coalition's strategic agenda forward and promoting, individually or jointly, its objectives and the social justice agenda. More specifically, this entails a commitment to promoting social justice as a priority in global, regional and national development agendas, enhancing coordination and collaboration

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<sup>9</sup> These comprise representative national employers' and workers' organizations of ILO Member States; global unions, including at the sectoral level, and international employers' organizations, including at the sectoral level; business membership organizations and the secretariats of the ILO Employers' and Workers' groups.

among Coalition partners, and promoting the exchange of knowledge, experiences, good practices, tools, data and information.

- 23.** Members of the Coordinating Group will serve for a two-year period, except for the Director-General of the ILO, who will be the ex officio Co-Chairperson. Membership in the Coordinating Group may be renewed once, if proposed by the nominating groups. As partners of the Coalition, members of the Coordinating Group will also actively participate in the activities of the Coalition and contribute to its objectives.
- 24.** The Coordinating Group will meet twice a year, or as needed.
- 25.** The Coordinating Group will be composed of the following members:
  - (a) the Director-General of the ILO as Co-Chairperson;
  - (b) a representative of the UN Secretary-General;
  - (c) twelve Government representatives nominated by the ILO Government group on a regional basis, one of whom will act as Co-Chairperson (to be decided by the twelve Government representatives);
  - (d) six Employers' representatives nominated by the secretariat of the ILO Employers' group, one of whom will act as Vice-Chairperson of the Coordinating Group;
  - (e) six Workers' representatives nominated by the secretariat of the ILO Workers' group, one of whom will act as Vice-Chairperson of the Coordinating Group;
  - (f) one representative of an enterprise, nominated by the secretariat of the ILO Employers' group;
  - (g) one representative of a global union federation, nominated by the secretariat of the ILO Workers' group;
  - (h) up to two representatives of partner organizations of the UN system, and one representative from the international economic organizations (including the World Trade Organization, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, and the International Trade Centre) or international financial institutions, by invitation of the Director-General of the ILO;
  - (i) one representative of a regional organization, by invitation of the Director-General of the ILO;
  - (j) one representative of an international non-governmental organization, by invitation of the Director-General of the ILO;
  - (k) one representative of an academic institution, by invitation of the Director-General of the ILO.
- 26.** To ensure political leadership, members of the Coordinating Group, especially the Co-Chairpersons, are expected to be of ministerial or equivalent level, with the right to delegate participation in working meetings to senior officials. The composition of the Coordinating Group will strive for gender balance and geographical diversity.
- 27.** The Coordinating Group will play a pivotal role in ensuring that the partner organizations work together coherently and effectively, leveraging their strengths and resources to make a meaningful impact on issues related to social justice. To this end, it will guide the Coalition' secretariat on:



- (a) the programme of activities;
- (b) the channels to facilitate communication and coordination among Coalition partners, ensuring that all stakeholders are informed about ongoing initiatives and progress made;
- (c) ways to engage with external stakeholders to promote the Coalition's objectives;
- (d) efforts to mobilize resources for the Coalition's activities and initiatives towards social justice, as appropriate.

## Secretariat

- 28. The International Labour Office will provide secretariat services to the Coalition. The secretariat will be responsible for supporting the Coalition's activities, including organizing its key events, such as meetings of the Coordinating Group and the Forum, and creating a repository of good practices. The secretariat will also develop a web-based portal to document the actions and initiatives pledged and undertaken by partners, and report on the progress made in the advancement of social justice.
- 29. The secretariat will also prepare the programme of activities aligned with ILO's values, standards and priorities, to be presented to the Coordinating Group. Once this guidance is integrated, the secretariat will make the programme of activities available to the Coalition's partners so that they can decide whether they wish to participate or contribute to these activities, either by providing political, technical or financial support or by becoming involved in the implementation of activities. For instance, this could involve organizing events, developing advocacy materials for global meetings related to social justice, or disseminating knowledge during regional political forums.
- 30. Coalition partners will be encouraged to consider the potential for providing voluntary financial contributions or secondment of staff to the Coalition secretariat, as appropriate.

## Thematic development of the Coalition

- 31. Since the Coalition is aimed at mobilizing increased cooperation and partnerships with other institutions and actors, the details of its' activity will only be known once these other institutions and actors have been formally engaged and their individual substantive interests in increasing action and cooperation on social justice have been explored and agreed upon. The Office has therefore sought to strike a balance between this practical limitation on the ILO's ability to fully define the specific nature of the Coalition's work in advance and the importance of the ILO providing leadership to the Coalition by identifying key priorities on which a particular focus and strong set of outcomes should be encouraged.
- 32. In accordance with its scope of work, "the Coalition" is rooted in the ILO's values and its normative mandate. Its themes reflect:
  - (a) the primary pillars of the **Decent Work Agenda**: promoting employment by creating a sustainable institutional and economic environment; developing and enhancing measures of social protection – social security and labour protection – which are sustainable and adapted to national circumstances; promoting social dialogue and tripartism; and respecting, promoting and realizing the fundamental principles and rights at work;
  - (b) the **ILO Centenary Declaration for the Future of Work**: strengthening the capacities of all people to benefit from the opportunities of a changing world of work; strengthening the institutions of work to ensure adequate protection of all workers; and promoting

sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all;

- (c) the **Report of the Director-General, *Advancing social justice***: universal rights and capabilities; equal access to opportunities; fair distribution; and just transitions.

33. Thus, the Coalition will serve as a vehicle for accelerating and scaling up the ILO's existing human-centred mandate to advance decent work and social justice, expanding the impact of the work that is set out in the Programme and Budget for the biennium 2024–25. This includes, but is not limited to, outcome 8, integrated policy and institutional responses for social justice through decent work – and is implemented notably through Decent Work Country Programmes, the priority action programmes and the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions. In particular, a primary outcome of the additional action and effort mobilized globally by the Coalition is expected to be increased support for countries working to advance progress on key challenges addressed by Decent Work Country Programmes, whether delivered through the ILO or through other actors, such as UN agencies, funds and programmes, or multilateral or bilateral development cooperation institutions. As such, the ILO's support for the Coalition's thematic development will be fully coordinated with relevant existing activities so as to ensure internal coherence and avoid any duplication of effort and outreach. In addition, the ILO will strongly advocate to partners that a primary value added of the Coalition lies in its potential to further promote social dialogue and tripartism. To this end, the Coalition will aim not only to serve as a channel to mainstream social dialogue and the relevance of the social partners in the work of the multilateral organizations, but also as a vehicle to promote social dialogue more broadly as a prerequisite for an inclusive, equitable and efficient economy.
34. Since the Coalition's purpose is to increase the trajectory of progress on social justice above and beyond existing activities, it will seek to create a collaborative space in which partners shape individual and collective opportunities to increase their ambition and concrete action. To this end, each Coalition partner will be expected to commit to one or more actions or initiatives aimed at significantly advancing social justice in their own country and/or in others through increased international cooperation. In addition, some partners may wish to serve as co-champions on specific topics to lead the way in rallying additional political momentum and collective action. A core part of the Coalition's thematic development will therefore be the identification of such new or expanded actions and initiatives by Coalition partners, with the support of the secretariat. The secretariat will also work with the ILO Department of Communication and public information and Coalition partner organizations to spotlight and celebrate the progress produced by such actions and initiatives, including in the Coalition's Forum, as a means of encouraging other actors around the world to replicate or help to expand them. This could take the form of a dedicated web-based portal. Cooperation on advocacy and research, including with respect to the planned ILO report on the state of social justice in the world, will also be encouraged and supported by the Coalition secretariat.
35. More specifically, the following thematic policy domains, which are based on those discussed by the Governing Body at its March 2023 session, will frame the discussions with partners to shape actions and advocacy messages within the Coalition: (i) addressing inequality, discrimination and exclusion; (ii) realizing labour rights as human rights, ensuring human dignity and meeting basic needs; (iii) expanding access to and capabilities for productive and freely chosen employment and sustainable enterprise; (iv) providing protection and building resilience; (v) strengthening just transitions and the social dimension of sustainable development, trade and investment; (vi) reinforcing institutions of social dialogue. Throughout the work of the Coalition, the ILO will encourage partners to target the biggest challenges

representing the deepest root causes of social justice deficits and to tackle all forms of inequalities,<sup>10</sup> particularly by better addressing the needs of the most vulnerable and marginalized in societies at all levels of economic development, especially in developing countries. This includes accelerating progress in areas such as youth unemployment, social protection, gender inequality, informality, national institutional capacity in respect of the enabling rights of freedom of association and collective bargaining and the other fundamental principles and rights at work, labour underutilization, working poverty, productivity and entrepreneurship opportunities, and skilling – all of which could be better supported in developing countries through enhanced development cooperation.

36. With this overall scope of work uppermost in mind, the Office will target a number of **initial priorities** for advancing the Coalition's early thematic development based on the concrete feedback it received from the tripartite constituents and other participants during the 111th Session of the Conference, including the World of Work Summit, and during and after the informal tripartite consultations. These include:
- (a) **employment creation and universal social protection**, including through the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions and efforts to strengthen the enabling environment for sustainable enterprises and investment in skills in support of full and productive employment and sustained economic growth. The Global Accelerator represents a particularly important opportunity for engagement by Coalition partners, as multiple actors have already agreed to join forces in it;
  - (b) **reduction of inequalities**, including by strengthening development cooperation to support country efforts to advance progress on the implementation of international labour standards; addressing youth unemployment; enabling the transition from the informal to the formal economy; advancing non-discrimination, gender equality, diversity and inclusion; ensuring access to opportunities particularly in education, skills development and lifelong learning; promoting fair labour migration; and protecting occupational safety and health and other aspects of working conditions, including wages. This also involves setting up an enabling environment for sustainable enterprises to support full and productive employment and sustained economic growth;
  - (c) **elevation of social justice and decent work in the priorities of other multilateral organizations**, including through cooperation with the ILO. Based on discussions with other institutions at the World of Work Summit and elsewhere, opportunities for progress in this regard include fiscal support for critical social spending in developing countries; decent work in supply chains and international trade; and just transition planning in the context of international lending and other assistance for climate mitigation and adaptation. These are areas in which other multilateral organizations, in particular international financial institutions and development banks, have expressed an interest in improving alignment and cooperation;
  - (d) **promoting social dialogue**, including through its institutions, and expanding the role and promoting the value added of social dialogue and of the ILO's tripartite structure and normative framework in the UN and other multilateral policy development and coordination processes. Important opportunities in this regard include the UN

<sup>10</sup> Following the guidance provided in the [resolution and conclusions concerning inequalities and the world of work, 2021](#) and the [Comprehensive and integrated ILO strategy to reduce and prevent inequalities in the world of work, 2022](#).

Sustainable Development Cooperation Frameworks of the UN country teams and other related coordination processes, as well as Decent Work Country Programmes.

37. As indicated above, the detailed nature of the Coalition's activity will only be finalized once other institutions and actors have formally engaged and agreed on their individual substantive contributions in increasing action and cooperation on social justice. Nonetheless, as many participants at the International Labour Conference, including the World of Work Summit: Social Justice for All, indicated during their interventions that their governments and organizations agreed with the objective of increasing action in these thematic areas and were prepared to participate in or support the Coalition's work in them, these are logical areas in which to begin to develop the Coalition's substantive impact and thereby amplify and multiply the ILO's related programmes and activities, including with respect to the advancement of social dialogue. The Coalition will seek to complement these concrete actions with a global advocacy campaign aimed at articulating a shared vision of increased emphasis on social justice at all levels of governance and expanding political momentum behind related UN initiatives, in particular the UN Social Summit in 2025, for example through a working party or similar process formed for this purpose. This approach could also have the objective of positioning the social justice paradigm more prominently in the post-2030 global development framework.
38. As part of its contribution to the Coalition, the ILO will produce a new recurrent report on the state of social justice in the world. The first edition is planned for publication in 2025 and will build upon the framework presented in the Report of the Director-General, *Advancing social justice*. This will include deepening the understanding of the diverse cultural and historical roots and universal relevance of social justice and empirically assessing progress and outstanding challenges in its key dimensions. The analysis will be based on existing indicators, including the SDG indicators. However, it will not include country-by-country benchmarking information or an index, nor will it create new reporting obligations for countries. It will seek to identify relevant patterns and trends and to highlight promising policies, practices and initiatives that merit wider recognition or application. These potentially include significant initiatives undertaken by Coalition partners. The report is intended to serve as an important input into the planned UN Social Summit in 2025, complementing the action-oriented initiatives undertaken by Coalition partners. Preparation of the report will include scoping consultations with an extensive interdisciplinary and international network of experts as well as the ILO's constituents.

## ► Annual forum and other opportunities for exchange among partners

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39. Coalition partners will be invited to participate once a year, either remotely or in person, in a forum aimed at collectively advocating the significance of social justice in achieving the SDGs with all ILO constituents.<sup>11</sup> They will also be invited on various occasions throughout the year to come together in communities of practice, to make the case for greater social justice, and to gather information and share their experiences within the context of a web-based portal.

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<sup>11</sup> As currently envisaged, no credentials will be required to attend the Forum.

40. The Forum will provide a space for Coalition partners to discuss thematic issues related to social justice, as well as the challenges, opportunities and potential solutions to advance the Coalition's objectives. It will also allow Coalition partners to exchange knowledge, tools and experiences, and to showcase activities and initiatives undertaken in support of social justice.
41. The format of the Forum will remain flexible and may vary from year to year, building on the lessons learned at previous sessions, including the June 2023 World of Work Summit: Social Justice for All. It is envisaged that the Forum will be an interactive space and will include panels, workshops and exhibition spaces to showcase ongoing initiatives and stimulate lively engagement of partners. It may take place remotely, in person or in a hybrid format.
42. The Forum may be hosted or co-hosted by the ILO and one or more partners of the Coalition, or be held under the auspices of one or more partners. It may also be organized around major global events in which broad participation of the Coalition's partners is envisaged.

## ► Links with the governing organs and programme and budget of the ILO

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43. The ILO Governing Body and the tripartite constituents have been shaping the objectives, scope of action, composition and governance arrangements of the Coalition by taking part in discussions and providing substantive feedback at the 346th (November 2022) and 347th (March 2023) Sessions of the Governing Body, the 111th Session of the International Labour Conference (June 2023), including the World of Work Summit, in informal tripartite consultations and in a large number of bilateral consultations. The Governing Body is expected to make a final decision on the establishment of the Coalition at its 349th Session (October–November 2023).
44. Once the Coalition is established by decision of the Governing Body, the ILO Director-General will report regularly to the Governing Body, in a form to be determined by the Governing Body, and will therefore continue to receive its guidance on the progress made in the development of the Coalition, its strategic direction and its programme of activities. The Coalition's development will also be consistent with the policy guidance and standards adopted by the International Labour Conference.
45. The Coalition will not set policy or new priorities for the ILO. Indeed, social justice is a core component and part of the *raison d'être* of the ILO's work. It is an overarching goal for the ILO and is therefore embedded in the Programme and Budget for 2024–25. In this respect, the Coalition's objectives are well reflected in the ILO's programme and budget, in particular under output 8.1 (Improved coherence in multilateral support for the development and financing of integrated policy responses for social justice through decent work).
46. All the work specified in the programme and budget, especially technical support and capacity-building for ILO constituents, will be undertaken as planned. More importantly, the implementation of the programme and budget will benefit significantly from the Coalition, as it will provide an important vehicle to amplify the work of the ILO. For instance, the work on priority thematic areas will be actively and more effectively promoted by the Coalition for greater visibility and impact. It is envisioned that the incremental resources needed to increase programme support for countries for activities related to the Coalition will be generated through the partnerships or development cooperation arrangements catalysed by the Coalition.

47. A team has been set up under the overall coordination of the Assistant Director-General for External and Corporate Relations to support the development of the Coalition, coordinate the contributions provided by various areas of the Office and organize the discussions with external partners. The team is composed of a director, three Professional staff members and administrative support. Operational costs for the functioning of the Coalition will involve: (a) the costs of meetings of the Coordination Group and Forum; (b) the preparation and publication of the report on the state of social justice in the world; (c) communication and advocacy costs, including the organization of advocacy events; and (d) the development of a web-based portal.
48. The funding will come from a combination of the regular programme and budget for the biennium 2024–25 under output 8.1 and resource mobilization efforts that are already under way, including by securing secondments of Professional staff. The Office will continue efforts to mobilize extrabudgetary resources from Coalition member governments, foundations and the private sector for this purpose.

## ► Establishment of the Coalition

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49. Since the Governing Body's first discussion of the Global Coalition in November 2022, and as requested by constituents, the Office has engaged with potential partner organizations on a preliminary basis to explore their interest in the initiative. The majority, with whom the ILO has ongoing partnerships, have expressed potential interest in the initiative, underlined its relevance and timeliness and expressed preliminary willingness to become part of it, pending further information and the endorsement of the Coalition by the ILO Governing Body. A significant number of international and regional organizations also demonstrated support for the goals of the Coalition through a high-level representation in the World of Work Summit, and have expressed their willingness to continue exploring possible contributions through designated focal points.
50. Following the establishment of the Coalition, the Office will send invitations to ILO constituents and relevant international organizations to become partners of the Coalition. The secretariats of the Employers' and Workers' groups will receive specific communications regarding the engagement of employers' and workers' organizations, as well as enterprises and company foundations. A process will be developed to invite eligible international NGOs and research and academic institutions.
51. It is envisaged that the Coordinating Group will be established in the first half of 2024, following the nomination of its members. In addition, it is suggested that the Forum could be held during the 112th Session of the International Labour Conference (June 2024). Advocacy actions could be initiated in 2024, and the first report on the state of social justice in the world could be published in 2025. These milestones could form the basis of the Coalition's programme of activities. Special attention will be given to supporting key UN summits, including the Summit of the Future in 2024 and the proposed UN World Social Summit in 2025.

## ► Draft decision

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**52. The Governing Body:**

- (a) endorsed the Director-General's proposal to establish a Global Coalition for Social Justice;**
- (b) requested the Director-General to take into account its guidance in the further development of the Global Coalition for Social Justice;**
- (c) requested the Director-General to report regularly on the progress of the Coalition at future sessions of the Governing Body.**