

The Global Coalition for Social Justice

Advancing social justice for everyone, everywhere

TERMS OF REFERENCE - Nov. 23

Purpose of the Coalition

The Global Coalition for Social Justice is a ground-breaking initiative aimed at intensifying collective efforts to urgently address social justice deficits and to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Sustainable Development Goals and the Decent Work Agenda. It creates a collaborative space for action, advocacy, and dialogue, in which partners shape individual and collective opportunities for concrete actions and tangible outcomes. The ultimate goal will be to achieve a greater balance amongst the economic, social, and environmental dimensions of sustainable development, to significantly reduce inequalities and poverty, and to meet essential needs and opportunities worldwide.

From an uncertain world towards investments and policy coherence

Overlapping crises and the acceleration of long-term structural economic transformations are making it harder to achieve social justice and the Sustainable Development Goals. Social justice makes societies and economies function better, reduces poverty, inequalities, and social tensions, and plays an important role in achieving shared prosperity, stability for peace and more inclusive and sustainable socio-economic development. Clearly, the quest for social justice, at the heart of the ILO’s constitutional mandate, goes beyond the world of work and requires the involvement of the entire multilateral system.



This way to Social Justice

The Coalition is a voluntary platform for governments, employers' and workers' organizations, international and regional organizations, financial institutions and development banks, enterprises, international non-governmental organizations and academia, committed to the advancement of social justice and to engage in collaborative efforts to achieve shared objectives. The Coalition leverages collaboration among partners to amplify the unique strengths of each participant, comprehensively and coherently addressing social justice challenges. The Coalition thus serves as a platform to generate increased political commitments and foster concrete actions in support of national priorities.

A voluntary Coalition to advance social justice

The Coalition will create a collaborative space in which partners join forces to:

- shape individual and collective actions, with a focus on social justice and decent work, aiming at leaving no-one behind and accelerating the delivery of the 2030 Agenda in support of national priorities.
- elevate advocacy efforts to incorporate the social justice dimension in the international, regional and national political debates.
- serve as a platform to generate analytical and statistical research (including through a recurrent report on the state of social justice in the world), as well as allow for multilateral cooperation and knowledge sharing, using a web-based platform as a repository of good practices and increased policy coherence on social justice and decent work.

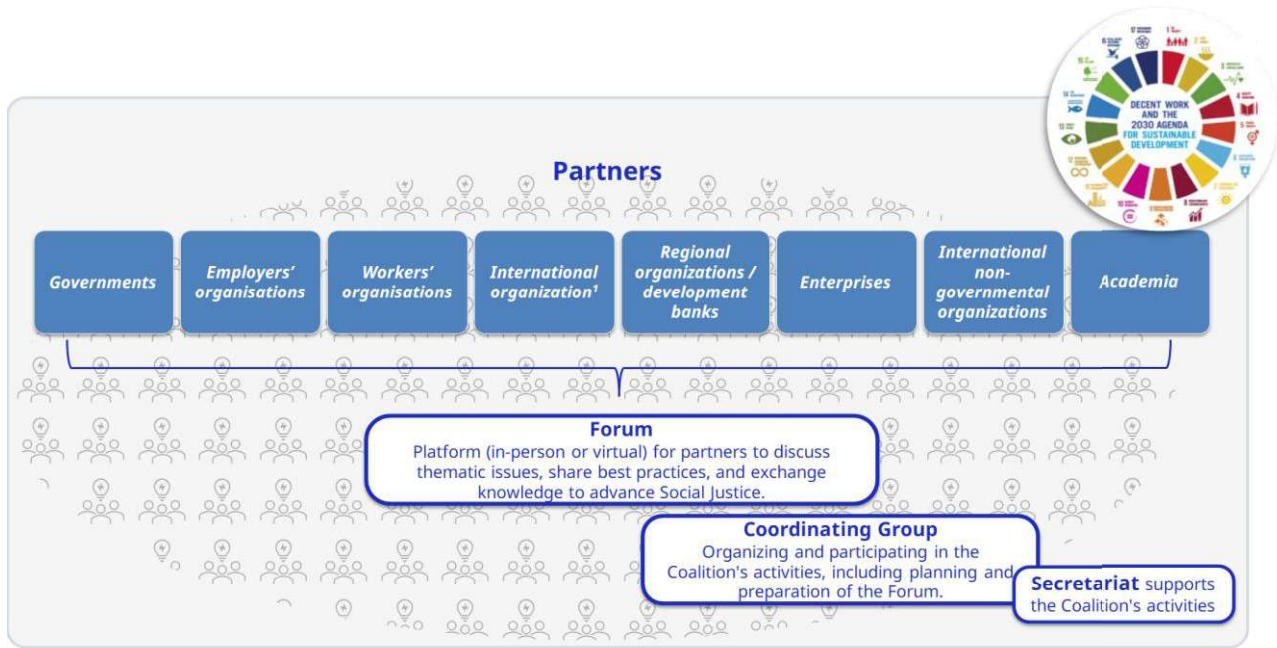
Areas of immediate action

The Coalition's thematic development will be built on the common priorities and opportunities jointly identified by its partners, starting by:

- addressing inequality, discrimination and exclusion;
- realizing labour rights as human rights, ensuring human dignity and meeting basic needs;
- expanding access to and capabilities for productive and freely chosen employment and sustainable enterprises;
- providing protection and building resilience;
- strengthening just transitions and the social dimension of sustainable development, trade and investment;
- reinforcing institutions of social dialogue.

Governance Arrangements

1. Partnership in the Coalition is voluntary and open to actors who are willing to contribute to its objectives and advocacy efforts. Participation in the Coalition’s activities, especially at the operational level, will be governed by the rules and practices agreed by the partners involved in those activities.



Coalition Partners

2. Becoming a partner in the Coalition represents a commitment to contribute to advancing social justice and the SDGs at the global, regional and/or national levels, including through multilateral cooperation and to

- Advocate for social justice and uphold the principles and values of the UN and the ILO, including the fundamental principles and rights at work;
- Commit to developing, independently or in collaboration with other actors, one or more actions or initiatives aimed at significantly advancing social justice.

3. The nature and scale of these commitments may vary according to the partners’ capacities and priorities. Partners will also be encouraged to voluntarily document their respective experiences and share information with others. Partners include:

- Governments,
- employers’ and workers’ organizations,
- UN system international organizations and regional and subregional intergovernmental organizations,
- international financial institutions and regional development banks,
- enterprises and company foundations, through the secretariat of the ILO Employers’ group,

- international NGOs accredited with ECOSOC or accredited to attend the International Labour Conference,
- research and academic institutions.

4. Participation in the Coalition will not entail any membership fees. Nonetheless, all costs related to participation in the Coalition's meetings, including travel and related costs to attend the Forum and the meetings of the Coordinating Group, will be borne by each participant.

5. Participation in the Coalition's activities, especially at the operational level, will be governed by the rules and practices agreed by the partners involved in those activities.

Coordinating Group

6. A Coordinating Group will be established composed of Coalition partners who, in addition to committing to contribute to the objectives and advocacy efforts of the Coalition, commit to join forces to carry the Coalition's agenda forward and promote, individually or jointly, its objectives and the social justice agenda as a priority in global, regional and national development agendas.

7. The Coordinating Group will be composed of the following members:

- the Director-General of the ILO as ex officio Co-Chairperson,
- a representative of the UN Secretary-General,
- twelve Government representatives nominated by the ILO Government group on a regional basis, one of whom will act as Co-Chairperson (to be decided by the twelve Government representatives),
- six Employers' representatives nominated by the secretariat of the ILO Employers' group, one of whom will act as Vice-Chairperson of the Coordinating Group,
- six Workers' representatives nominated by the secretariat of the ILO Workers' group, one of whom will act as Vice-Chairperson of the Coordinating Group,
- one representative of an enterprise, nominated by the secretariat of the ILO Employers' group,
- one representative of a global union federation, nominated by the secretariat of the ILO Workers' group,
- up to two representatives of partner organizations of the UN system, and one representative from the international economic organizations (including the World Trade Organization, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, and the International Trade Centre) or international financial institutions, by invitation of the Director-General of the ILO,
- two representatives of regional organizations, by invitation of the Director-General of the ILO,
- one representative of an international non-governmental organization, by invitation of the Director-General of the ILO,
- one representative of an academic institution, by invitation of the Director-General of the ILO.

8. Members of the Coordinating Group will serve for a two-year period, except for the Director General of the ILO, and may be renewed once, if proposed by the nominating groups. The Coordinating Group will meet twice a year, or as needed.
9. To ensure political leadership, members of the Coordinating Group, especially the Co-Chairpersons, are expected to be of ministerial or equivalent level, with the right to delegate participation in working meetings to senior officials. The composition of the Coordinating Group will strive for gender balance and geographical diversity.
10. The Coordinating Group will play a pivotal role in ensuring that the partner organizations work together coherently and effectively, leveraging their strengths and resources to make a meaningful impact on issues related to social justice. To this end, it will guide the Coalition's secretariat on:
 - the programme of activities,
 - the channels to facilitate communication and coordination among Coalition partners, ensuring that all stakeholders are informed about ongoing initiatives and progress made,
 - ways to engage with external stakeholders to promote the Coalition's objectives,
 - efforts to mobilize resources for the Coalition's activities and initiatives towards social justice, as appropriate.

Forum

11. The Forum provides a space for Coalition partners to discuss thematic issues related to social justice, as well as the challenges, opportunities and potential solutions to advance the Coalition's objectives. It also allows Coalition partners to exchange knowledge, tools and experiences, and to showcase activities and initiatives undertaken in support of social justice.
12. The Forum will take place once a year, either remotely or in person, in a flexible format. It will be an interactive space and will include panels, workshops and exhibition spaces to showcase ongoing initiatives and stimulate lively engagement of partners. Coalition partners will also be invited throughout the year to come together in communities of practice, to make the case for greater social justice, and to gather information and share their experiences within the context of a web-based portal.
13. The Forum may be hosted or co-hosted by one or more partners of the Coalition or be held under the auspices of one or more partners. It may also be organized around major global events in which broad participation of the Coalition's partners is envisaged.

Secretariat

- 14.** The ILO will provide secretariat services to the Coalition. The secretariat will be responsible for:
- supporting the Coalition's activities, including organizing its key events (meetings of the Coordinating Group and the Forum), and creating a repository of good practices.
 - develop a web-based portal to document the actions and initiatives pledged and undertaken by partners, and report on the progress made in the advancement of social justice.
 - prepare the programme of activities aligned with ILO's values, standards and priorities, to be presented to the Coordinating Group. Once this guidance is integrated, the secretariat will make the programme of activities available to the Coalition's partners so that they can decide whether they wish to participate or contribute to these activities, either by providing political, technical or financial support or by becoming involved in the implementation of activities.
- 15.** Coalition partners will be encouraged to consider the potential for providing voluntary financial contributions or secondment of staff to the Coalition secretariat, as appropriate.

Contact details

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