



**International
Labour
Organization**

Deputy Director-General Speech

Workshop: Decent Work Across the Humanitarian, Development and Peace Nexus in the Arab Region

9 September 2024, Amman, Jordan

Ladies and gentlemen,

It is my great pleasure to extend a warm welcome to this workshop on “Decent Work across the Humanitarian Development and Peace Nexus in the Arab Region”. This initiative has been co-organized by the ILO and the Nexus Academy, with the support from Sweden's International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA).

I would also like to thank and welcome our constituents from Jordan, Lebanon, Occupied Palestinian Territory, Yemen, Iraq, and of course the constituent hosting us in Jordan, as well as our partners from the United Nations, bilateral donors and international NGOs.

Your interest and participation are a testament to the significance of collaboration and synergy in our collective efforts to promote decent work within the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus (HDPN) in the region.

As we confront the crises currently affecting your region, the need for increased coordination and collaboration among humanitarian support, development cooperation and peacebuilding has never been more urgent.

The ILO's constitution is built on a powerful idea – that universal and lasting peace can only be achieved when it is grounded in social justice. This belief was not just a principle of the past.

In 2017, it was reaffirmed with the adoption of Recommendation 205 on “Employment and Decent Work for Peace and Resilience”, and once again, in our 2019 Centenary Declaration.

ILO's Decent Work Agenda is an essential element of the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus where employment, social dialogue, social protection and rights at work can contribute to peace by addressing the underlying factors of fragility that made countries particularly vulnerable to external shocks in the first place.

This approach is aligned with our Director-General's report at last year's International Labour Conference:

"Social injustices are often both the cause and outcome of fragility and conflict. In fragile and conflict settings, employment policies can play an important role in connecting short-term humanitarian needs to longer-term development objectives, while addressing the root causes of social injustice, including inequalities and social exclusion."

To achieve this, the ILO, its constituents and partners, should aim at an early and proactive involvement to complement humanitarian emergency action with interventions and investments to promote medium to long-term socio-economic development in an inclusive, human-centred and rights-based manner.

I hope this important workshop will help deepen our understanding, broaden perspectives and enhance skills in fostering decent work in crises and post-crisis situations.

It also provides an opportunity to forge enduring partnerships, exchange best practices and chart a path towards social justice, dignity, inclusivity and peace. I encourage you to take advantage of this occasion.

On behalf of the ILO, I would like to affirm our willingness to reinforce our support through our tripartite constituents to the efforts in this region, and beyond to the Human, Development and Peace Nexus.

Allow me to conclude with a quote from Martin Luther King Jr: "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere".

Thank you for your participation, and I wish you all a fruitful and enriching experience throughout the workshop.