

► **The Director-General**

Mr Pambis Kyritsis
General Secretary
World federation of Trade Unions (WFTU)
ATHENS

04 December 2023

Dear General Secretary,

It is with great pleasure and a sense of urgency that I extend an invitation to the World federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) to join the Global Coalition for Social Justice that was established by the Governing Body of the International Labour Organization during its last session, in November 2023.

Through the endorsement of this initiative, the ILO Governing Body recognised that the quest for social justice, at the centre of the mandate and purpose of the ILO according to its Constitution and the Declaration of Philadelphia, goes beyond the world of work and requires the involvement of the multilateral system as a whole. In this regard, and with *Our Common Agenda* in mind, our tripartite constituents unanimously stressed the importance of strengthening policy coherence at the global, regional and national level. Likewise, they agreed on the importance of supporting the United Nations System-wide efforts and the forthcoming steps the United Nations Secretary-General has defined for its implementation, in particular the World Social Summit in 2025. In addition, the Governing Body acknowledged the urgency of intensifying efforts to address social justice deficits and to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Decent Work Agenda.

At the *World of Work Summit: Social Justice for All*, convened during the 111th Session of the International Labour Conference (June 2023), Heads of State and Government, high-level dignitaries from workers' and employers' organizations, and senior United Nations officials underscored the imperative for collective action in elevating the social dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Responding to this call to action, the Coalition will serve as a platform to generate increased political commitments, foster concrete actions in support of national priorities towards advancing social justice and decent work, and create a forum for exchange and dialogue. The ultimate goal of this will be to achieve a greater balance amongst the economic, social, and environmental dimensions of sustainable development.

Thus, the Coalition will bring together Governments, workers' and employers' organizations, UN system organizations and regional organizations, international financial institutions and development banks, enterprises, academia, and international non-governmental organizations that are committed to support the cause of social justice and willing to join forces to urgently

address social justice deficits and undertake advocacy efforts, fostering multilateral cooperation to translate commitments into effective actions.

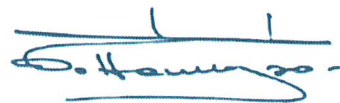
Since the purpose of the Coalition is to increase the trajectory of progress on social justice above and beyond existing activities, it will seek to create a collaborative space in which partners shape individual and collective opportunities for concrete actions and tangible outcomes. The collaborative approach will ensure that each partner's strengths and expertise are maximized to effect real change, thereby amplifying the impact of their actions and relevance in addressing the identified needs and achieve outcomes that go beyond what can be accomplished individually.

This is why a core part of the Coalition's thematic development, which will be finalised in the coming months, will be guided by the common priorities jointly identified by its partners. For the ILO, the Office will target a number of initial priorities for advancing the Coalition's early thematic development. These include i) employment creation and universal social protection, including through the Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions and efforts to strengthen the enabling environment for sustainable enterprises and investment in skills in support of full and productive employment and sustained economic growth; ii) reduction of inequalities; iii) elevation of social justice and decent work in the priorities of other multilateral organizations; iv) promoting social dialogue, including through its institutions, and expanding the role and promoting the value added of social dialogue and of the ILO's tripartite structure and normative framework in the UN and other multilateral policy development and coordination processes.

Joining the Coalition offers an opportunity to increase the scale and impact of your actions by working jointly with others in a more coherent and coordinated manner, identifying new opportunities and partnerships with other participants, and increasing visibility of your actions and initiatives to advance social justice by benefiting from a broader network of actors to showcase and highlighting progress and impact. The Coalition will also allow partners to leverage the power of social dialogue and tripartism as an effective means to advance social justice in a sustainable manner.

I sincerely hope that I can count on your invaluable participation and leadership in this global initiative. The Secretariat is ready to provide any additional information you may require to join the Coalition (socialjustice@ilo.org).

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'G. Hougbo', with a horizontal line above and below the name.

Gilbert F. Hougbo