

**G20 Task Force on Employment 2013**  
**Third Meeting,**  
**ILO, Geneva, Switzerland, October 18, 2013**

## **Sessions Overview**

**Session1 – Employment related commitments reflected in: the Leaders' Declaration, adopted on October 6, 2013, the St Petersburg Action Plan, the Ministerial Declaration and Joint Communiqué of Labor and Employment and Finance ministers**

**Objective of the Session** – To review of the commitments related to employment made in the Leaders' Declaration, adopted on October 6, 2013, the St Petersburg Action Plan, the Ministerial Declaration and Joint Communiqué of Labor and Employment and Finance ministers and to identify the implications for the Taskforce's 2014 work program

**Participated:** G20 Task Force delegates, ILO, OECD, and WB.

**Presentations and interventions made by:** ILO, Russia, Australia, Turkey.

### **Session Outcomes:**

- The delegates appreciate the work and the deliverables of G20 Task Force on Employment under the Russian Presidency.
- The delegates stressed the important role of employment related commitments made in the Leaders' Declaration, adopted on October 6, 2013, the St Petersburg Action Plan, and the Ministerial Declaration and Joint Communiqué of Labor and Employment and Finance ministers.
- The delegates underlined that there are two main groups of employment related commitments: commitments which outline and formulate key goals and objectives for labor market development in G20 countries and commitments which formulate specific policies and ways to achieve these goals/objectives.
- The delegates supported employment related goals in all priority areas: to create more productive and better quality jobs, to fully respect Fundamental Principles and right to work, to ensure inclusive labor market development and activate those who can't but would like to work.
- The delegates noted that among commitments which formulate specific policies and ways to achieve employment related goals/objectives should be mentioned the first of all:
  - o integrated approach to national policies (macroeconomic, financial, fiscal, education, skills development, innovation, employment, social protection) to promote the creation of quality jobs and labor activation,
  - o investing in human capital and social protection of workers,
  - o supporting private sector, creating of employment friendly business environment, and incentives for workers to work in formal sector,
  - o developing country owned and country specific monitoring methodologies, where necessary to track and report progress in achieving of these objectives,
  - o developing according to different constitutional circumstances country specific plans or sets of actions on employment.

## **Session 2 – Monitoring of labour market developments and progress made by G20 countries in implementing employment agenda and commitments**

**Objective of the Session** – To provide the ideas for improving progress reporting on the implementation of commitments (as encouraged in the Ministers' Declaration) and discuss the approaches to be used to monitor the ongoing progress against these commitments (as per Leaders declaration statement on the need to develop monitoring methodologies)

**Participated:** G20 Task Force delegates, ILO, OECD, and WB.

**Presentations and interventions made by:** Russia, Japan, USA, Australia, Germany, France, Turkey, ILO, India, South Africa, UK, Brazil, EU, Spain, Argentina, Canada, Saudi Arabia.

### **Session Outcomes:**

- The delegates appreciated G20 leaders appeal to develop country owned and country specific monitoring methodology and exchange of best practices and to develop country owned and country specific monitoring methodologies to capture the activities undertaken in the employment sphere and their results.
- The delegates stressed that the first step in monitoring process in 2013 was very successful and resulted in creating a data base on best practices “Job creation and labour activation policies in G20 countries” by the Task Force.
- The delegates appreciated inputs of countries to creation of new analytical resource devoted to the analysis of the impact of demographic waves on structure of the employed.
- The delegates informed on the exercise revealed the impact of demographic waves on structure of the employed, and unemployment and necessity of forecasting and taking into account the consequences of such changes.
- The delegates informed by some countries on their specific plans to follow commitments on employment:
  - o Japan (next steps labour mobility without unemployment (support for vocational training in companies in environment and energy), support for long-life learning, increasing labour participation of women and the youth).
  - o UK: our idea is to create conditions for enterprises so we cannot produce an employment plan, we do some more work in apprenticeship (we appreciate IOs help).
- Delegates provided the ideas for improving progress reporting on the implementation of commitments and discussed the approaches to be used to monitor the ongoing progress against these commitments:
  - o USA: balance between general commitments and specific activities, country specific activities should be easier monitored, we need to revise more earlier commitments and give them more specificity; we need to see what is working in monitoring in G20 countries and choose criteria to be used,
  - o Australia: mutual assessment (we need to address job creation and structural unemployment and monitor the process, we need activities that are of proper scope, balanced, applicable not only for 2013, coherent), better connections between countries, we need to take stock of commitments, current commitments and identify future changes, we need to think on activities, data bases, country specific plans, we plan to inform you on our future plans in February 2014.
  - o Russia: we need not to narrow our tasks as Leaders Declaration speaks on social protection floors, safer work places etc.
  - o Germany welcome the database as practical solution of monitoring process and ILO report on it, data base should be updated, an analysis shows the specificity of

- our economies and employment so monitoring should be specific, involvement of IO's.
- France: why do not we start now to collect data on progress? Leaders ask us to work on youth unemployment and social protection, but not on structural unemployment.
  - Turkey: monitoring system like in Financial Track should be done; monitoring should be an agenda for each Presidency.
  - ILO: follow up mechanism for responding on Leaders
    - Each country identifies activities and agrees to report to Task Force,
    - Each country submits a quick report (self-selecting indicators): what have been done, what works and what not,
    - ILO does a comparative analysis for the specific issues mentioned in Leaders Declaration and agreed by countries.
  - India: there is idea of monitoring where necessary to be done by each country in Leaders Declaration, but not by the Task Force. Suggestion of ILO should be considered as voluntary. We do not need to do a monitoring of progress of all countries; we need to do a progress reporting on commitments made.
  - South Africa: we need common criteria.
  - Brazil: we improve now our statistics (transparent statistics, workshops on methodology, we need to exchange best practices in measuring and modeling.
  - EU: monitoring youth employment should be done like in Europe 2020 (EU program with indicators on it), we need some common criteria.
  - Spain: we should focus on best practices in particular sphere let say apprenticeship.
  - Argentina: we need monitoring of strategic commitments (informality is very important for us), we need to have some data each year (employment, unemployment etc.).
  - Canada: let us look at specific commitments, best practices and challenges, we welcome IOs.
  - Saudi Arabia: we need not more activities but also more meetings to exchange our ideas.
- The delegates agreed that the quality of our discussion and recommendations we make to a large extent depends on the quality of monitoring process, quality of data we collect.

### **Session 3 – Outcomes of cooperation with the G20 social partners on employment issues in 2013, perspectives for 2014**

**Objective of the Session** – To discuss the progress in cooperation with social partners and follow up activities in 2014

**Participated** – ILO Director-General Guy Ryder, G20 Task Force delegates, ILO, OECD, WB, representatives of Business 20 and Labour 20

**Presentations and interventions made by:** Russia, Representatives of **B20** (*Erol Kiresepi* - co-chair of the B20 Task Force on Job Creation, Employment and investments in Human Capital, Ronnie Goldberg - USCIB; Executive Vice President and Senior Policy Officer), Representatives of **L20** (*John Evance* – chair of the Global Agenda Council on Employment, General Secretary Trade Union Advisory Committee to OECD), USA, France, Australia, Turkey.

### **Session Outcomes:**

- The delegates informed about the B20 and L20 impressions from the year, and from the Summit and B20 and L20 ideas for the future cooperation with G20 Task Force on Employment in employment related issues.
  - o B20
    - appreciates the involvement in 2013 year, right priorities;
    - joint Labour and Financial Ministers meetings should be continued with participation of Economy ministers and joint meeting we need on the Task Force level;
    - good commitments should be now implemented;
    - proper monitoring of commitments is needed.
  - o L20
    - supports the idea of B20 on joint Labour and Financial Ministers meetings;
    - commitments are good but they are mostly mid-term, in short-term G20 countries need to increase demand;
    - we need now the implementation of commitments and coherent policy;
    - we appreciate new areas of commitments (safer working places).
- The G20 Task Force on Employment appreciated the progress in cooperation with social partners has been achieved in 2013
- The delegates agreed on the need of coordination of the TFE activities and B20 and L20 activities related employment agenda in 2014.
- The chair asked ILO and other colleagues to share ideas on provision of more safe working places.
- Australia appreciates an involvement of social partners under the Russian Presidency and will continue this practice in 2014, plans to have Labour Ministers meeting for September and does not plan a joint meeting of ministers.

### **Session 4 – Discussion of the reports prepared with the international organisations**

**Objective of the Session** – To discuss the main messages of final reports and possible implications of the reports for the Taskforce's 2014 work program

**Participated** - ILO Director-General Guy Ryder, G20 Task Force delegates, ILO, OECD, WB

**Presentations and interventions made by:** Russia, ILO Director-General Guy Ryder, France, OECD, USA, UK, India, South Africa, Germany, WB.

### **Session Outcomes:**

- The delegated informed on the main messages and possible implications of the reports for the Taskforce's 2014 work program.
  - o ILO: the Task Force on Employment needs to do: reviewing activities and their monitoring, structural unemployment especially for youth, self-selecting monitoring, cooperation with Framework, future meetings of Labour and Financial ministers;
  - o OECD: different economic and social situation, but demographic problems, long-term unemployment is high; vulnerable groups: youth and women, necessity of strategic approach to activation, specific needs of specific groups, a lot to be learned from good practices, but not less could be understood from bad practices; more evaluation of the progress; assessment how the programs work on the

- ground, constraints to apprenticeships on practical level; sharing experiences of countries will be a huge step forward.
- Germany: we need more collaboration with Finance Track (joint reports and meetings).
- WB: supporting job creation etc., supporting incomes for the poor and paid activation policies for vulnerable, human capital development.
- The delegates appreciated the analytical input of international organisations in 2013 and welcome the G20 Leaders encouragement of the ILO, the OECD, and the World Bank Group to analyze the recent experiences of the G20 countries and identify best practices that have been most successful in creating more and better jobs.
- The delegates agreed on an importance of the international organizations analytical inputs in 2014.

### **Session 5 – Developing a 2014 agenda (Australia to lead)**

**Objective of the Session** – To be informed on the skeleton of the meetings, agenda and social partners’ engagement and to identify and discuss possible priorities and deliverables in 2014

**Participated** - G20 Task Force delegates, ILO, OECD, WB

**Presentations and interventions made by:** Russia, Australia, ILO, Argentina, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Africa, Turkey, Mexico, Brazil, EU, OECD, USA, France.

#### **Session Outcomes:**

- The delegates informed on Argentina’s seminar “Consistency Between Macroeconomic and Labor Policies” in November 18-19, 2013
- Draft Plans for G20 Task Australia Presidency in 2014:
  - We have a feedback from 2/3 countries;
  - Continuation of involvement of social partners in 2014;
  - Among the topics:
    - what could we practically do in job creation, urban and rural labour markets, local job creation,
    - structural unemployment (especially among long-term unemployed and youth) and structural adjustments,
    - social protection,
    - safer work places;
    - informality, migrants etc.;
  - Possible involvement of public employment services as has been recommended by some countries;
  - Using the Task Force as expert group;
  - Monitoring of actions and country specific plans;
  - Involvement of IOs and their templates;
  - 3 Task Force meetings including for exchange of practices before Labour Ministers meeting like in the Russian Presidency model (one of the meetings could be not in Australia, may be in Geneva)
    - The first meeting is proposed for the first week of February 2013 in Sidney,
    - The second – May 2014,
    - The third – August 2014.
  - Labour Ministers meeting in September.
  - Starting in 2013:

- Suggestions on focal topics and methods of work from countries in November,
  - A draft plan in December 2013,
- We need to have templates for monitoring from IOs as early as possible if we decide use them.
- Reorientation of the Framework and Development groups for better collaboration with the Task Force on Employment.
- We have no information by now about C20 involvement.
- ILO suggested a set of approaches to progress report and best practices exchange.
- The delegates insisted to conduct the Joint meeting of Labour and Finance ministers and to update the data base of the best practices.

## **Key messages**

- G20 work on employment related issues under the Russian Presidency in 2013 was very successful as well as the work and deliverables of the Task Force on Employment.
- The commitments related to employment made in the Leaders' Declaration, adopted on October 6, 2013, the St Petersburg Action Plan, the Ministerial Declaration and Joint Communiqué of Labor and Employment and Finance ministers are very important step on the way forward to employment progress in G20.
- Social partners' involvement has been appreciated by the Task Force on Employment.
- The IOs expertise is valuable and is needed to be continued.
- Joint Labour and Financial Ministers meetings should be continued with participation of Economy ministers.
- The data base of the best practices is considered as and should be developed and updated
- A data base of the best practices created by the Task Force on Employment is the first step in monitoring progress. It is a very good new step in progress reporting and needs to be developed and updated.
- The delegates agreed that the quality of discussions and recommendations we make to a large extent depends on the quality of monitoring process, quality of data we collect.