

**Address by H.E Ambassador Sadık ARSLAN,
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Türkiye,
to the Plenary Session
of the 110th Session of the International Labour Conference
June 9th, 2022**

Mr. President,

Honorable Ministers,

Distinguished Delegates,

It is a great honour for me to address to you on the occasion of the 110th Session of the International Labour Conference.

At the outset, please allow me Mr. President, to join previous speakers to thank Mr. Guy Ryder for his dedication and service as the ILO Director General during the last decade under challenging circumstances.

I would also like to congratulate Mr. Gilbert Houngbo for his election as the ILO's new Director General and wish him every success.

Let me take this opportunity to convey my gratitude to the Director-General for his report titled "The Least Developed Countries: Crisis, Structural Transformation and the Future of Work".

The new crises have made the labour market and production even more fragile, especially in the least developed countries.

Today, the number of LDCs regrettably increased to 46, while it was only 25 in 1971.

Türkiye attaches great importance to this issue as manifested by our hosting of the fourth UN Conference on the Least Developed Countries in 2011.

Dear Delegates,

Today, Türkiye continues to do its utmost to help those who are oppressed and to stand by the people who are in need around the world, regardless of their nationality, language, race and belief.

I am proud to highlight that according to the recent Global Humanitarian Assistance Reports, Türkiye is the country that has provided the highest amount of humanitarian aid per capita. It also maintains its position as the country that hosts the highest number of refugees in the world.

My country has spent tens of billions of dollars from its own national resources for more than 3,7 million Syrians.

Despite our outstanding efforts to establish lasting peace in the region, the refugee crisis triggered by the war in Ukraine has shown once again that a permanent solution to such problems can only be achieved through international solidarity.

We once again call on the international community to share the burden and responsibility of Türkiye in global and regional crises, especially the Syrian crisis that has been going on for more than a decade.

Distinguished Delegates,

The COVID-19 pandemic has adversely affected the world of work in multiple dimensions at the global level.

Türkiye has been one of the most successful countries in the fight against the pandemic.

The Turkish economy grew by 11% in 2021, marking the strongest growth in the last 10 years.

The measures we have taken in many areas, especially in the world of work, have brought this success.

Our Ministry of Labour and Social Security supported more than 9.5 million citizens through short-time working allowance, cash wage support, unemployment insurance, employment and normalization measures within the scope of the “Social Protection Shield Programme”.

Despite all our efforts, we have still been experiencing some adverse effects of global economic fluctuations that take place during the post-pandemic period.

Dear Delegates,

We appreciate the Director-General's report on “the Situation of Workers in the Occupied Arab Territories”.

For decades, the ongoing illegal occupation of Palestinian territory, the destruction of the settlements and displacement of the Palestinian people have been undermining regional and global peace.

Türkiye continues to stand by the Palestinian people in their rightful and legitimate cause.

Dear Delegates,

Cooperation within international organizations, in particular within the tripartite structure of the ILO, has a vital role for a human-centered recovery in the post-pandemic period.

I would like to reiterate that we are ready to support every effort in this direction, and I wish a successful Conference for all.

Thank you.

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY