



International  
Labour  
Office

# **The ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization (SJD), 2008**

**Briefing session in light of the 2016  
evaluation of the impact of the SJD**

**323rd Session (March 2015)  
of the Governing Body**

# The Social Justice Declaration

**Unanimous adoption of the Social Justice Declaration (SJD) on 10 June 2008 by the ILO tripartite constituency at the Conference.**

**SJD builds on the 1944 Declaration of Philadelphia and the 1998 Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work.**

## Objectives and key messages

**A contemporary vision of the ILO's mandate, in light of globalization.**

**Modernization of ILO governance.**

**Strengthening the ILO's capacity to assist its members in their efforts to make progress towards the four strategic objectives.**

**Strengthening the influence of the ILO in the international community.**

**SJD places full and productive employment and decent work at the centre of economic and social policies, based on the four strategic objectives:**

- **Employment**
- **Social protection (social security and labour protection)**
- **Social dialogue and tripartism**
- **Fundamental principles and rights at work**

**SJD is the first authoritative statement emphasizing that all four strategic objectives are “inseparable, interrelated and mutually supportive” and calling for a global and integrated ILO strategy for decent work.**

**A combination between the universal (a comprehensive package) and the particular (national choices).**

**How strategic objectives are achieved is to be determined by each Member subject to its existing international obligations and to the fundamental principles and rights at work, having regard to:**

- national conditions, circumstances and needs, as well as the priorities expressed by representative organizations of employers and workers;**
- interdependence, solidarity and cooperation among all ILO Members;**
- the principles and provisions of international labour standards.**

**Three levels of implementation of the SJD are specified:**

**(i) the ILO, particularly the Office and the Governing Body;**

**(ii) member States and representative organizations of employers and workers; and**

**(iii) the multilateral system.**

**Review and adaptation of ILO institutional practices.**

**A major innovation: recurrent discussions by the Conference on each of the strategic objectives.**

**Other steps include:**

- **Strengthening technical cooperation;**
- **Sharing knowledge and understanding of synergies between the strategic objectives;**
- **Assistance to promote ILO objectives in bilateral and multilateral agreements;**
- **Development of new partnerships with non-State entities and economic actors.**

**Subject to national conditions, possible steps for the implementation of the Decent Work Agenda, may include:**

- **Adoption of a national or regional strategy for decent work**
- **Establishment of indicators**
- **Review of the situation regarding the ratification or implementation of ILO instruments**
- **Steps to ensure policy coherence in international forums**
- **Promotion of sustainable enterprises**
- **Sharing of national and regional good practice**
- **Provision of appropriate support to other Members to give effect to the Declaration**



## Method of implementation (international organizations)

Part II. C

**Contribution of international and regional organizations with mandates in closely related fields to the implementation of the integrated approach and of the promotion of decent work.**

**Role of the ILO in evaluating the effects on employment of international trade and financial policies.**

**These parts of the Follow-up address the means by which the Organization will assist its Members and seek to make the fullest use of all the constitutional means of action under the ILO Constitution.**

**With respect to :**

- 1. Administration, resources and external relations;**
- 2. Understanding and responding to Members' realities and needs;**
- 3. Technical assistance and advisory services;**
- 4. Research, information collection and sharing.**

**Part III of the SJD** provides for a review by the Conference of the impact of the SJD, and in particular the steps taken to promote its implementation, with a view to assessing what action might be appropriate.

**Part III of the Follow-up** specifies the scope and purpose of the evaluation: “The impact of the Declaration, in particular the extent to which it has contributed to promoting, among Members, the aims and purposes of the Organization through the integrated pursuit of the strategic objectives”

**The Follow-up** indicates that the report prepared by the Office will contain information on action and steps taken by constituents; steps taken by the Governing Body and the Office; possible impact in relation to other international organizations.

**The Follow-up** also covers the role of other international organizations and other interested entities in the evaluation of the impact of the Declaration and in the discussion.

## 2008 Resolution on strengthening the ILO's capacity to assist its Members' efforts to reach its objectives in the context of globalization

**An action-oriented resolution calling for an implementation plan, with emphasis on:**

- Capacity and governance issues
- Recurrent items on the agenda of the Conference
- Partnerships

**Follow-up to the resolution will form part of the evaluation.**

## **Implementation Plan adopted by the Governing Body at its 304<sup>th</sup> Session (March 2009)**

**The Implementation Plan contains a roadmap focusing on a wide range of areas including: the Strategic Policy Framework 2010–15; a scheme for ILC recurrent discussions; working methods of the Governing Body and functioning of the Conference; knowledge development and sharing.**

**Emphasis placed by constituents on:**

- 1. overall coherence to be reinforced by showing linkages between the various actions;**
- 2. ownership of the SJD by the Organization as a whole and by all parts of the Office.**

## Concluding remarks

SJD has a **strong operational dimension** and the evaluation is inherent to its nature and objectives.

- In light of the developments since 2008, the evaluation will:
- provide an opportunity for the ILO to take stock as it prepares for its second century;
- inform the development of the new Strategic Policy Framework 2018–21;
- inform the ILO's contribution to implementing the post-2015 sustainable development agenda and its engagement within the United Nations system.

# Thank you



[http://www.ilo.org/global/meetings-and-events/campaigns/voices-on-social-justice/WCMS\\_099766/lang-en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/global/meetings-and-events/campaigns/voices-on-social-justice/WCMS_099766/lang-en/index.htm)