



International  
Labour  
Organization

# THE ILO AND THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

## Where we stand

Negotiations on the post-2015 development agenda have now reached the critical intergovernmental stage. ILO issues are well covered by the current set of proposals but the next months will be crucial in securing a dedicated goal on full employment and decent work.

In July 2014, the Open Working Group (OWG) for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) agreed a proposed set of 17 sustainable development goals for the post-2015 development agenda. Goal 8 is to “promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.”

Several priorities of the Decent Work Agenda are included as targets under Goal 8, while others are mentioned as targets under other proposed goals. A target on implementing “nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors,” for instance, is suggested under Goal 1, “End poverty in all its forms everywhere.”

## Next steps on the road to a Post-2015 Development Agenda

**December 2014:** Publication of the UN Secretary-General’s synthesis report on the subject.

**January 2015:** Intergovernmental negotiations begin.

**September 2015:** The UN General Assembly is due to adopt a final set of Sustainable Development Goals for the post-2015 era.

## The role of the ILO

The ILO has made a distinctive contribution in line with the [six-point strategy](#) adopted at the 319th Session of the Governing Body (October 2013).

Through its participation in the UN Technical Support Team, the Office has been providing technical inputs to the co-chairs of the OWG on full employment, child labour, youth employment, social protection and other topics of pertinence to the ILO.

The findings of the *World of Work Report 2014* provided useful evidence for advocacy on the significance of quality jobs for inclusive and sustainable growth. Contributions to post-2015 debates were made on a range of issues including cooperatives, HIV/AIDS, gender, education and skills, full employment, youth employment, the informal economy, child labour and labour market indicators.

As co-chair of the Social Protection Inter-agency Cooperation Board, the Office provided substantive insight into the discussion on social protection floors. As chair of the Global Migration Group, the Office gave its views concerning migrant work to the OWG. Technical discussions and informal briefings for the diplomatic community in New York and Geneva were organized, in some cases with the presence of the Director-General.

ILO field offices participated actively in national and regional debates about the future development agenda.

## Advocating for full employment and decent work

Inclusion of Goal 8 in the final list of proposed goals agreed by the OWG was a significant achievement but it is the intergovernmental negotiation stage that will determine the success of our collective efforts.

Advocacy by constituents and the Office on the significance of full employment and decent work, including social protection, along with ILO issue-related targets, remains vital during these final negotiations. This will include tripartite action at the national level to influence official country positions, as well as interaction with delegations to the United Nations in New York.

The Group of Friends of Decent Work for Sustainable Development, established in New York in October and chaired by the delegations of Angola and Belgium, will provide a platform for informal policy discussions and exchange, as well as advocacy for inclusion of Goal 8.

For more information please visit: [www.ilo.org/post2015](http://www.ilo.org/post2015)