

**EMPLOYMENT WORKING GROUP
MEETING III
23-24 JULY 2015 - CAPPADOCIA
CO-CHAIR'S SUMMARY**

DAY 1: 23 July 2015

Session 1: Progress to date on the EWG agenda and cooperation with other working groups

The third meeting of the G20 Employment Working Group (EWG) started with the welcoming remarks of Turkey, China and Australia as the co-Chairs of the group.

After the welcoming remarks, the first session started with the briefings of representatives from Sherpa and Finance Tracks with the aim of updating the EWG members on their activities.

The representative of the **Sherpa Track** provided information about the key topics highlighted at the recent Sherpa Meeting held in Bodrum on June 16-17, 2015. Inequalities and youth employment were the key topics discussed in the employment session of the Sherpa Meeting and the EWG was tasked to work further in determining a collective and quantifiable target on youth employment for submission to the Leaders.

Representative of **Finance Track** also informed the EWG delegates about the outcomes of Finance and Central Bank Deputies meeting held in Bodrum on June 15-16, 2015. The main topic of this meeting was mainly about the discussion on the ongoing economic situation, adjusted Growth Strategies, detailed monitoring template, investment strategies as well as the necessity of more concrete deliverables and the topics of financial regulation and taxation issues that are going to be on the agenda of the Leaders' Summit.

Following the update on the activities of other tracks, Republic of Korea delivered an informative presentation on the "**Multi-Year Framework (MYF) for Policy Coherence and Coordination on Human Resource Development (HRD) between the DWG and EWG**". The Multi-Year Framework was welcomed by most of the delegates. It was requested from the Republic of Korea to revise the document taking the views and considerations of the delegates commented in the session, especially made by China concerning the planned activities calendar for next year.

Action:

1. Korea will revise the MYF in light of the suggestions made by the delegates and the document is expected to be adopted by both EWG and DWG members in due course.

Session 2: Cooperation with social partners and other engagement groups

In the second session, representatives of social partners, namely **B20 and L20** as well as the representatives of G20 outreach groups, namely **C20, T20 and Y20** reflected their views particularly on the issues of youth employment and labour mobility.

Social partners and engagement groups expressed their support on the idea of quantifiable and measurable youth target commitment that is planned to be included in the Leaders' Declaration. C20 and Y20 representatives attended the EWG meeting for the first time and the EWG

members had also the opportunity to listen views from the perspectives of young people and civil society.

Social partners highlighted the importance of a collective G20 target for youth employment. Improving education policies, investing in technology and raising competitiveness, addressing skills mismatches, job creation, research and development, supporting entrepreneurship/SMEs and developing leadership skills, promoting vocational education as well as digital literacy in primary, secondary and higher education were emphasized as important tools for tackling youth unemployment, as in line with three “I”s of Turkish Presidency’s overall priorities.

It was also indicated by the social partners that government and business should work together towards resolving the global youth unemployment problem and the situation of NEETs. A joint statement prepared by B20 and L20 was also delivered in this session, which focuses on “Jobs, Growth and Decent Work”. B20 and L20 engagement was welcomed by the EWG delegates and the **L20-B20 Joint Statement** is expected to be submitted to the G20 Labour Ministers at the LEMM.

Session 3: Contribution of labour mobility to growth

During this session, the contribution of labour mobility on economic growth was extensively discussed among the delegates as an issue which has been tackled at the EWG for the first time.

On the basis of the report titled “**The Contribution of Labour Mobility to Economic Growth**” prepared jointly by IOs and circulated by the Presidency, OECD provided a presentation that explains the contribution and importance of labour mobility on economic growth, migration trends in advanced economies, economic impact of migration and the international transferability of skills.

Following the presentation, the World Bank resumed the development effects of migration in origin countries and the impact of remittances on reducing poverty. ILO informed the delegates about the key policy challenges and the possible steps to be taken.

The necessity and the importance of constructing fair and effective labour migration governance in order to obtain optimum benefits from migration; improved governance approaches that can help realization of economic growth, productive employment and decent work – with the target on protecting labour rights, safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers; and skills transferability for sharing good practices by building a platform were emphasized by the IOs.

After the presentations delivered by IOs, the floor was opened for discussion among delegates. A number of ideas and recommendations were received from delegates during the session and it was decided that the issue should take place in Ministerial Declaration with a common statement. As the issue has multiple dimensions, most of the delegates emphasized the importance of social protection of migrants and their families as well. Some concerns with regard to specific national circumstances on labour mobility were also raised by some delegates.

In this session, organization of a workshop to share best practices was also proposed by some members for discussing the issue deeply and separately.

Action:

2. A common understanding was reached as EWG would keep the issue as concise as possible with a short and generic paragraph in the Ministerial Declaration that could give way for further discussions in next years after this starting point.

Session 4: Silver Economy and Ageing Societies

The topic of the fourth session was “silver economy and active ageing”. Italy provided information about the outputs of the “**G20 Workshop on Silver Economy and Active Ageing: An opportunity for Growth and Job Creation**” that was held on June 24th in Rome.

The workshop was conducted in accordance with the paper drafted and presented by the OECD upon request and in cooperation with G20 Presidency and Italy. Later on, the OECD presented some “Policy options to absorb youth into Silver Economy”.

Based on the proposal of the G20 Turkish Presidency, the prepared set of principles/guidelines including 15 articles on silver economy and active ageing was shared and discussed among delegates.

Following the revision of the principles based on the comments made by delegates, it was accepted and agreed to be included as an annex to the Ministerial Declaration as a tool for further policy guidance on this issue.

Action:

3. Following the comments and recommendations of the delegates, revised “G20 Principles on Silver Economy and Active Ageing” document which is an Annex to the Ministerial Declaration, was adopted at the end of the session.

Session 5: Finalization of the template on self-reporting of Employment Plans

The main objective of the session was to finalize self-reporting templates for countries to use in reporting on their Employment Plans (EPs), with a view to increased coherence with Growth Strategies, and discuss possible revisions to the template in order to enable all countries to report in a comparative way for delivery in line with a timeframe to be agreed upon.

In this session, ILO provided with the logic behind the preparation of the country self-reporting template, which was developed basing on the discussions during previous EWG meetings.

Following the ILO’s presentation, the template was discussed among the delegates where a number of recommendations and comments were received. ILO and Turkish Co-chair of the

EWG made some clarifications on the highlighted comments, particularly on the set of indicators in the template.

Finally, it was agreed to put “N/A” (*not applicable*) to the related part of the template if the data for a specific indicator is not available. Meanwhile, ILO offered to assist the countries in filling out the templates and providing the relevant indicators for the use of G20 members. Based on the recommendations of some delegates, it was agreed that the Country Self-reporting Template is removed from the list of annexes to the Ministerial Declaration.

On the other hand, a **deadline was determined as August 21st, 2015** to send the completed country self-reports to the Presidency in order to submit the monitoring progress to Ministers in September. It was also agreed that it would be possible to revise the Employment Plans concurrently (*preferably by the end of September*) and to finalize them until Leaders’ Summit.

At this session, the Multi-Year Agenda (MYA) prepared by the United States in cooperation with the G20 Presidency was also presented by the United States. The proposed MYA will be annexed to the ToR of the EWG and will serve as a basis for a continued discussion on certain topics. Delegates discussed the content of the MYA and agreed to have a final discussion on the content and adoption of the document at the informal meeting of the EWG to be held in November.

Action:

4. As the self-reporting template was accepted as it was presented to the EWG in this session, G20 members will start filling in the template immediately. The deadline for the submission of self-reporting of EPs was set as August 21st, 2015. International organizations will provide indicators that are common to all G20 members by August 14th, 2015.

DAY 2: 24 July 2015

Session 6: Results of 2nd Meeting of Sub-group on LIS and Inequalities

Objective of this session was to finalize the **Annex-1 of the Ministerial Declaration** which is on inequalities, labour income share and inclusive growth.

Though most of the former comments had been inserted to the document, some delegates made further suggestions for changing some parts of the document. After a further round of discussion, the document was adopted and decided to be annexed to the Ministerial Declaration.

Action:

5. Annex-1 to the Ministerial Declaration titled “Inequalities, Labour Income Share and Inclusive Growth” was revised and adopted by the EWG.

Session 7: Trends and progress to date on youth employment

The seventh session of agenda was on the trends and progress to date on youth employment. In this session, OECD and ILO delivered a presentation on the paper titled “**Setting Objectives for Achieving Better Youth Employment Outcomes**”.

The main result obtained from the presentation was the increased necessity of helping vulnerable youth who are most at risk of being left permanently behind in the labour market. The reasons of this situation are identified as jobs crisis and the persistent scars that high unemployment leave, technological change and new ways of working.

Two measurable target proposals were highlighted to reduce the share of youth who are most vulnerable to being left permanently behind in the labour market either by 15% by 2025 or by 20% by 2020.

Meanwhile complementary policy commitments were underlined by ILO as improving education and skills of youth and improving youth employment as well as the ways of achieving those targets.

After a fruitful discussion on the target proposals, EWG could get a common decision and the majority of the delegates opted for the option “**15% by 2025**”, which is less ambitious but more achievable as compared to the other option.

At the end of the discussions, some delegates mentioned the necessity to consult internally with relevant departments at their capitals. The issue will be settled at the **fourth EWG meeting which will be held on September 2nd, 2015**. Furthermore, IOs were also asked to prepare policy principles to serve as a guiding document in order to reach the collective goal. This document will also be annexed to the Ministerial Declaration.

After the discussions on youth employment target, OECD made a brief on the “**G20 Skills Strategy**” that had been revised after the second EWG meeting. Then, one more round of discussion on the document was conducted and the new comments were taken from delegates so as OECD to finalize the document. This document will be annexed to the Ministerial Declaration.

Actions:

6. Basing on the mandate from G20 Sherpas and following further discussions on the fourth EWG meeting on September 2nd, 2015, a quantifiable youth employment target will be inserted in Ministerial Declaration as reducing the share of low skilled young people who are most at risk of being left permanently behind in the labour market by 15% by 2025.

7. OECD will finalize the “G20 Skills Strategy”, which will also be annexed to the Ministerial Declaration, based on recent feedbacks taken in this session and it will be circulated among delegates after completion.

Session 8: Wrap-up and building blocks for the Ministerial Declaration

In this session, the permanent website developed for the G20 Employment Working Group was introduced by the Turkish Presidency, which will be handed over to China during take-over ceremony to be held in November. It was welcomed and approved by all delegates with minor modification proposals.

After the website briefing, the most in-depth and the last discussion of Turkish Presidency was launched. Initially, the annexes numbered 3 and 4, named “**G20 Framework for Promoting Job Quality**” and “**G20 Principles for Effective Employment Services**” respectively were discussed to get feedbacks from the delegates. In line with the comments that had been received earlier and during the meeting, those documents were revised and will be circulated for adoption.

Finally, the draft Ministerial Declaration was shared with delegates after incorporation of the comments that have been received on the zero draft which was circulated prior to the meeting.

Article 10 (*on labour mobility*) and Article 15 (*quantifiable youth employment target*) of the Declaration were the most discussed ones. The Presidency proposed to come up with modified versions of these two paragraphs in addition to the incorporation of comments made in this session.

Action:

8. The revised Ministerial Declaration and its annexes will be circulated among delegates after the meeting. The Ministerial Declaration and annexes pending for adoption will be discussed and adopted at the fourth EWG meeting which will be held on September 2nd, 2015.

CLOSING: Other Actions

Turkish Co-chair closed the meeting at 21:30, thanking all members and the international organizations for their participation, patience and collaborative approach.

Turkish Presidency finally made a briefing about the agenda and organizational issues of G20 Labour and Employment Ministers’ Meeting and the Joint Meeting with G20 Finance and Labour Ministers to be held on September 3-4, 2015 in Ankara, Turkey.