



ACTRAV Labour Research Journeys

Trade Union Unity in Africa: How can it be achieved?

11st April 2023, 11h-13h00 (CEST)

Background

The 2022 edition of the International Journal of Labour Research comes at a critical time, marked both by multidimensional crises affecting many countries around the world and by a surge in the attraction and influence of trade unions in responding to these crises.

[Trade Union Revitalization: Organizing new forms of work including platform workers](#), highlights the experiences of trade union revitalization worldwide with an emphasis on trade union unity and cooperation and the challenge of organizing new forms of work including platforms workers where young people are over-represented. The 2022 edition of the journal contains a series of recommendations to strengthen trade unions. These include moving towards unity by collaborating within the labour movement to reach common positions, extending unionization to groups in vulnerable situations, and addressing strategic objectives such as the creation of decent employment, decent work deficits, low wages, the impact of climate change and gaps in social protection.

To stimulate the discussions and research on the challenge of revitalization within the trade union movement, the ILO's Bureau for Workers' Activities (ACTRAV) will organize a **Labour Research Journeys in April and May 2023**. This series of events will bring together authors, researchers, academics, ILO representatives and leaders from trade unions.

For Africa, the high-level regional webinar will focus on the theme "*Trade Union Unity in Africa: How can it be achieved?*" on **11st April 2023 at 11:00 (Geneva time), 13:00 (Nairobi time)**. Participants will discuss about key findings and recommendations relevant for the region.

Agenda

Opening and Discussions	
10:50-11:00 (Geneva time)	○ Entry into the Webinar by registered participants
11:00-11:10	○ Welcome and introduction ▪ Hilma Mote, Desk Officer Africa, ILO ACTRAV
11:10-11:15	○ Opening remarks ▪ Maria Helena André, Director, Bureau for Worker's Activities ▪ Cynthia Samuel-Olonjuwon Cynthia, Regional Director for Africa ○ Overview about the 2022 edition of the Journal ▪ Mamadou SQUARE, Coordinator of the International Journal of Labour Research (IJLR)

11:15-11:35	Part1: Presentations ▪ Trade Union Unity in Africa: How can it be achieved? By Kwasi Adu-Amankwah, General Secretary, African Regional Organization of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC-Africa) (20 mn)
11:35-12:25	Part 2: Discussions Discussants: ❖ Arezki Mehzoud, General Secretary of the Organization of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU) ❖ John Odah, Executive Secretary of the Organization of Trade Union in West Africa (OTUWA) ❖ Caroline Mugalla, Executive Secretary of the East African Trade Union Confederation (EATUC) ❖ Omar Faruk Osman, Deputy General Secretary of the Horn of Africa Confederation of Trade Unions (HACTU) ❖ Mavis Koogotsitse, Executive Secretary of the Southern African Trade Union Coordination Council (SATUCC) ❖ Sabin Kpokolo, Secretary General of the Organization of Trade Unions of Central Africa (OSTAC) <i>Facilitator: Mohammed Mwamadzingu, member of the editorial board of IJLR</i>
12:25 – 12:50	○ Questions and Answers (participants- through Chat)
12:50 - 12:55	○ Conclusions and way forward Hilma Mote, Desk Officer for Africa
13:00	End