

Virtual High-level event:
Guiding the COVID-19 response and recovery towards a better normal free from violence and harassment:

The role of ILO Violence and Harassment Convention, 2019 (No. 190) and Recommendation (No. 206)

BIOGRAPHY OF SPEAKERS



Guy RYDER

Mr. Guy Ryder was elected as Director-General by the Governing Body in May 2012 and took office on 1 October 2012. Following his re-election, his second term started on 1 October 2017. He is the ILO's 10th Director-General. On taking office, he pledged to position the ILO, through internal reform, as a determined actor, translating principle into action to make a difference in the working lives of people everywhere – including and particularly in the lives of the most vulnerable. He continues to work for an ILO that is respectful of the universality of its membership; an ethical ILO; an ILO free from violence and harassment. The ILO celebrates its centenary during his second mandate. He made a strong call for a forward looking approach to the centenary and to do so through a decent work lens of standards, rights, jobs, social protection and social dialogue with particular attention to persistent gender inequality, and issues of informality and working poverty. He was elected General Secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) in 2006. He is a graduate of Cambridge University.



Marie CLARKE WALKER

Marie is the Secretary-Treasurer at the Canadian Labour Congress. She started her career working in a home for the elderly, later with adults and children with developmental disabilities, as a counsellor and family-support worker in Toronto, and once again at the School Board as an Early Childhood Educator working with children with disabilities. She rose rapidly through the ranks of the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), and eventually became CUPE Ontario's Equity Vice-President and her union's first-ever national Diversity Vice-President. Marie made history in 2002 when she was elected as the first racialized woman and youngest person ever elected to the position of Executive Vice-President of the Canadian Labour Congress. She served in that position for five terms before once again making history in May 2017, being elected as the first-ever racialized woman to serve as CLC Secretary-Treasurer.



Gabriella HERZOG

Gabriella Rigg Herzog is the Vice President of Labor Affairs and Corporate Responsibility of USCIB. She will work out of the New York office and lead work on labor and employment policy, corporate responsibility, business and human rights, and corporate governance. Prior to joining USCIB, Gabriella served as Senior Manager for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) at Hess Corporation, where she led development and integration of key CSR and human rights governance, employee training and assurance processes into Hess management systems, and provided field-level support for implementation. She also served at the U.S. Department of State and at the U.S. Department of Labor.



Colin E. JORDAN

Colin Jordan is the Minister of Labour and Social Partnership Relation in Barbados. Graduate of the University of the West Indies Cave Hill Campus, he holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Economics and Accounting with Upper Second Class Honours. The husband of Charmaine, and father of two daughters, Chelsea and Courtney, has played an active role in the Barbados Hotel and Tourism Association, where he served as a President. He has served on the Association's Government Affairs and Labour Relations Committees, the latter for over seventeen years. He is former Chair of the Schools' Tourism Education Programme Committee, a programme he pioneered and one for which he is passionate.



Gerardo CEDROLA

Gerardo Cedrola is the Advisor to the Minister of Labour and Social Security in Uruguay. He worked recently as a business consultant on labour relations and human resource management, as well as the Director of Human Resources and Legal Affairs for the BBVA Bank in Uruguay. Dr. Cedrola is also currently Labour Relations and Collective Bargaining Professor in Universidad ORT in Uruguay. He holds a Phd. in Law and Social Sciences by Universidad de la República in Uruguay, and a Master's Degree on Labour Relations from Université Catholique de Louvain, Belgium.



Vicky ERENSTEIN YA TOIVO

Vicki Erenstein ya Toivo is Special Advisor to the Minister of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment Creation in the Republic of Namibia. She is an activist, a legal practitioner, a labour law lecturer, a gender champion, and is confident that a better world is possible. She participated actively, as a part of the African Group, in the ILC Committee debates that resulted in the adoption of Convention 190 and Recommendation 206 on Violence and Harassment.



Rose OMAMO

Rose Omamo is the General Secretary of Amalgamated Union of Kenya Metal Workers, she is the National Chair lady for Central Organization of Trade Unions Kenya (COTU - K). Rose is a member of ITUC-Africa women's committee and an Executive member of IndustriAll Global Union

Introduced and moderated by:



Shauna OLNEY

Shauna is the Chief of the Gender, Equality and Diversity & ILO AIDS Branch (GED/ILOAIDS) of the International Labour Office (ILO), which coordinates the ILO's Women at Work Centenary Initiative. She has worked at the ILO for over 20 years, in various areas, including in International Labour Standards, labour law, social dialogue, and industrial relations. Shauna has authored and co-authored a number of publications on gender, equality and non-discrimination, including most recently "A better future for women at work" published in the University of Oxford Human Rights Hub Journal.



Manuela TOMEI

Manuela is the Director of the Conditions of Work and Equality Department, International Labour Office (ILO) since 2013. Prior to that, Ms Tomei held various posts in the ILO, both at Headquarters in Geneva, and in the ILO's Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean in Lima. She was the lead coordinator of the preparatory work that culminated in the adoption of the last two ILO Conventions, namely, C.190 on violence and harassment in the world of work in 2019, and C.189 on decent work for domestic workers in 2011. She is presently leading preparatory work for a general discussion on inequalities and the world of work at the 2020 International Labour Conference. Together with UN Women and the OECD, the ILO established and launched at the UN General Assembly in September 2017 the Equal Pay International Coalition (EPIC) to contribute to the realization of SDG 8.5, in which Ms Tomei has played a key role. She has written and provided policy advice on a range of subject matters, including gender, poverty and work, informal and non-standard forms of employment, and wages and the gender pay gap.