

#TIME FOR



#Timefor8

**THE CLOCK IS TICKING FOR
A NEW SOCIAL CONTRACT**



The pandemic has destroyed over 250 million jobs worldwide and left 1.6 billion informal workers destitute. We need to create 575 million jobs to reach full employment and formalise at least one billion informal jobs. Investing in a New Social Contract with SDG 8 at its core will help achieve that!

Sharan Burrow, General Secretary of the International Trade Union Confederation.





Covid-19 has triggered an extraordinary wave of destruction across the world of labour. Over 250 million jobs have been destroyed thus far and more than 1.6 billion informal workers are facing deprivation without any social protection to fall back on.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are relevant today more than ever. They provide the vision and show the path towards resilient economies and inclusive and just societies. Recovery measures and investments must be in line with the SDGs to be lasting.

SDG 8 is key to address the social and economic impacts of the Covid-19 crisis. Through its targets on workers protection, decent work, social protection and on inclusive growth, Goal 8 drives the 2030 Agenda forward and plays a fundamental role in trade unions' call for a New Social Contract on: (1) Jobs, creation of decent, climate-friendly jobs with Just Transition; (2) Rights for all workers; (3) Universal social protection for all; (4) Equality, end of all discriminations, and (5) Inclusion, ensuring development systems that empowers developing countries.

It's time for 8. The Clock is ticking for a New Social Contract.



Climate change is damaging our soil's ability to be productive. Thanks to the union, we are learning to better manage our resources and to work in a sustainable and resilient way.

Women farmers from the Bourara group.
Affiliated to SYNADER, Chad.



**INVESTING IN
CLIMATE-FRIENDLY
JOBS AND A JUST
TRANSITION TO A ZERO-
CARBON ECONOMY IS
FUNDAMENTAL FOR
SUSTAINABLE
RECOVERY AND
RESILIENCE**

Climate change and the deteriorating capacity of our planet to sustain life can no longer be ignored: we need industrial transformations to achieve net-zero carbon emissions, decoupling growth from environmental degradation. This calls for recovery and resilience plans that include investments in creating millions of new climate-friendly jobs. A Just Transition will provide the necessary support and skills for workers moving into green and digital jobs, and is the way forward to ensure workers are on board and support climate and digital shifts.

Ensuring climate-friendly jobs and a Just Transition is the best way to empower workers to contribute to a sustainable recovery and to build resilience against future crises!



Over a year after the COVID-19 outbreak we are back to square one in terms of new infections. It's about time our government realised that we must invest in creating decent jobs in the care and health sector to better protect care professionals and their patients, and to prevent any further spreading of the pandemic.

Manuel Payao, nurse. Affiliated to FFW, the Philippines.



**BOOSTING THE CREATION
OF DECENT JOBS IN
QUALITY PUBLIC
SERVICES AND THE
CARE ECONOMY HELPS
IMPROVE SOCIETIES'
RESILIENCE AGAINST
CRISES**

Jobs, jobs and jobs! This is what the world needs to overcome the pandemic's unprecedented levels of job destruction and livelihood loss. In 2020, COVID-19 wiped out almost 500 million jobs. Recovering from this devastation and building resilience will require massive job creation in essential services of the care economy - health, education, childcare, aged care and disability support. This will boost the economy and create decent work opportunities in services that are labour intensive and employ predominantly women and migrant workers.

Investing in decent and sustainable jobs in quality public services and the care economy is part of the solution to recover from this crisis and to build resilience against future ones!

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People are no longer coming to our kiosk to buy tea since the Coronavirus outbreak started. I am the breadwinner of a family of nine. On many days I don't earn a single shilling and return home empty handed.

Jamila, tea kiosk holder, Mogadishu, Somalia.



**SUPPORTING THE
REAL ECONOMY AND
FORMALISING THE
INFORMAL ECONOMY
ARE NECESSARY TO
RETAIN EMPLOYMENT
AND REBUILD
LIVELIHOODS**

Support for employment and livelihoods should continue to reverse the economic and social consequences of the crisis, until the pandemic is defeated. Economic stimulus targeting micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises will ensure they are sustained, along with contributing to employment retention and extending social protection coverage to informal economy workers. Informal economy workers are being hit especially hard by this crisis. Their jobs and livelihoods are under constant threat, and they lack the necessary social protection to fall back on. Governments must take concrete steps towards formalising the informal economy, such as by implementing the International Labour Organization's Recommendation 204 on the transition from the informal to the formal economy.

Supporting micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises to ensure employment retention and the formalisation of the informal economy is necessary if we are to emerge from this crisis.

Thanks to the health and safety measures that the union negotiated with the company, all employees kept their jobs and the brewery could continue production.

Workers from the Maracaibo Regional Brewery. Affiliated to SURTRACEV, Venezuela.



**MAKING
WORKPLACES
SAFE AND HEALTHY
SAVES LIVES AND
STOPS THE SPREAD
OF THE PANDEMIC**

The COVID-19 pandemic has cast the spotlight on the dangers of insecure and unsafe workplaces both for workers and for society. Evidence from around the world shows that the virus is spreading in those workplaces where workers lack the necessary safety measures and equipment to carry out their jobs. Even before the pandemic, 2.6 million people died every year from work-related illnesses and injuries. Reversing this trend requires a strong commitment from governments and employers to promote decent working conditions, including effective occupational health and safety measures for all workers. Supporting the inclusion of occupational health and safety as part of the ILO's fundamental principles and rights at work will prove this commitment is true!

Saving lives at work requires the recognition of occupational health and safety as a fundamental right!



With the Covid-19 crisis, our working conditions have worsened even more. Our remunerations are often delayed and paid in installments, and our holidays have been suspended.

Dwi Istianah, worker in a seafood processing and export company. Affiliated to KSBSI, Indonesia.



**ENDING CORPORATE
GREED PROTECTS
WORKERS' DIGNITY
AND IS FUNDAMENTAL
FOR A WORLD FREE
FROM CHILD LABOUR
AND MODERN
SLAVERY**

Corporate greed is incompatible with the new sustainable and resilient world we need coming out of this crisis. This has laid bare the structural problems generated by deeply dehumanising and exploitative business practices that are based on anti-labour and anti-social behaviours. Corporate greed imprisons workers and their communities in poverty, makes profit out of child labour and modern slavery and depletes countries from important tax revenues that could be invested in recovery and resilience. Furthermore, it fosters global inequality, concentrating wealth in the hands of a few at the expense of the many. It is time to end this and ensure that corporations deliver on due diligence and respect workers' rights, provide social protection, comply with their fiscal obligations, reduce their carbon footprint, and effectively eradicate child labour and forced labour from their supply chains.

Ending corporate greed is the first step towards ending child labour and modern slavery!

“
After the factory closed, the owners didn't pay my salary for a whole month. I have two children so I had to start working as a servant in people's houses to survive.

Mosammat Himu, 30, former machine operator for a garment company in Dhaka, Bangladesh.



**BUILDING A RESILIENT
WORLD THAT LEAVES
NO ONE BEHIND
REQUIRES UNIVERSAL
SOCIAL PROTECTION
AND A GLOBAL
FUND FOR SOCIAL
PROTECTION**

Seventy-three per cent of the world's population lack adequate social protection. Countries with solid social protection systems are also more resilient to any domestic or global shocks. Providing all workers, independently of their contractual status, with social security, unemployment benefits and access to healthcare is a necessity to tackle impact of any crisis, and it is in line with the ILO Convention 102 on Social Protection. But not all countries have the means to do so. Through the means of a Global Fund for Social Protection we could close the funding gap for the world's poorest countries and enable them to set up their own sustainable social protection systems, including universal access to health care.

Ensuring access to universal social protection and health care for all everywhere is essential to build a resilient world!



I worked in a family, where I suffered severe burns from boiling water. My whole arm was burnt, but no one took care of me. I bore all my medical expenses myself and I had no income because I had to stop working.

Charlotte, domestic worker, Senegal.



**PUTTING AN END TO
DISCRIMINATION,
VIOLENCE AND
HARASSMENT
AT WORK IS A
PREREQUISITE FOR
EQUAL SOCIETIES**

Equality needs to be at the forefront of societies. Women are paying the highest price for this crisis, losing their jobs and wages. The COVID-19 crisis has worsened income inequality and increased gender exclusion and discrimination, showing the urgency of tackling the gender pay gap. Women are also facing the burdens of violence and harassment at work. The recently approved ILO Convention on violence and harassment at work (C190) was a long-awaited step in the fight for gender equality. Countries now need to ratify and implement this Convention.

Bridging the gender-pay gap and ending violence and harassment are fundamental for inclusive societies!

When Covid came, our employer wanted to start laying off workers. But the union held social dialogue meetings with our employer who eventually agreed to send us on unpaid leave until the lockdown was lifted instead. Now we are all back to work.

Naiga Dorah, flower picker. Affiliated to UHISPAWU, Uganda.



**SUPPORTING
SOCIAL DIALOGUE
TO REBUILD
SOCIETIES AND
REINFORCE GLOBAL
GOVERNANCE**

To be sustainable, crisis response measures must be built on the engagement of social partners. Social dialogue and industrial relations help rebuild trust in institutions and assist in crafting equitable policies. This is true within countries but also across nations. We need a new model of global governance to redress the current imbalance of power and uneven distribution of wealth at international level. A truly inclusive multilateral system where social partners are on board and have a say will make the difference and pave the way to global resilience.

Social Dialogue is the best option to place the economy at the service of people and the environment for a sustainable and resilient world that leaves no-one behind!

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Contact:
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