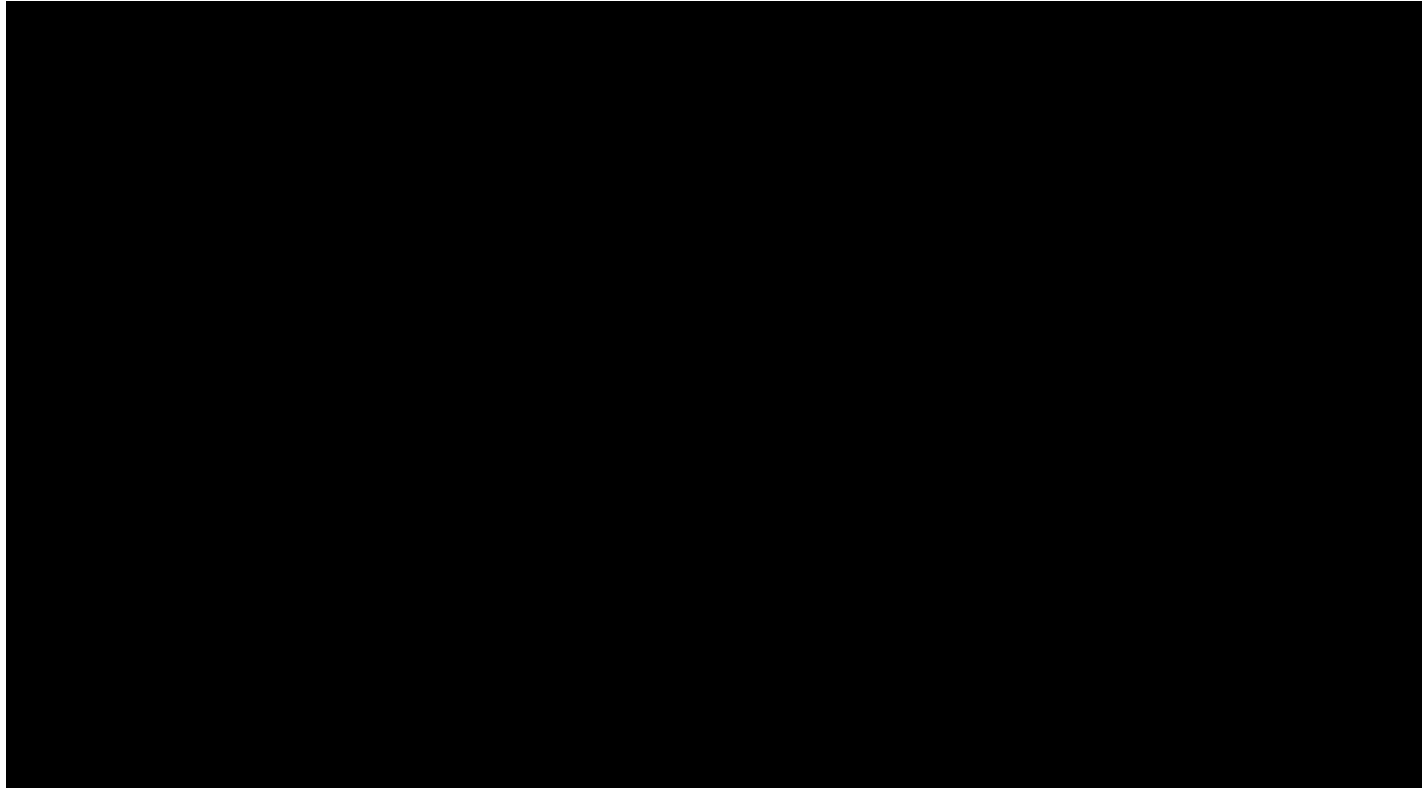


ILO: An introduction

Naren Prasad
ILO Research Department
Geneva



Quest for Social justice ILO 1919-2015



ILO: Introduction

ILO part of United Nations

3 characteristics:

Oldest UN agency

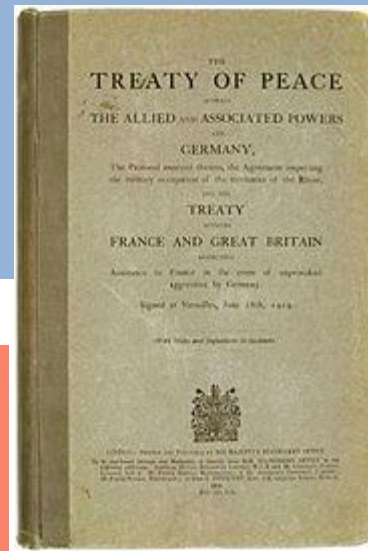
Standard setting

Tripartite structure



ILO: Origines

➡ **Treaty of Versailles, 1919:**
why did the international community decide to create ILO in the peace treaty, an organization producing international labour standards?



ILO Constitution Preamble 1919

- *Whereas universal and lasting peace can be established only if it is based upon social justice;*
 - “if you desire peace, cultivate justice”
 - *Si vis pacem, cole justitiam*”
- And whereas conditions of labour exist involving such injustice hardship and privation .. an improvement of those conditions is urgently required; as, for example, by the regulation of the hours of work....;
- *Whereas also the failure of any nation to adopt humane conditions of labour is an obstacle in the way of other nations which desire to improve the conditions in their own countries;*



ILO: Origines

➔ Why is ILO the only organization that has survived for so long?

Legitimacy:

Labour standards are universal

Relevance:

- Philadelphia Declaration (1944)
- Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (1998)
- Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization (2008)



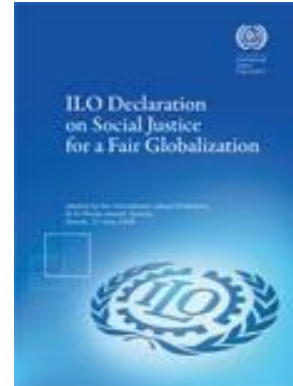
ILO Declarations

- End of the WWII ILO adopted Philadelphia Declaration
 - Labour is not a commodity
 - Freedom to association and expression are essential to progress
 - poverty anywhere constitutes a danger to prosperity everywhere
 - All human beings have the right to pursue their material wellbeing in conditions of freedom and dignity, economic security and economic opportunity
 - it is a responsibility of the ILO to examine and consider all international economic and financial policies
 - policies in regard to wages and earnings, calculated to ensure a just share of the fruits of progress to all, and in need of such protection;
 - the extension of social security measures to provide a basic income to all in need of such protection and comprehensive medical care



1998 & 2008 Declarations

- 1998: Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work
 - Freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining
 - Elimination of all forms of forced or compulsory labour
 - Effective abolition of child labour
 - Elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation
- 2008: Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization
 - Promoting employment by creating a sustainable institutional and economic environment
 - Developing and enhancing measures of social protection
 - Promoting social dialogue and tripartism
 - Respecting, promoting and realizing the fundamental principles and rights at work



ILO: Governance

- Annual International Labour Conference : ILC

- Tripartite executive body,
Governing Body: GB

- Secretariat: International
labour office



International Labour Conference

FUNCTIONS

- 1. Constitutional:** Elects the Governing Body, Adopts International Labour Standards, Adopts the Programme and Budget
- 2. Political:** Discussion of the DG report (social theme) and GB Chairperson's report, Discussion and adoption of resolutions not related to agenda items
- 3. Technical:** Committees' work (Standing and technical committees)
- 4. Forum:** Interventions of delegates in Plenary, Interventions of delegates in committees
- 5. Assembly:** Meetings at International, Regional and National level.



Conference: who participates?

COMPOSITION

Delegation of each member states should be tripartite



Penalties for incomplete delegations



Governing Body (GB)

FUNCTIONS

- Elects Director General
- Decides on the agenda for ILC
- Adopts the Draft Programme and Budget (for submission to the ILC)
- Control/supervision of activity of Office
- Deals with constitutional procedures (articles 24 and 26 of the Constitution)



Governing Body: Who participates?

COMPOSITION

56 Regular Members (28 G, 14 E, 14 W)

66 Deputy Members (28 G, 19 E, 19 W)



ILO: Governance



Governing Body: Who participates?

COMPOSITION (2014-2017): Gouvernements

Regular members

10 non-elective: Germany, Brazil, China, USA, France, India, Italy, Japan, UK, Russia

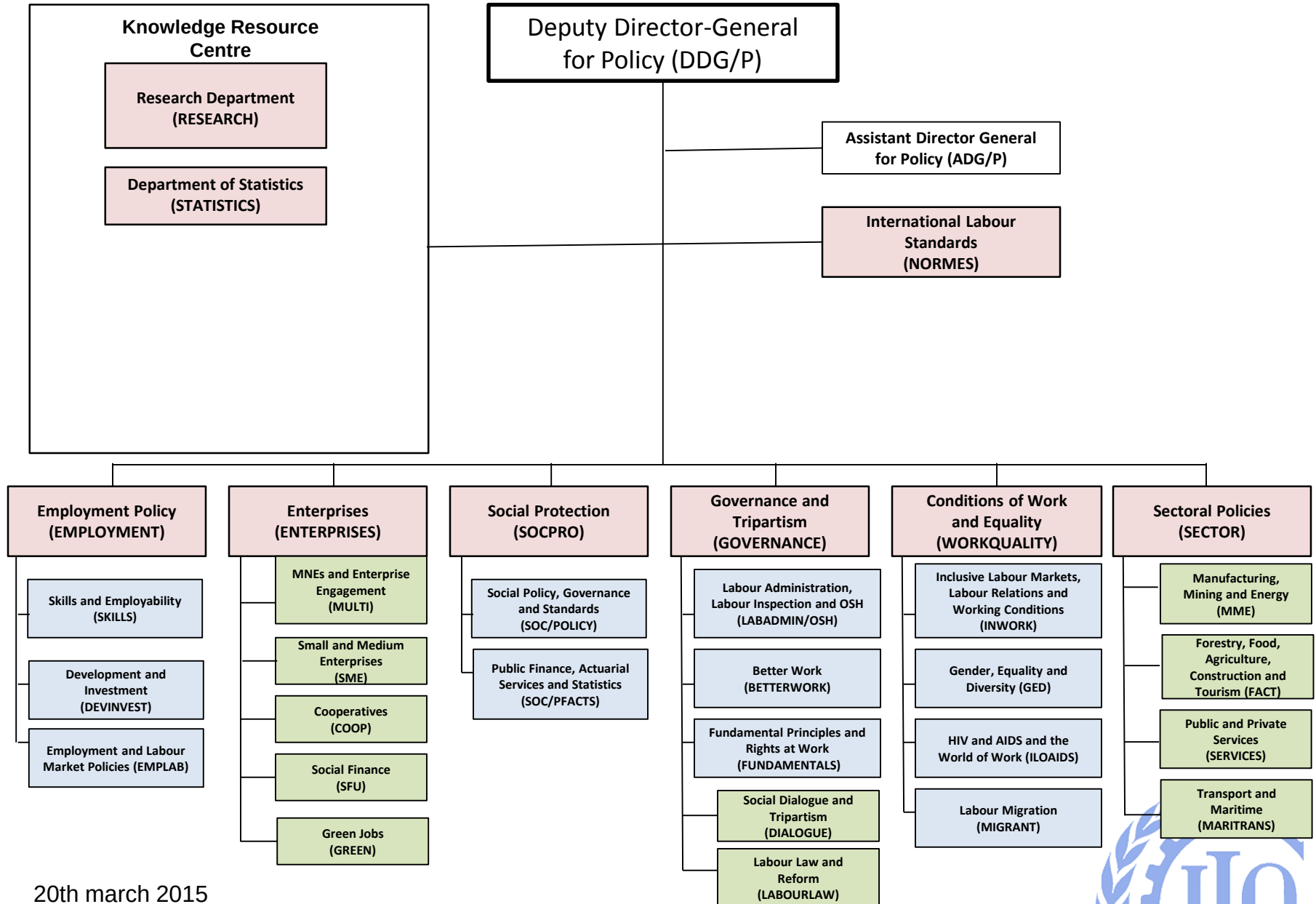
18 elected: Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Korea, UAE, Ghana, Iran, Kenya, Mexico, Panama, Romania, Sudan, Trinidad & Tobago, Turkey, Venezuela, Zimbabwe

Deputy members

28 elected:...



ILO Structure





Objective Decent Work Agenda

- **Decent work is productive work for women and men in conditions of freedom, equality, security and human dignity**, with fair income, security in the workplace and social protection for workers and their families, prospects for personal development.
- **Creating Jobs**
 - an economy that generates opportunities for investment, entrepreneurship, skills development, job creation and sustainable livelihoods.
- **Guaranteeing rights at work**
 - to obtain recognition and respect for the rights of workers. All workers, and in particular disadvantaged or poor workers, need representation, participation, and laws that work for their interests
- **Extending social protection**
 - to promote both inclusion and productivity by ensuring that women and men enjoy working conditions that are safe, allow adequate free time and rest, take into account family and social values, provide for adequate compensation in case of lost or reduced income and permit access to adequate healthcare.
- **Promoting social dialogue**
 - Involving strong and independent workers' and employers' organizations is central to increasing productivity, avoiding disputes at work, and building cohesive societies.

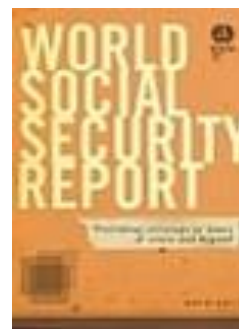
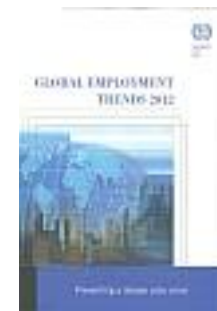


All inseparable, interrelated and mutually supportive

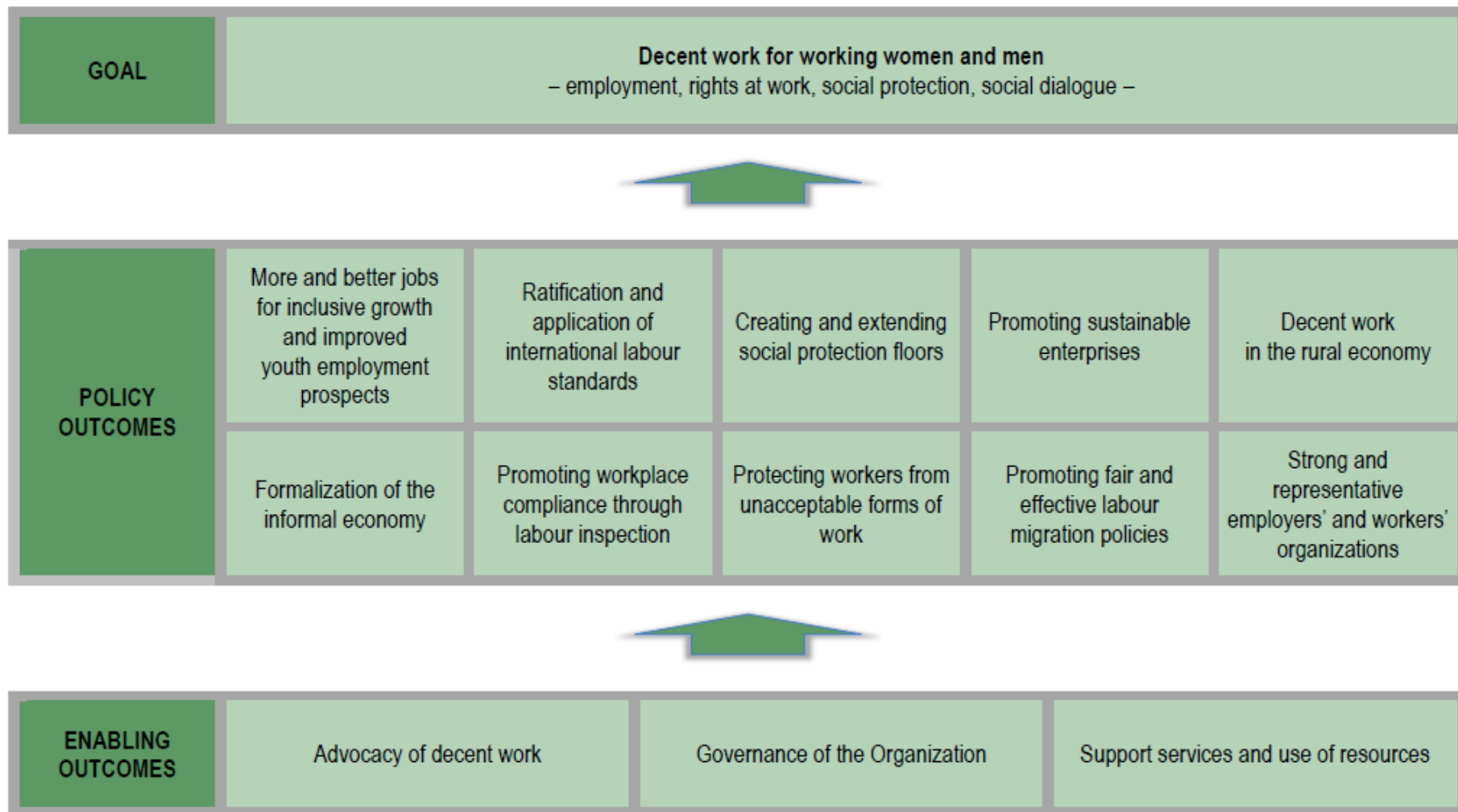


ILO Global Reports

- WESO
- Global Wage Report
- World Social Security Report
- Journals
 - International Labour Review
 - International Journal of Labour Research
 - International Social Security Review



ILO 2016-2017 Priorities





So far...

- 187 member states
- 40 Field offices
- 189 Conventions
 - Freedom of association, collective bargaining, and industrial relations, Forced labour, Elimination of child labour and protection of children and young persons, Equality of opportunity and treatment, Tripartite consultation, Labour administration and inspection, Employment policy and promotion, Vocational guidance and training, Employment security, Wages, Working time, Occupational safety and health, Social security, Maternity protection, Social policy, Migrant workers, Seafarers, Fishermen, Dockworkers, Indigenous and tribal peoples, Specific categories of workers, domestic workers
- 204 Recommendations
- 5 Declarations



What to remember



- ILO born out of crisis, with real life struggles for equity centred on the workplace, rooted in real economy and responding to social & economic problems of today
- Current programme focuses on Decent Work
- ILO has a large training and research capacity



ILO supporting work on social justice since 1919 in various fields through tripartism

