



Presse- mitteilung

HAUSANSCHRIFT Wilhelmstraße 49, 10117 Berlin
POSTANSCHRIFT 11017 Berlin

TEL +49 30 18 527-2129 / 2190
FAX +49 30 18 527-2191
INTERNET www.bmas.de
E-MAIL presse@bmas.bund.de

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Joint Statement by France and Germany on the report published by the ILO Global Commission on the Future of Work

French Minister of Labour Muriel Pénicaud and German Federal Minister of Labour and Social Affairs Hubertus Heil welcome the report by the International Labour Organization's Global Commission on the Future of Work. Recalling the ILO's essential mandate and unique tripartite structure within global governance, the ministers acknowledge the importance of the report and note with great interest the set of measures contained therein. The report represents a crucial contribution to the ongoing worldwide discussion on the future of work. The ministers will continue to contribute to the work of the ILO and the reinforcement of its mandate and role in the multilateral system.

Federal Minister Hubertus Heil emphasizes: "The Global Commission's work is a successful example of a proactive reflection beyond national borders on the challenges posed by the prospective world of work. I note with appreciation that the report not only puts forward potential international solutions regarding the future of work, but also for the future of the ILO, and that it calls for a stronger integration of international labour standards in the multilateral system. Thereby the report is a fundamental basis for the future enforcement of fair working conditions and social security systems worldwide."

Minister Muriel Pénicaud emphasizes: "By proposing a human-centred agenda, the report forms a key basis for a meaningful, ambitious and forward-looking outcome document at the ILO's Centenary in June 2019. As shown in the report, it is our responsibility to collectively find, through social dialogue, the responses addressing the social impact of globalization and seize the existing opportunities to ensure decent work for all and shape the future of work we want."

The two ministers highlight three action points of interest for the International Labour Organization; namely ensuring the effectiveness, universality and relevance of the international labour standards, fostering social dialogue and collective bargaining, as well as strengthening multilateralism by reasserting the ILO's institutional role in global governance through policy coherence.

One pathway is to enforce the ILO's task as a main driver in the development and delivery of a human-centred economic agenda in the international system to guarantee social protection for all and encourage social dialogue worldwide. The two ministers view the ILO as an essential actor to address challenges such as the prevalence of the informal economy, rising inequality, labour market transitions and effective gender equality. The report elaborates on these trends in the world of work and outlines some innovative recommendations to be implemented collectively by the international community. France and Germany have spoken with one voice in support of the ILO's full capacity to monitor and guide the process for sustainable and decent work in the future.

Background information on the report published by the Global Commission on Future of Work:

The Global Commission on the Future of Work today presented its report entitled „Work for a brighter future“ at the International Labour Organization (ILO) in Geneva. The report is the culmination of a 15-month examination by the 27-member commission, which is composed of leading figures from business and labour, think tanks, academia, government and non-governmental organizations. The report calls upon governments, social partners and other members of the international community to globally implement a set of measures to address the challenges caused by unprecedented transformational changes in the world of work.