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**SPEECH BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE  
SEYCHELLES FEDERATION OF WORKERS UNIONS, MR  
ANTOINE ROBINSON ON THE DIRECTOR GENERAL  
REPORT THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES : CRISIS,  
STRUCTURAL TRANSFORMATION AND FUTURE OF  
WORK DURING THE 110TH SESSION OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE IN GENEVA  
SWITZERLAND, JUNE 2022.**

**President of the Conference. Vice / Presidents of the  
Conference. ILO Director General. Ministers and Head of  
Delegation Present. Invited Guests. Ladies and  
Gentlemen. Good Morning.**

**First, let me; on behalf of the trade union movement in  
Seychelles, congratulate you, Mr. Director General for  
all the great achievements of the ILO under your  
leadership mandate.**



**The SFWU wishes to also extend its warmest congratulations to the first African, ILO Director Elect, Gilbert Hougbo of Togo.**

**The SFWU is very confident that Mr. Hougbo's extensive experiences and leadership skills will assist him in tackling the challenges in the world of work.**

**On behalf of the Seychelles Federation of Workers Unions( SFWU ) and on my own behalf, I take this opportunity to congratulate the Director General for giving us this special report. Special because it could not have come at a better time when the entire international community desperately needs to reconcile an approach to address this consultation on the multiple challenges of the greatest gravity being faced by the least developed countries (LDCs) including the small islands developing states. Focusing on the Crisis, structural transformation and future of work and Social Justice is timely indispensable.**

**In Seychelles like it is the case worldwide , the COVID-19 pandemic has massively affected our island economy, the collapse of our tourism industry has had a strong negative shock especially our labor market severely impacting on jobs and income hence having an**



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**despairing consequences on the daily livelihood of our working people and their families including the most vulnerable.**

**The slow bouncing back of our island state tourism dependent economy is uneven and incomplete.**

**While we are trying to revert the damage done by the pandemic, the uncertainties and risk persist.**

**Needless to say, but worth remembering, the ILO has achieved great strides and is still doing a lot in regards to the fight for Decent work and social justice in the world of work since its creation in 1919.**

**However, Injustice and inequality is still visible in all parts of the world and over the past decades, together the long COVID 19 effects we are seeing inequality on the rise!**

**As stated in your report: we must leave no one behind in an already dangerously unequal world becoming more unequal every day.**

**However, what should worry all of us is that the fight for social justice is still necessary. We are far from having exhausted our tasks, which has been**



**unfairly aggravated by this COVID -19 pandemic, conflict and crisis in the world of work.**

**It is widely agreed that the whole business of the International Labour Conference (ILC) would have been impossible without the application of the ILO critically important Decent work strategic pillars of Social Dialogue and tripartism. No debates ongoing on our agenda items in this conference would have produced a united vision had they not been based on the effective application of the principles of Social Dialogue and tripartism.**

**The SFWU welcomes the ILO Governing Body decision to include as agenda items for discussions the following: Apprenticeship : Standard Setting, Employment : Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization ,Decent Work and Social Solidarity Economy, the Inclusion of safe and health working conditions in the ILO framework of fundamental Principles and rights at work and the approval of the amendments to the code of the Maritime Labor Convention, 2006 and other thematic debates and events which are all connected to the Future of Work, including various**



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## **Centenary initiatives and the ILO Human Centered Recovery.**

**Mr. President whilst trying to put the workers perspectives let us not forget that the United Nations has found it necessary to include the Decent work Agenda in its millennium goals. What stronger truth do we need to be convinced that the decent work agenda is the solution to this world's dilemma.**

**Seychelles has ratified all 8-core conventions of the ILO all geared towards decent work for all, for peace, and social justice to prevail in the world of work. The Seychelles Labor laws make provision for the protection of all workers' rights including women and migrant workers. The Ministry of Employment and Social Affaires is in the process to start discussions with the Seychelles Federation of Workers Unions (SFWU) ,the Employers Organization and other stake holders to conclude on an agree for a road map for the government to ratify the Conventions on Eliminating Violence and harassment at work, 2019 no. 190 and**



**also the Convention 188, Work in the fishing sector 207.**

**Mr. President I cannot end my speech without commending the ILO and ACTRAV in the extremely good work they do to assist in empowering our member states and social partners to apply the principle of Social dialogue and tripartism. In Seychelles the SFWU, the Ministry of Labor and Social Partners continues to live and work in this spirit of fruitful cooperation amongst others.**

**I thank you for your attention.**

**God Bless you all**

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*Championing the rights and responsibilities of workers.*

