



Response by the International Labour Office To the European Commission's consultation on:

"A new Trade and Development Communication"

16 September 2011

I. Introduction

a) The International Labour Office (ILO)¹ welcomes the opportunity to provide input to this consultation. The EU is the world's largest importer of goods and services from third countries and key player in both international trade and development cooperation. The ILO appreciates the EC's continued focus on ensuring that trade is coherent with development and other policies at national, regional and international level and not an isolated policy. The ILO welcomes the reference to international labour standards, to the ILO supervisory system and to other multilaterally agreed frameworks such as the Decent Work Agenda in both the public consultation issue paper on trade and development and in current EU trade instruments.

b) The ILO response is focussed on elements related to the mandate of the International Labour Organisation and to the unique ILO tripartite structure involving governments, employer organisations and trade unions. The ILO Office recalls the consolidated reply by the UN Brussels Team to the 2010 EC green paper on inclusive growth and sustainable development same paper and the ILO Office detailed complementary reply². A number of the comments and suggestions are based on the ILO and UN reply to the 2010 green paper. ILO supports the UN Brussels team response of 16 September 2011 to this consultation on trade and development.

c) The ILO brings together the **actors of the real economy** - governments, employers and workers - of 183 countries in joint action towards promoting decent work for all including in the informal economy and rural sectors. The EU is very active within the ILO through the EU coordination within ILO. The ILO covers the world of work in a practical and integrated way, combining economic efficiency with social justice. The involvement of the actors of the real economy is essential for promoting inclusive growth and sustainable development, in particular in times of crisis. ILO instruments, frameworks, tools and programmes reflect the

¹ The International Labour Office is the secretariat of International Labour Organisation, the specialised tripartite UN agency dealing with the world of work.

² ILO reply to the EC 2010 green paper on inclusive growth and sustainable development:
<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/eurpro/brussels/downloads/eugreenpaperiloreply.pdf>

views and interests of low income, middle income and high income countries and are therefore very relevant for trade and development. The ILO contributed to and participated in the G20 Summits of Pittsburgh, Toronto and Seoul.

The ILO has **intensified its activities on trade and decent work** taking into account the updated ILO mandate based on the 2008 ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalisation adopted by global tripartite consensus. The ILO has intensified its cooperation with WTO as well as with WB, IMF, OECD and the UN system on employment, decent work, trade and socio-economic governance. The ILO contributes also to the UN system efforts on strengthening delivery as One UN such as through the UNDAFs and the UN resident coordinators. ILO is also actively contributing to the efforts by the UN System Chief Executive Board (involving also WTO, WB and IMF) response to the financial and economic crisis and it is part of the Brussels UN team.

The ILO Office provided, in cooperation with WTO, WB and OECD, a submission to the G20 Summit in Seoul on “Seizing the benefits of trade for employment and growth”. ILO has also intensified its research and actions on trade in relation to employment, labour standards and other parts of decent work³. The ILO International Institute for Labour Studies has analysed in the 2009 World of Work report the role of labour provisions in existing trade arrangements and development finance policies⁴. The ILO International Training Centre contributed to analysis and capacity building training on trade and decent work funded e.g. by EU Member states.

d) The **EU-ILO cooperation on international labour standards and sustainable development** is part of the cooperation agreement between ILO and EC (Exchange of Letters, 14 May 2001 renewing the existing consecutive Exchanges of Letters since 1958)⁵. ILO and EC have signed in 2004 a strategic partnership in the field of development cooperation covering cooperation on promoting decent work. The interplay between trade, decent work and development is part of the successive Annual High Level Meetings between the ILO Office and the EC since 2003. The ILO Office has provided advice to the EU on e.g. the EC report on combating child labour and trade. The relevant EC and EEAS services are informed on the findings of the ILO supervisory system. The EU intervenes in the public debates of the ILO Supervisory system such as the International Labour Conference Application of Standards Committee.

All EU institutions have supported the cooperation between EU and ILO both inside and outside including the internal and external dimension of EU employment and social policies,

³ <http://www.ilo.org/employment/areas/trade-and-employment/lang--en/index.htm>
<http://www.ilo.org/global/standards/information-resources-and-publications/free-trade-agreements-and-labour-rights/lang--en/index.htm>
http://www.ilocarib.org.tt/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1417:ilo-launches-employer-and-trade-union-guides-on-the-cariforum-ec-economic-partnership-agreement&catid=214:2010-news&Itemid=1209
⁴ http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/documents/publication/wcms_118384.pdf

⁵ Exchange of letters between ILO and EC, 14 May 2001, OJ 165/23 of 8 June 2001

external trade and development cooperation and external assistance⁶. Practice in recent years has revealed that a key challenge for trade and development cooperation/ external assistance is the **inclusion of issues related to the world of work, through a more systematic, coherent and timely approach, in both the operational EU programmes on development cooperation and external assistance and in the division of labour between EU and EU Member States**. This involves not only programmes on investing in people but also those dealing e.g. with economic and private sector development, trade related assistance, human rights and democracy, governance and greening the economy. Addressing in a more effective way trade and development in the world of work will require also **more policy coherence within development policy and within development cooperation programming** of both EU and the EU Member states. The UN efforts on delivering as One UN can be of inspiration here.

II. General remarks

a) The interplay between trade and development is very comprehensive and this is reflected in the public consultation issue paper. **Policy coherence is essential**. This is also reflected by the final recommendations of the World Commission on the Social Dimension of Globalisation (WCSDG, 2004), established by the ILO. The need for policy coherence is also reflected by the 2008 ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalisation and by the 2009 Global Jobs Pact, both adopted by consensus by the highest ILO authority, the International labour Conference (ILC). It is also an essential part of the report “New Area of Social Justice” of the ILO Director General Somavia to the June 2011 International Labour Conference⁷.

The EU has contributed to the work of the World Commission and to the debates that followed in the ILO Governing Body Working Party on the Social Dimension of Globalisation. The EU has supported the recommendations of the World Commission such as through the Commission communication of May 2004 on the social dimension of globalisation and the communication of May 2006 on decent work. The European Council, the Council and the EESC have equally supported the outcome of the WCSDG and the Decent Work Agenda. The EU has also supported the adoption and implementation of the ILO 2008 Declaration and the 2009 ILO Global Jobs Pact (e.g. the EU coordination at the ILC, European Council position of September 2009 for the G20 Summit, the EC report on the EU contribution to the promotion of decent work of July 2008).

⁶ For an overview of all relevant EU positions (European Council, European Parliament, Council, EC and EESC) such as on core labour standards, social dimension of globalisation and decent work see: <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/eurpro/brussels/index.htm>

In November 2010 and June- July 2011 the EP adopted comprehensive positions on the social and environmental dimension of EU trade policies, on the external dimension of EU employment and social policies and on EU CSR and on more effective EU development policies with very detailed references and concrete suggestions on strengthening cooperation with ILO and on promoting decent work including employment, social protection floors, labour standards, social dialogue and gender equality and non discrimination.

⁷ http://www.ilo.org/ilc/ILCSessions/100thSession/reports/reports-submitted/WCMS_155656/lang--en/index.htm

b) The recommendations of the WCSDG (page 143, 144) highlights that the rules of global economy should be aimed at improving the rights, livelihoods, security and opportunities of people, families and communities around the world. This includes rules for trade, finance, investment, measures to strengthen international labour standards and in particular core labour standards and a coherent framework for the cross-border movement of workers. The trading system and the international financial system should **allow more space for policy autonomy in developing countries** to enable them to accelerate their development in an open economic environment. The WCSDG recommendations underlined that global rules should also better recognize need for affirmative action in favour of countries which do not have the same capabilities as those who developed earlier and that the WTO provisions on special and differential treatment need to be significantly strengthened. The Global Jobs Pact (Chapter IV, § 21-22 page 9-10) stipulates that international cooperation is particular important for promoting efficient and well-regulated trade and markets that benefit all and avoiding protectionism by countries. **Varying development levels have to be taken into account in lifting barriers to domestic and foreign markets.**

c) Many developing countries have benefited before the economic crisis from strong but jobless growth and the world of work is confronted with increasing inequalities and with poor quality jobs, slow decline in poverty, persistent informal employment, high youth unemployment, declining investments in some countries and high frequency of financial crisis.

The economic growth has been inefficient. More growth and trade liberalisation will not be sufficient to tackle structural mismatches resulting in more youth unemployment, more working poor and growing inequalities.

Constructing a new pattern of growth through rapid and sustained increases in decent work is urgently needed. The above mentioned report of the ILO Director General Juan Somavia to the 2011 ILC “**A New area for Social Justice**” underlined both a number of arguments and a number of requirements for an efficient growth⁸.

For open trade to boost growth and jobs on a sustained basis, **complementary policies to address adjustment problems and distributional concerns** are needed to help workers who may lose their job as a result on international competition. The ILO and EC are cooperating on a joint management programme (Investing in people programme) on analysing and addressing the interplay between trade and employment in a number of identified countries. It will provide guidance on how this interplay between employment and trade can be taken up in developing countries. This could be used more broadly and in all developing countries.

With the aim of contributing to the elaboration of relevant policy proposals, the International Labour Office and the World Trade Organization have undertaken a book project with the title “Making Globalization Socially Sustainable”⁹. The book, which is funded by the

⁸ A new Area of Social Justice, report of the ILO Director General to the June 2011 International labour conference

⁹ The ILO-WTO co-publication "Making Globalization Socially Sustainable" is to be launched on 20 September 2011 during the WTO's Public Forum.

International Chamber of Commerce Research Foundation, consists of contributions by leading academic experts who analyzed the various channels through which globalization affects jobs and wages. Together the nine chapters in this volume summarize state-of-the-art knowledge on themes related to the social dimension of globalization

The volume, therefore, represents a step in the direction of a better understanding of the mechanisms through which globalization affects workers and of the measures that governments can take to give globalization a strong social dimension. It will be of value to all those who are interested in the debate on the social sustainability of globalization, including workers and employers, policy-makers, academics, and other trade and labour specialists

III. Suggestions on some of the questions

Questions 1 and 8 on the situation of developing countries

-The ILO Office recommends the EU to continue pursuing a comprehensive approach to trade negotiations with developing countries and to strengthen further policy coherence.

-Varying development levels have to be taken into account in lifting barriers to domestic and foreign markets and in supporting developing countries as underlined by the ILO June 2009 Global Jobs Pact adopted by global tripartite consensus. The World Commission on the Social Dimension of Globalisation, recommended in its 2004 final report, that global rules should also better recognize the need for affirmative action in favour of countries which do not have the same capabilities as those who developed earlier and that the WTO provisions on special and differential treatment need to be significantly strengthened.

-In line with the ILO reply to the green paper on inclusive growth and sustainable development it is necessary and indispensable that social, employment, economic, trade, financial and environmental policies go hand in hand. EU initiatives on trade, inclusive growth and development will have to tackle inequalities, promote job rich growth with decent work and economic opportunities. It will have to contribute to the greening of the economy and to green jobs. Decent work is both a factor of social justice, economic performance and governance.

-Human development, including the labour dimension, should not be approached in isolation from economic development and vice-versa. The EU is a key donor but its interventions are still very fragmented and based on a limited number of sometimes isolated and traditional development sectors. ILO suggests that the **EU programming on development cooperation brings together -in a systematic and structured way - economic and human development and governance** and that it addresses **explicitly decent work**, in line with the European Consensus on Development.

Questions 3, 5 and 9 on policy coherence and economic governance for sustainable social and economic development

-For open trade to boost growth and jobs on a sustained basis, **complementary policies** to address adjustment problems and distributional concerns are needed to help workers who may lose their job as a result on international competition. Relevant measures include stable macro-economic policies, effective employment policies and strengthening social protection systems as they are important to offset the effects of increased exposure to external factors, investment in education and skills and enhancing export sectors in developing countries (Seizing the benefits of trade for employment and growth, submission by ILO, WTO, WB and OECD to G 20 Seoul Summit, 2010).

-It is also important to **boost domestic growth, income and investment**. A merely export led development model is not sustainable and is not balanced. The EU can also help in strengthening and possibly redesigning taxation systems, in particular in those countries where trade liberalization leads to significant losses in government revenue. Sound economic governance that is bringing forward sustainable social and economic development should tackle inefficient growth that resulted in social exclusion, unbalanced and jobless growth and increasing inequalities. In its report to the June 2011 International Labour Conference the ILO Director General identified a number of key requirements for **an efficient growth** by placing people at the centre of growth and involving the voices of the real economy:

- a **strong framework for productive investment** including sustainable enterprises, supportive taxation, employment and income growth to support consumption, savings and future investment;
- putting the **financial system** at the service of the real economy;
- **inclusive and fair labour markets** with strong labour institutions and actors, tripartite dialogue on wage setting mechanisms linking productivity gains and labour incomes, respect for international labour standards;
- well designed social protection systems including a **social protection floor**;
- **sound macro-economic policies** combining high levels of employment, low inflation and sound fiscal balances; in many cases this will require an enlarged fiscal space supported by progressive taxation;
- effective multilateral **policy coherence** based on the overdue recognition that employment and social policies are part and parcel of policies for sustainable and balanced growth.

Question 4 on ensuring that gains from greater trade and investment are more evenly distributed especially to the worst-off groups in developing countries

- See also reply to question 3, 5 and 9 on key requirements for efficient growth.

-The EU could strengthen its operational and practical support for decent work such as through assistance to the tripartite and nationally agreed **decent work country programmes**, including by **strengthening the capacity of labour market actors** (organisations of employers and workers, social dialogue, freedom of association and collective bargaining, labour administration and inspection, employment and skills development services) and by

strengthening the enabling conditions for sustainable enterprises. This support is already endorsed by confirmed positions of the EU institutions but practical implementation is still too limited and too fragmented.

- The EU could support the establishment and implementation of sustained **national social protection floors** in line with EU positions at the 2011 ILC, the 2010 ILO Governing Body, at the 2011 OECD Employment and Social Affairs Ministerial and the 2010 ASEM Summit conclusions. Social protection is an effective and non trade distortive system¹⁰ to ensure that gains from greater trade and investment are more evenly distributed, especially to the worst - off in developing countries.

The EU may contribute to strengthening capacity needed for the negotiation of concession agreements and for the design of programs to successfully channel relevant government revenue into the local economy.

Question 10 on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

- The ILO welcomes also the attention to CSR. CSR initiatives have to **complement compliance with national legislation and law enforcement** and should be based on international CSR instruments (ILO Tripartite declaration on multinational enterprises and social policy, OECD Guidelines on Multinational Enterprises), global initiatives (UN Global Compact) and Frameworks (UN Guiding Principles on Business & Human Rights). This is already reflected in previous EU positions.

- The ILO MNE Declaration aims at maximizing the contribution of business to socio economic development and national development priorities and underlines the importance of dialogue at different levels to achieve this in addition to compliance with national law and respect for international standards. As efforts to attract and boost foreign direct investment continue within and across many parts of the world, all concerned can use the principles of the Declaration as guidelines for enhancing the positive social and labour effects of the operations of MNEs. The relevance of this instrument has also been underlined in the 2008 Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization.

The WB-IFC and EBRD have also recently updated their social and environmental guidelines and this can also be very useful for the EC development cooperation and for the EIB.

- The ILO suggests the EU to support the operations of the **ILO Helpdesk for Business on International Labour Standards** as this is very useful for strengthening in a practical way the respect for and application of international labour standards in the global supply chain including in developing countries¹¹.

¹⁰ WTO Director General P. Lamy at the ILO Governing Body, November 2010: open trade and social protection are complementary.

¹¹ http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/press-and-media-centre/videos/events-coverage/WCMS_146527/lang--en/index.htm

¹¹ <http://www.ilo.org/business>

Question 11 on what conditions are needed for the service sector improvement in developing countries

Services sectors (e.g. financial services, health services, telecommunication) are characterized by market failures or economies of scale that require regulatory intervention in order for relevant markets to function well. If regulation is badly designed it constitutes costly non-tariff barriers to trade. If regulation is absent, markets fail. Existence of strong regulatory institutions capable to design smart regulation is crucial for improving the services sector in developing countries. Institution and capacity building are likely to be necessary to reach this stage, in particular in LDCs

Suggestions on question 13 and 14 on sustainable development and human rights

-The ILO appreciates that the EU refers in its unilateral trade instruments (e.g. GSP, GSP plus) and in its new generation of free trade agreements to multilateral standards and frameworks such as ILO core labour standards as well as other international labour standards classified by ILO as up to date, the findings of the ILO supervisory system, other relevant UN conventions and the Decent Work Agenda.

-The promotion of the application of international labour standards, could benefit very much from a **better, constructive and timely interplay between the findings of the ILO supervisory systems, EU human rights dialogue, EU trade and investment policies and programming of EU external assistance.** EU support for addressing timely the shortcomings through capacity building (of public authorities, organisations of employers and workers) is important for promoting decent work and sustainable development. This interplay has already been consistently highlighted by the EU such as through EC communications of 2004 and 2006, by council conclusions on decent work (2006), the social dimension of globalization (2005) and on Core Labour Standards (2003), by EP positions and EESC Opinions. However practice has revealed that this interplay has not yet been fully implemented by EU operational programming and it is not taken up in a timely, coherent and systematic way at EU central level and the level of EU delegations. The ILO suggests improving the internal EU processes.

-In order to ensure timely interventions on addressing shortcomings on labour standards through technical cooperation the ILO suggest that the EC concludes a **direct funding agreement with ILO** for timely assisting developing countries in improving application of **core labour standards and social dialogue**, e.g. in countries covered by GSP plus, GSP and FTA's.

- MDG1 on elimination of extreme poverty lists that the best way out of poverty is through the creation of employment and decent work opportunities. EU could further support the national **Decent Work Country Programmes (DWCP)**. DWCPs are national employment and social agenda's adopted by the government, employers and workers and reflecting national priorities and needs. DWCPs are part of development strategies and UNDAFs (One UN). More than 80 DWCPs have already been adopted and more are under in preparation in

developing countries in all regions in the world. DWCPs are reviewed on a regular basis to changing circumstances and achieved outcomes.

Many of the EU FTAs provide for cooperative activities in the field of labour standards and other labour and employment-related matters. The EU is not only politically but also legally committed to promote Core Labour Standards and other labour issues.

-The **social partners** hold a unique role among non-state actors in trade and development, since they are the main stakeholders within the workforce. To ensure that the gains from greater trade and investment are more evenly distributed, social partners can have the local knowledge and network to uniquely fill this role.

There is a need for **more substantial and timely consultations** of international, regional and national social partners – employer organisations and trade unions – on trade and sustainable development, including on the sustainable impact assessments (SIA) of trade policies and agreements.

-It is also necessary to support **capacity building of social partner's** organisations and social dialogue processes. EU support for social partners can benefit very much from an “**actors based approach**”. EC and ECA analysis have revealed that the success rate for non-state actors in replying to open call for proposals is 5% and that non-state actors are perceived as service providers. Such an approach strongly discourages employers' and workers' organizations. It negatively affects the efforts needed on capacity building initiatives in developing countries.

Suggestion on questions 16 and 17 on private sector (and CSR)

For CSR see also suggestion to question 10

-**Private public partnerships** can be very powerful in addressing the decent work deficits such as in the global supply chain. CSR approaches can be linked through private and public partnerships aimed at working together with the private sector to improve working conditions and decent work opportunities at sector, community, national level and regional level (e.g. the Better Work programme, SCORE programme, child labour in cacao in West Africa). The ILO suggests to support Better Work (cooperation between ILO and IFC) and Score in both EU trade and development policies. The EU could benefit from initiatives which combine (1) positive trade incentives for progressing in terms of labour standards implementation, (2) monitoring of working conditions at the factory level by the ILO, and (3) transparent information on labour standards made available to international buyers. The EU should consider if some of the successful elements of this experience can be integrated in the EU trade and development policies.

-The EU actions on involving and supporting the private sector can also benefit from the ILO **sustainable enterprises framework** adopted by the 2007 International Labour Conference and from the 2009 ILO Global Jobs Pact. These frameworks suggest measures and policies that should be taken at national level in order to promote an enabling environment for business with a particular attention to SMEs (e.g. legal framework guaranteeing legal and

fiscal certainty, skills and competences development, effective labour market institutions, capacity building for employers' organizations). Access to credit for the real economy and, in particular SMEs, is essential for crisis recovery and inclusive growth.

Suggestions to question 18 on gender

-The ILO welcomes the attention for the gender dimension in trade and development. ILO, the ILO International training centre and EU have cooperated on gender equality in development cooperation. This could for instance be extended to the trade and development dimension.

-Under the 2008 ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a fair Globalisation gender equality and non discrimination are cross- cutting issues. In addition equal pay for work of equal value and non discrimination in employment are part of the core labour standards. Other up to date ILO conventions are dealing with better combination of work and family life. The 2009 ILC adopted comprehensive conclusions on gender equality at the heart of decent work covering also the economic dimension of gender equality. It highlighted also that the gender dimension of the financial and economic crisis.

-EU trade and development policy could also contribute to the promotion of the ratification and application of the gender equality conventions, by using ILO gender handbooks, by involving gender in the sustainable impact assessments and by involving gender dimension in assessing and addressing the interplay between trade and employment.

Suggestions to question 19 on FTA's

-The ILO has noted with interest that sustainable development, including also decent work, is part of the new generation of EU trade agreements with third countries (e.g. Cariforum, South Korea). Under the 2008 ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a fair Globalisation the ILO Office can, upon request, **provide assistance** to (ILO) members who wish to promote strategic objectives **jointly** within the framework of bilateral or multilateral agreements (such as trade agreements), subject to their compatibility with ILO obligations (Art II, A, iv).

-In future trade negotiations separate labour chapters should be maintained with references to Core Labour Standards and other International Labour Standards, support for Decent Work and provisions related to the implementation and **non lowering of existing levels of protection** provided by domestic labour and social legislation. The 2008 ILO Declaration also states: "that the violation of fundamental principles and rights at work cannot be invoked or otherwise used as a legitimate comparative advantage and that labour standards should not be used for protectionist trade purposes." (Article I, A, iv)

-Strengthening the enforceability of relevant provisions should be considered. Provisions concerning liberalization in services trade should be accompanied by provisions recognising the role of relevant regulation. Liberalization of services trade in developing countries should go hand in hand with the strengthening of regulatory institutions, if necessary supported by EU technical assistance. Inclusion of investment issue should go hand in hand with provisions restraining tax competition.

-In future FTA negotiations the EU could consider the possibility of including positive incentives into the trade agreements for countries that have made or are making a special effort to comply with labour standards. A similar approach has already been taken in the framework of the EU GSP+ (see Question 10). Targets to be met under such incentive arrangement could be defined depending on the situation of the country concerned and by having recourse to the technical expertise of the ILO. In this regard, incentives would not necessarily have to be trade advantages but could also comprise other issues, in particular development cooperation.

- In addition, where FTAs contain investment provisions, labour standard issues could also be linked to investor's behaviour. An important example in this regard is the EC-Cariforum FTA (Art 27 (b)) which requires the EU and the Cariforum States to cooperate and take measures to ensure that investors act in accordance with core labour standards. Future investment chapters of EU FTAs could also stipulate that ILO Core Labour Standards and ILO Conventions ratified by the respective countries have to be taken into account when interpreting the obligations under these agreements. This would avoid that FTA investment chapters are interpreted in a way that is not compatible with those labour standards.

-Capacity building and technical cooperation of social partners and labour market institutions is a valuable approach to ensure that trade works for the benefit of sustainable development. EU external assistance could support technical cooperation related to the world of work dimension of FTA's.

-Timely and substantive consultations with social partners at all levels on FTA's, their sustainable impact assessments and on their implementation can strengthen the contribution of FTA's to development.

Suggestion to question 22 on Aid for Trade

-Aid for Trade covers also social adjustment including assessing and addressing the interplay between trade and employment. EU (EC and EU MS) have not yet taken this up in a substantive way (only ongoing pilot programs under Investing in People) although this has been announced in EC communications, council conclusions and EP resolutions on decent work.

-With reference to the suggestions above, a valuable approach to ensure that Aid for Trade is more effective at country level is to foster a better interplay between trade, employment and social protection policies, so that all dimensions are integrated to their maximum benefit.

Suggestion to question 24 on South-South cooperation

-Emerging economies are already contributing to development in the South through South-South cooperation. The ILO supports these initiatives. The UN initiative Social Protection Floor, which aims at global extension of provision of essential health care and income security for all, is important in the context of trade and development. It is also supported by South-South cooperation (e.g. Brazil Bolsa Familia social protection system). Social protection and open trade are complementary (see supra).

Final Comments

-The EU could also benefit very much from improving the **knowledge on labour issues in the EU Delegations**.

-The ILO suggests building further on the ILO-EC joint seminars aimed at training **EU Delegations** on decent work, involving social partners. ILO is willing to expand this initiative to both EU and EU Member States Delegations at regional and sub regional level and to trade, development and decent work.

The ILO International Training Centre in Turin has since 2008 a Social Dimension of Trade and Investment Programme as part of a broader ILO effort to secure fairer globalization. It aims to build and reinforce capacity to assess and deal with the impact of trade and investment on labour markets and equitable national development. The courses explore the positive effects of globalization on growth and employment as well as the imbalances, among and within countries, which it may generate. Viable policy options for redressing such imbalances are analysed with reference to the experience of selected countries.¹²

¹² See <http://www.itcilo.org/en/the-centre/programmes/social-dimension-of-trade-and-investment>