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Follow-up to the IV Global Conference on the Sustained Eradication of Child Labour (Buenos Aires, 14–16 November 2017)

Purpose of the document

This paper: (a) reports on the IV Global Conference on the Sustained Eradication of Child Labour, held in Buenos Aires from 14 to 16 November 2017, and its key outcomes; (b) proposes endorsement of the main Conference outcome document (the Buenos Aires Declaration on Child Labour, Forced Labour and Youth Employment) to ensure its implementation in conjunction with the ILO Plan of Action for the period 2017–23 to give effect to the conclusions concerning the second recurrent discussion on fundamental principles and rights at work, adopted by the International Labour Conference in June 2017; (c) reconfirms the ILO's commitment to the elimination of child labour and forced labour; and (d) invites the Governing Body to thank the Government of Argentina and the Argentine social partner organizations for hosting the IV Global Conference (see draft decision in paragraph 25).

Relevant strategic objective: Fundamental principles and rights at work.

Main relevant outcome/cross-cutting policy driver: Outcome 8: Protection of workers from unacceptable forms of work.

Policy implications: Implementation of the Buenos Aires Declaration in conjunction with the ILO Plan of Action for the period 2017–23 to give effect to the conclusions concerning the second recurrent discussion on fundamental principles and rights at work, adopted by the International Labour Conference in June 2017.

Legal implications: None.

Financial implications: The capacity of the Office to support constituents to respond to the commitments reflected in the Buenos Aires Declaration will depend on the level of funding secured from regular and extra-budgetary sources.

Follow-up action required: Implementation of the ILO Plan of Action for the period 2017–23 to give effect to the conclusions concerning the second recurrent discussion on fundamental principles and rights at work, and, in particular, to promote participation of ILO constituents in the IPEC+ flagship programme and Alliance 8.7 to end forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking and child labour.

Author unit: Governance and Tripartism Department (GOVERNANCE).

Related documents: GB.316/INS/5/3; GB.325/INS/6; GB.325/POL/7; GB.328/POL/6; GB.331/INS/4/3(Rev.).

Background

1. At the III Global Conference on Child Labour (Brasilia, October 2013), the Government of Argentina announced that, in cooperation with the ILO, it would organize the IV Global Conference on the Sustained Eradication of Child Labour in 2017. In September 2016, the Government of Argentina proposed that, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (the 2030 Agenda) and Alliance 8.7, the scope of the IV Global Conference should be broadened to cover both the elimination of child labour and forced labour and to include discussion of social and economic inclusion policies to promote quality youth employment.
2. On 19 September 2017 in New York, on the sidelines of the general debate of the 72nd Session of the United Nations (UN) General Assembly, the ILO launched two reports within the framework of Alliance 8.7, namely *Global estimates of child labour: Results and trends 2012–2016*¹ and *Global estimates of modern slavery: Forced labour and forced marriage*.² The first report shows that 152 million children (42 per cent girls and 58 per cent boys) between 5 and 17 years of age are still subject to child labour; that, despite a notable and persistent decline in child labour globally since the ILO began monitoring trends in 2000, the pace of decline had slowed markedly during the 2012–16 period; and that child labour in the rural economy and in the African region has increased, precisely at a time when substantial decline was needed to reach the ambitious 2030 Agenda target of eliminating all forms of child labour by 2025. The report calls for measures to accelerate progress, explaining that, if the pace recorded in the 2012–16 period persists, there will still be 121 million children in child labour in 2025. The second report highlights the fact that in 2016 a total of 25 million people were in forced labour and 15 million in forced marriage, with women and girls disproportionately affected.
3. Against this background, over 3,800 participants from 138 countries attended the Conference, including representatives of governments, workers' and employers' organizations, civil society, youth organizations, UN agencies (such as the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)) and other international and regional organizations (such as the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) and the African Union (AU)). Representatives of the International Organisation of Employers (IOE), the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) and global union federations (such as Education International (EI), the International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers' Associations (IUF), IndustriALL and the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF)), CEOs and other high-level business representatives took part in the Conference. Ministers headed 45 national delegations, and significant efforts were made to ensure the presence of tripartite delegations from least-developed countries. Nobel Peace Prize winner and child labour activist Kailash Satyarthi participated in the opening and closing ceremony and in the high-level panel of the Conference.

¹ http://www.ilo.org/global/publications/books/WCMS_575499/lang--en/index.htm.

² http://www.ilo.org/global/publications/books/WCMS_575479/lang--en/index.htm.

Main outcomes

4. The outcome document of the Conference, the Buenos Aires Declaration on Child Labour, Forced Labour and Youth Employment (see appendix) provides valuable guidance to assist the further development of a more integrated ILO approach to support the tripartite constituents and the broader international community in combating child labour and forced labour. It draws the attention to the slowdown of progress in recent years and the high prevalence of child labour, particularly in the informal and rural economy, in the context of crisis and armed conflict and in the lower tiers of supply chains. It recognizes that 71 per cent of all child labour is performed in the various subsectors of agriculture, mainly in informal and family enterprises that depend on their children's labour, and also notes that 12 per cent of forced labour takes place in agriculture.
5. The Buenos Aires Declaration recognizes that globalization, demographic, and environmental and technological changes may create challenges for the eradication of child labour and forced labour, unemployment, informality and inequality but may also provide new opportunities to eradicate them. It also takes note of the impact of migration and forced displacement on child labour and forced labour, and that these might be exacerbated by crises arising from conflict and disasters.
6. The Declaration recognizes that child labour, notably its worst forms, and forced labour are major violations and abuses of human rights and dignity, interconnected with decent work deficits for adults, and both causes and consequences of discrimination, social exclusion and lack of access to quality education. It refers to the eight fundamental ILO Conventions, the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930, and other relevant ILO and UN Conventions as the international normative framework for accelerating the eradication of child labour and forced labour. It underlines the fact that the 2030 Agenda represents a unique opportunity to accelerate the eradication of inequality and poverty, and welcomes the establishment of Alliance 8.7 to end forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking and child labour.
7. The Declaration commits all stakeholders to a rights-based approach and to serving the best interests of the child and urges the international community to take concrete action in three areas: (1) policy and governance; (2) knowledge, data and monitoring; and (3) partnerships and innovation.
8. The Buenos Aires Declaration promotes the universal ratification and implementation of the ILO fundamental Conventions and the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930. It calls for greater policy coherence, and highlights the importance of equal access to free, public and compulsory education and of a smooth school-to-work transition. It also suggests measures to strengthen labour inspection, victim protection and social security systems, focusing particularly on vulnerable groups in the informal economy, migrant populations and those in crisis situations arising from conflict and disasters, with a special focus on girls and young women.
9. The Declaration highlights the importance of knowledge, data and monitoring of child labour and forced labour, by strengthening national capacities, producing national indicators, exchanging good practices, periodically updating global estimates and conducting research on child labour, forced labour and their root causes, paying particular attention to supply chains, the informal economy, the rural economy, crisis and conflict zones, and high-risk sectors.
10. The Declaration underlines the importance of global partnerships, of new forms of cooperation and of subregional and regional initiatives in generating concerted policies and innovation. It promotes collaborative efforts by all stakeholders under Alliance 8.7, and calls

for increased funding commitments at all levels. It also encourages enterprises and governments to collaborate on the elimination of child labour and forced labour in supply chains, placing the focus on preventive approaches.

11. As part of the efforts of the Argentine host government to promote decent work for youth, and building on the “Safe Youth Conference” during the XXI World Congress on Occupational Safety and Health in Singapore earlier in 2017, youth organizations and 15 “youth ambassadors” adopted a statement entitled “Youth support and commitment to the Buenos Aires Declaration”.³
12. The IV Global Conference provided participating tripartite constituents, international, subregional and regional organizations, civil society organizations and businesses with an opportunity to make public, voluntary pledges to carry out concrete actions in line with the Conference objectives and the Buenos Aires Declaration.⁴ A total of 96 such pledges were registered: 54 by governments and regional groups (four of them tripartite and one bipartite); 12 by workers’ organizations; one by an employers’ organization; 11 by international organizations; and 18 by civil society organizations.⁵ These pledges covered the following thematic areas: policy actions, research, financial commitments, promotion of partnerships, advocacy actions, commitments to ratify international instruments and legislative actions at the national level. Within the framework of target 8.7 of the 2030 Agenda and of Alliance 8.7, some of these pledges might provide entry points for future collaboration with the ILO, in support of the effective implementation of the Buenos Aires Declaration.⁶

The preparatory process

13. During the 105th Session (June 2016) of the International Labour Conference, the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Security of Argentina, Mr Jorge Triaca, reaffirmed his country’s commitment to organize the IV Global Conference on Child Labour in 2017. In November 2016, the Governing Body discussed document GB.328/POL/6 entitled “Preparations for the IV Global Conference on Child Labour Report”. The Governing Body: (i) endorsed the host government’s proposal to widen the scope of the Conference to include the issue of the forced labour of adults in addition to all forms of child labour; (ii) endorsed the proposal for tripartite Regional Meetings and global preparatory consultations as specified in paragraph 14 of document GB.328/POL/6; and, taking into account the Governing Body discussion, (iii) requested the Director-General to provide the Government and the social partners of Argentina with the required technical assistance for the organization of the IV Global Conference on Child Labour.
14. To promote an inclusive preparatory debate for the Conference, two rounds of tripartite preparatory meetings were held in 2016 and 2017, led by Argentina, the organizing country, with technical and financial support from the ILO and development partners, in particular the Department of Labor of the Government of the United States. The first round involved consultation with countries from South Asia (Thimphu, 19–20 July); from West and North Africa (Abidjan, 8–9 September); and from South-East Asia and the Pacific (Bangkok, 14–15 September). The second round involved countries from the Americas (Buenos Aires,

³ http://www.childdlabour2017.org/sites/default/files/aportes_de_la_juventud_-_ing.pdf.

⁴ Concept note on pledges at: http://www.childdlabour2017.org/sites/default/files/concept-pledges-eng_0.pdf.

⁵ <http://www.childdlabour2017.org/en/resources/updates/pledges>.

⁶ Pledges can be consulted at: <http://www.childdlabour2017.org/en/resources/updates/pledges>.

22–23 February); sub-Saharan Africa (Addis Ababa, 22–23 June); Europe and Central Asia (Budapest, 29–30 June); and the Pacific (Nadi, Fiji, 3–5 October). The main objectives were to identify, in preparation for the IV Global Conference, common challenges, priorities and good practices in eliminating child labour and forced labour and promoting youth employment in the respective regions or subregions, to support the implementation of target 8.7 of the 2030 Agenda; and to provide a forum to discuss operationalization of Alliance 8.7 and concrete recommendations on the way forward.

15. The Permanent Mission of Argentina in Geneva, with technical assistance from the ILO, chaired four tripartite consultation meetings during 2017 to prepare the draft of the Buenos Aires Declaration. These meetings were attended by representatives of governments, the IOE and the ITUC – supported by the Bureau for Employers' Activities (ACT/EMP) and the Bureau for Workers' Activities (ACTRAV) – and by representatives from UN departments, agencies, funds and programmes. An online consultation for civil society organizations was held in April and May 2017, the outcome of which was submitted in June 2017 to the ILO tripartite constituents participating in the preparation of the draft final declaration, for their consideration.

The Conference

16. The Conference was opened by representatives of the host country, namely the Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Security, representatives of the employers' and workers' organizations of Argentina and other authorities. Nobel Peace Prize winner Kailash Satyarthi and the ILO Director-General also addressed the audience. The Conference included nine thematic, tripartite panel discussions, with participation from all regions on: (i) the rule of law, social dialogue and governance; (ii) education for all; (iii) supply chains; (iv) social protection; (v) hazardous child labour and safe and healthy work for youth; (vi) crisis and conflict; (vii) the rural economy; (viii) youth employment and school-to-work transition; and (ix) empowerment through knowledge. These thematic panels concluded in a high-level plenary panel entitled “From work without a future to a future on decent work – SDG 8.7 and beyond”. Gender concerns were fully mainstreamed in thematic panels, with a particular focus on solutions empowering girls and women.
17. A total of 70 representatives (54 per cent men and 46 per cent women) of governments, workers' and employers' organizations, international and civil society organizations and companies, from all regions, took part in the abovementioned thematic panels and the high-level plenary panel discussion. In addition, tripartite participants, international organizations, civil society organizations and other initiatives, including 2030 Agenda partnerships, sponsored and organized 18 special sessions. Several other meetings took place on the sidelines of the Conference, including a meeting of the AU, and the first meetings of the Global Coordinating Group of Alliance 8.7 and of the Group of Friends of the Alliance.
18. During the Conference, a tripartite Declaration Committee, with representatives from all regions, was entrusted with finalizing the draft final declaration. The resulting Buenos Aires Declaration was adopted by consensus in a plenary session on 16 November 2017.
19. The President of Argentina, Mauricio Macri, addressing the plenary on the third day, highlighted the fact that child labour and forced labour generated only poverty, unemployment and exacerbated lack of opportunities, and reaffirmed the need to eradicate them in line with the 2030 Agenda. He also underlined his country's commitment to the fight against child labour and forced labour.
20. The Minister of Labour, Employment and Social Security, two representatives from the employers' and workers' organizations of Argentina, on behalf of the IOE and the ITUC,

and representatives of the ILO Director-General and from civil society addressed the closing plenary session. Their remarks underlined the consensus reached during the Conference on the need, in line with target 8.7 of the 2030 Agenda, to end child labour in all its forms by 2025, to eradicate forced labour by 2030, and to generate decent jobs for all, especially young people. The Buenos Aires Declaration should guide all related efforts over the next four years. The 96 pledges announced at the Conference should also contribute to progress towards achieving target 8.7.

After the Conference: Follow-up

- 21.** As with the Brasilia Declaration of 2013 and the roadmap agreed at The Hague in 2010, it is proposed that the Office should disseminate the Buenos Aires Declaration on Child Labour, Forced Labour and Youth Employment as widely as possible. The Declaration should be implemented in conjunction with the ILO Plan of Action for the period 2017–23 to give effect to the conclusions concerning the second recurrent discussion on fundamental principles and rights at work. The Declaration will also be integrated into the activities of the IPEC+ flagship programme and of the Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work Branch, in consultation with other departments and programmes, including ACT/EMP and ACTRAV, and with the tripartite constituents. This process will be guided by the ILO's Strategic Plan for 2018–21⁷ and the Programme and Budget for 2018–19.⁸
- 22.** The Buenos Aires Declaration will inform follow-up action by partners of Alliance 8.7, including discussions with development partners and national, regional, subregional and sectoral constituents about the development of new initiatives to combat child labour and forced labour. The capacity of the IPEC+ flagship programme to support Alliance 8.7 and the implementation of the Declaration will demand resources beyond those presently available.
- 23.** Within the framework of target 8.7 of the 2030 Agenda and its high-level political forum, in particular the voluntary national reviews (VNRs),⁹ and of Alliance 8.7, the Office remains available to provide technical assistance to tripartite constituents in the ILO member States for follow-up to the Buenos Aires Declaration and their respective pledges made at the IV Global Conference.
- 24.** The Office also remains available to provide technical assistance to the government and social partners of any country deciding to host the next Global Conference, to be held in 2021.

⁷ GB.328/PFA/1.

⁸ http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_mas/---program/documents/genericdocument/wcms_582294.pdf.

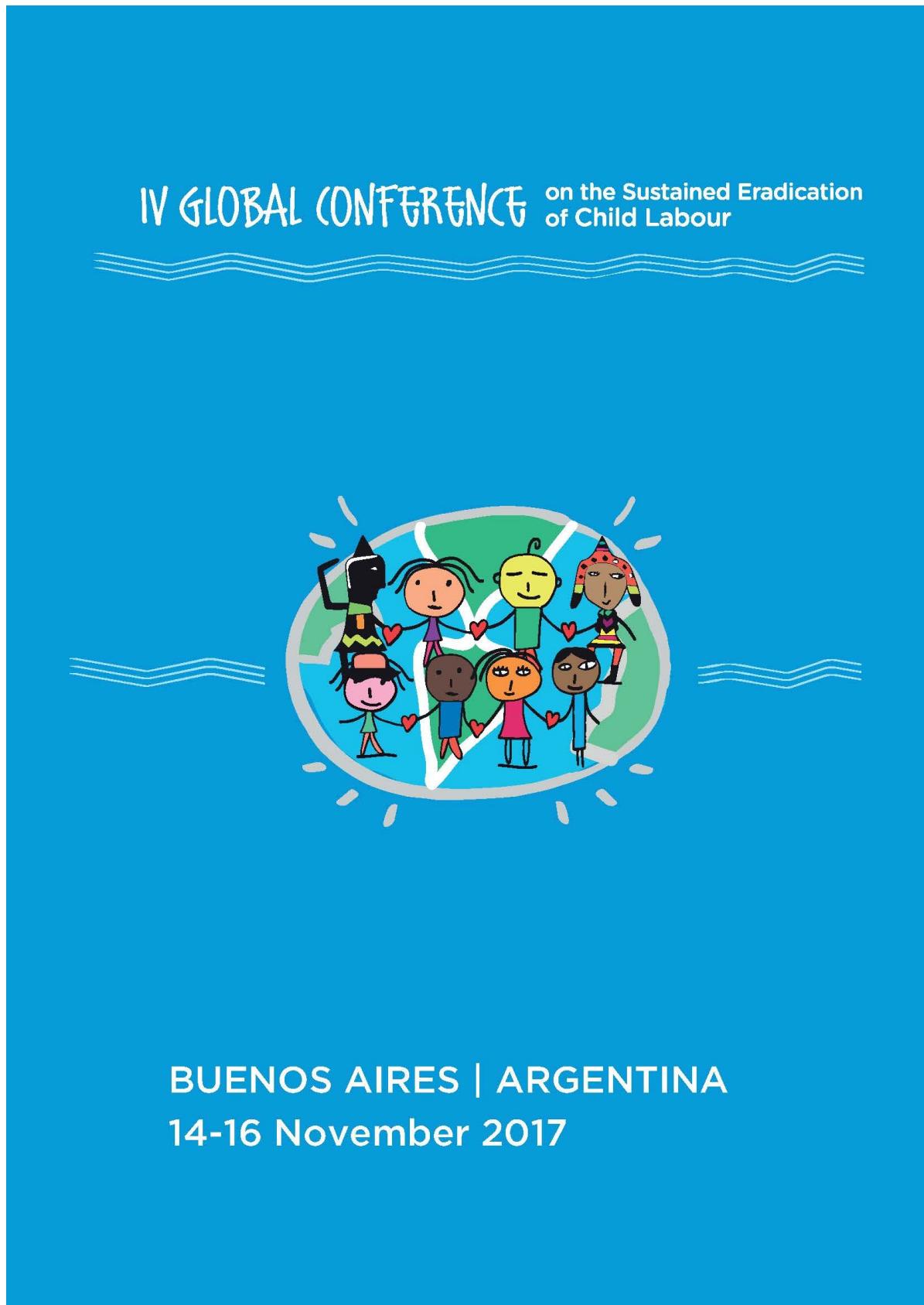
⁹ <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/vnrs/>.

Draft decision

25. *The Governing Body:*

- (a) *expresses its gratitude to the Government and the social partners of Argentina for hosting and ensuring the success of the IV Global Conference on the Sustained Eradication of Child Labour;*
- (b) *endorses the Buenos Aires Declaration and requests the Office to support its implementation in conjunction with the ILO Plan of Action for the period 2017–23 to give effect to the conclusions concerning the second recurrent discussion on fundamental principles and rights at work, adopted by the International Labour Conference in June 2017; and*
- (c) *reconfirms its commitment to the elimination of child labour and forced labour and requests the Office to continue providing technical assistance to achieve these objectives.*

Appendix



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BUENOS AIRES DECLARATION ON CHILD LABOUR, FORCED LABOUR AND YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

16 NOVEMBER 2017

We, representatives from governments, employers' and workers' organizations, together with international and regional organizations and civil society organizations, have gathered at the IV Global Conference on the Sustained Eradication of Child Labour in Buenos Aires, Argentina, 14-16 November 2017, to take stock of progress made since the III Global Conference on Child Labour, in Brasilia, Brazil, in 2013, taking into account the Brasilia Declaration as well as The Hague Roadmap of 2010, to assess obstacles and to agree on measures to accelerate the eradication of child labour and forced labour and, in this context, promote full and productive employment and decent work for all, especially for youth. The international normative framework for these efforts is provided mainly by the eight fundamental Conventions of the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930ⁱ and the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work; as well as other relevant ILO and United Nations (UN) Conventionsⁱⁱ;

Noting the estimates that 152 million girls and boys are still engaged in child labour, with 73 million in its worst forms; that 25 million people, including more than 4 million children, are still subject to forced labour, noting the importance of trafficking in persons; that 71 million youth are unemployed; that most child labour and forced labour is found in the informal rural and urban economies, not least in areas of armed conflict and crisis and is acute in the lower segments of some global supply chains;

Recognizing that child labour, notably its worst forms, and forced labour are major violations and abuses of human rights and dignity; and both causes and consequences of poverty, inequality, discrimination, social exclusion and lack of access to education; and **noting** that child labour, forced labour, poverty and decent work deficits for adults are all inter-connected and require an integrated and holistic approach to achieve their eradication;

Recognizing that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (hereafter "the 2030 Agenda") represents a unique opportunity to accelerate the eradication of inequality and poverty; and **noting** its Target 8.7 to eradicate child labour in all its forms by 2025 and forced labour, modern slavery and human trafficking by 2030;

Welcoming the establishment of Alliance 8.7 to end forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking and child labour, which can strengthen international cooperation, coordination and assistance through enhanced, appropriate multi-stakeholder partnerships to accelerate implementation of Target 8.7, as well as other relevant goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda;

Acknowledging that the full realization of fundamental principles and rights at work is one of the preconditions for decent work for all, in particular for women and young people; guaranteeing the protection of all workers; and providing an enabling

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environment for sustainable enterprises, the formalization of the informal economy and for realizing the right to education for all children;

Recognizing the importance of rural poverty reduction, the extension of social protection and access to public, free, complete, universal, quality primary and secondary education, affordable, quality technical vocational and tertiary education and life-long learning, and of area-based and community interventions for eradicating child labour and forced labour;

Reaffirming the key role that employers' and workers' organizations and social dialogue must play in the eradication of child labour and forced labour and in promoting decent work for all, in particular for women and young people;

Recognizing the role that civil society and international and regional organizations play in achieving these goals;

Recognizing that globalization, demographic, environmental and technological changes have an impact on labour markets and employment, and economic and social development, which cause challenges for the eradication of child labour and forced labour, unemployment, informality and inequality but may also provide new opportunities to eradicate them;

Recognizing that 71 per cent of child labour is performed in the various subsectors of agriculture, 42 per cent of this work is hazardous, and is mainly performed in informal and family enterprises that depend on their children's labour;

Noting that 12 per cent of forced labour takes place in agriculture, 24 per cent in domestic work, 18 per cent in construction and 15 per cent in manufacturing, among other sectors;

Noting that the unprecedented scale of migration and forced displacement has increased the number of children and adults who are or are at risk of becoming victims of child labour and forced labour; and that such risk can be mitigated or prevented by strengthened governance of labour migration;

Noting that child labour and forced labour are exacerbated by crisis situations arising from conflicts and disasters; and deeply concerned that conflict alone affects more than 250 million children, including those who are forcibly recruited into armed conflict and those subjected to sexual exploitation, with many more at greater risk of other forms of child labour;

Recognizing that the goal of universal ratification of the ILO fundamental Conventions, including the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930, the relevant human rights instruments, and the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children is important;

Underlining that the eradication of child labour and forced labour requires commitment to action, and effective implementation of the relevant normative framework;

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Recalling 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;

Acknowledging, in the fight against child labour and forced labour, the relevance of the ILO's Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy, the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises;

Despite the progress made at the national, regional and international level towards eradicating child labour and forced labour; we regret that the global goal of eliminating the worst forms of child labour by 2016 has not been reached, that the decline in child labour has slowed and that numbers of people in forced labour has remained high over recent years; and we therefore recognize the urgent need to accelerate efforts at all levels;

We declare our commitment to the eradication of child labour and forced labour, and call upon governments, social partners, international and regional organizations, civil society organizations and all other relevant stakeholders to take up the following principles and actions:

1) PRINCIPLES

Public policies and programmes addressing child labour and forced labour should:

- i) respect, promote and protect human rights, in particular fundamental principles and rights at work and the rights of the child;
- ii) serve the best interests of the child;
- iii) recognize the need for rights and obligations to be matched with appropriate and effective remedies when breached;
- iv) be designed and implemented through tripartite social dialogue, and as part of coherent and coordinated national policies for decent work;
- v) pay special attention including to social protection and to integrated measures to support families;
- vi) pay due attention to persons in situations of vulnerability, who might be victims of discrimination on any grounds and to social and economic exclusion;
- vii) be evidence-based;
- viii) be sensitive to gender, age, disability and origin, where appropriate;
- ix) assure that children, who are capable of forming their own views, and adults directly concerned, have the right to express their own views freely in all

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matters affecting them, with the views of the child being given due weight in accordance with the age and maturity of the child; and

- x) make effective, efficient, and results-based use of resources, focusing on impact.

2) ACTIONS

We declare our commitment and urge the wider international community to commit to:

1. Policy and governance

- 1.1 Accelerate efforts to end child labour in all its forms by 2025, generate the conditions for full and productive employment and decent work for young people, and to eradicate forced labour by 2030 while addressing the root causes of child labour and forced labour;
- 1.2 Seek to align, as a matter of urgency, policies, strategies and time-bound action plans at corresponding levels, relevant to the eradication of child labour and forced labour, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- 1.3 Promote integrated, coherent and effective public services and policies in the fields of labour, justice, education, agriculture, health, vocational training and social protection as a strategy to eradicate child labour and forced labour;
- 1.4 Strengthen the capacity of and involve public authorities, social partners, civil society, local communities and enterprises to develop and implement such policies, strategies and action plans at all relevant levels;
- 1.5 Strengthen the organizational capacity of local communities, as appropriate, in their efforts to prevent, detect and eliminate child labour and forced labour; to ensure that relevant authorities are aware of and replicate these efforts;
- 1.6 Taking into consideration the objective of universal ratification of the ILO fundamental Conventions, including the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930, promote the effective implementation of Conventions Nos. 138, 182, 29, and 105, the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930, and related Recommendations, as well as the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and its Optional Protocols, and the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children;
- 1.7 Strengthen national legal frameworks and their enforcement, including the periodic review and update of the national list of hazardous work prohibited for all children, and efforts to eradicate hazardous child labour, particularly in sectors and occupations where it is most prevalent;
- 1.8 Strengthen the capacity of labour inspection and other enforcement services, according to national law, to better detect and address child labour and forced labour, assist victims, promote and ensure compliance with legislation;

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- 1.9 Take effective measures to prevent child labour and forced labour, and to protect the victims, in particular those who are in a situation of vulnerability, by ensuring their access to administrative and judicial mechanisms, effective remedies, such as (re)integration into education, rehabilitation, as well as providing for appropriate sanctions for the perpetrators;
- 1.10 Pay particular attention to the needs and circumstances of those in situation of vulnerability in building and maintaining national social security systems, including social protection floors, taking into consideration the Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952 (No. 102) and the Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202), to eradicate and prevent child labour and forced labour;
- 1.11 Strengthen policies and programmes aimed at ensuring equal access to free, public, and compulsory education for all children; retaining children, especially girls and other children in vulnerable situations, in quality and inclusive education systems; and favour evidence-based strategies to promote a smooth school-to-work transition, transferable life-long skills training, quality apprenticeships, employability, and full and productive employment and decent work for youth;
- 1.12 Promote coherent and integrated strategies to achieve the transition from informal to formal economies, social development and innovation, with a focus on women and young people;
- 1.13 Empower children and young people, particularly girls and young women and others who are in situations of vulnerability, and protect them from becoming victims of sexual exploitation and trafficking in persons;
- 1.14 Promote inclusive rural development to eradicate and prevent child labour and forced labour, through the expansion of the scope of services provided by the state, the promotion of decent work, improved productivity, the creation of a favourable business environment and use of technology, safer agricultural practices, access to knowledge and education for children and young people, financial and agricultural extension services, markets and opportunities for value addition and non-farm employment, among others means;
- 1.15 Take measures to protect all migrants and children on the move, in full respect of the fundamental principles and rights at work, and the rights of the child, including coordinated efforts at national level, and cooperation between origin, transit and destination countries;
- 1.16 Promote fair labour recruitment practices, the protection of workers in the hiring process and ensure that regulation of labour recruiters is in accordance with the ILO General principles and operational guidelines for fair recruitment;
- 1.17 Strengthen implementation of actions to eradicate child labour and forced labour in crisis situations arising from conflicts and disasters, with particular attention to the protection of children, and other persons in situation of vulnerability, regardless of their legal status;

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2. Knowledge, data and monitoring

- 2.1 Strengthen national capacities to regularly collect and disseminate disaggregated data, such as by sex, age and sector, in particular on victims and populations in situations of vulnerability, with due regard to the protection of personal data;
- 2.2 Make progress on the commitment to produce, at national level, as appropriate, standardized indicators on relevant targets of the 2030 Agenda and implement efforts to monitor progress within the global indicator framework;
- 2.3 Support international cooperation for the exchange of evidence-based data and good practices to address cross-border cases of child labour, forced labour and trafficking in persons;
- 2.4 Urge the International Labour Office, in close collaboration with other UN agencies and other international and national partners, to continue producing global estimates and stimulating sharing best practices on child labour and on forced labour;
- 2.5 Conduct research on child labour and forced labour and their root causes in order to accelerate action to eradicate them. Such research should pay particular attention to supply chains, the informal economy, the rural economy, crisis and conflict zones, and high risk sectors, and should also support efforts to build capacity in the countries most affected as well as to identify and share best practices;

3. Partnerships and innovation

- 3.1 Promote global partnerships involving governments, employers' and workers' organizations and other relevant stakeholders, including youth organizations, and children, as appropriate, to design and test innovative approaches on the eradication of child labour and forced labour and to harness technology wherever beneficial;
- 3.2 Promote active participation of all States, social partners and other stakeholders in Alliance 8.7 to develop collaborative approaches to the eradication of child labour and forced labour;
- 3.3 Promote increased funding, at all levels, for the fight against child labour and forced labour, encourage international organizations to increase technical support, and improve coordination among funding streams with the aim of deploying funds, taking into account the socio-economic needs of States, to accelerate the achievement of the 2030 Agenda deadlines relevant to child labour and forced labour;
- 3.4 Promote subregional and regional initiatives aimed at the sustained eradication of child labour, such as the Regional Initiative Latin America and the Caribbean Free of Child Labour, resulting from commitments undertaken at the III Global Conference on Child Labour (Brasilia 2013). Other subregional and regional

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initiatives also constitute important platforms for the generation of concerted policies and innovation involving relevant stakeholders aiming at the eradication of child labour and forced labour;

- 3.5 Recognizing that enterprises should respect human rights, encourage them, in line with the ILO's Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, to carry out due diligence in their supply chains in order to identify, prevent, mitigate and account for how they address adverse human rights impacts of their activities, particularly in relation to child labour and forced labour;
- 3.6 Encourage governments to consider adopting and implementing policies, notably preventive policies in their supply chains, including by evaluating and monitoring their respective procurement policies, sharing promising and best practices in implementation and enforcement as fits their needs and involving, meaningfully, relevant stakeholders to prevent child labour and forced labour. For these purposes, enterprises also play an important role in securing the effective abolition of child labour and forced labour; and
- 3.7 Support widened sharing and application of best practices, as well as the implementation of cooperation actions through strengthened international development assistance, including North-South, South-South and triangular cooperation.

The participants express their gratitude to the Government of the Republic of Argentina for hosting this Conference, and welcome the Government of Argentina's intention to bring this Declaration to the attention of the ILO Governing Body for further consideration and follow-up.

ⁱ. Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29) and Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930; Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87); Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98); Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No. 100); Abolition of Forced Labour Convention, 1957 (No. 105); Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958 (No. 111); Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138); and Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182).

ⁱⁱ. UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989; and its Optional Protocols, 2000, on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, and on the involvement of children in armed conflict; and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the UN Convention on Transnational Organised Crime, 2000.