

► ILO Director General Statement - Summit of the Future, Plenary Session

Sunday, 22 September, 15:00 – 21:00, UNHQ, General Assembly Hall

(259 words – 3 minutes)

Mr. President, Excellencies,

The ILO welcomes this Summit, which is a unique opportunity to forge pathways toward a peaceful, prosperous, safe, and sustainable future for both current and future generations.

In our interdependent world, no country can solve global issues alone. Multilateral cooperation is critical not only to tackle global challenges, but also to advance the national interests of each and every country. This is essential for the world of work.

Excellencies, the world needs a more equitable distribution of economic benefits, more inclusive labour markets and a universal access to social protection. This requires the multilateral system to work together and the involvement of non-state actors including workers and employers' organisations.

An alarming 3.8 billion people have no access to social protection, and over 2 billion struggle to make a living in the informal economy.

As stated by the ILO Constitution, no lasting peace could be attained without social justice. Hence, ILO with all its constituents including workers and employers' organizations enthusiastically embrace the ambition of the UN Pact for the Future, including the necessary reform of the global governance and the financing for development.

Specially, I will recall that in 2023, 20% of young people were neither in employment, education, nor training.

With the adoption of the UN Pact for the Future, you can count on the ILO as we have done for the last 105 years, to continue to fight for access to decent work and social justice for all, especially the most vulnerable, as it is critical to lasting peace and sustainable development.

Thank you.