

GLOBAL COMMISSION ON THE FUTURE OF WORK
TECHNICAL OUTREACH

Policy Dialogue 5

INCLUSIVE GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT: ALIGNING PRACTICES
IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR WITH THE 2030 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

Geneva, 14 May 2018, Room VII (R2-South)

AGENDA

- 09:00 – 09:30** **Opening remarks and welcome by Deborah Greenfield**
- Introduction: the ILO's Future of Work Initiative and today's agenda**
- Chair and moderator: Vic van Vuuren
- 09:30 – 10:45** **Session 1: *Aligning business practices with the Sustainable Development Goals***
- Presenters: Howard Gospel, Marie Lisa Dacanay, Henrik Munthe (discussant)
- What is the value to business of aligning with the 2030 agenda?
 - How can businesses reward investors and creditors in a manner that takes the environment and well-being into account? Is there a need to target specific sectors and/or countries?
 - Does the short-term horizon for business pose a risk to inclusive and sustainable development? How can product and financial markets be shaped to consider a longer-term perspective?
 - Can the social responsibility of business be harnessed for inclusive and sustainable development? What is the role of the different stakeholders?
 - How can the social responsibility of business best address future challenges in the nature of work?
- 10:45 – 11:15** **Coffee break (*Espace Gobelins, R2-South*)**

11:15 – 12:45

Session 2: *Businesses and social responsibility in supply chains*

Presenters: Cristina Tébar Less, Jean Christophe Laugée

- Why should businesses focus on responsible business conduct for decent work? Are some industries more exposed to reputation effects than others?
- What rules and incentive structures are needed for fair procurement practices that can benefit workers in supply chains? What are the lessons from companies moving from linear to cyclical supply chains?
- How can businesses be rewarded for carrying out due diligence in their supply chains?
- Do strong buyer-driven supply chains exacerbate economic dependencies and power imbalances? What role can International Framework Agreements play in advancing decent work – what is the evidence?

12:45 – 13:45

Lunch break (*ILO Restaurant Eldora; R2-North*)

13:45 – 15:00

Session 3: *Charting good practice – New incentive structures to share profits and align enterprises with SDG goals*

Presenters: Barbara Rambousek, Hirotaka Koike, Damian Oakes

- Why are enterprises shifting from economic objectives to identifying social and community needs? How do workers and society benefit? Is there evidence of significant diffusion of such practices (which sectors, regions, enterprise type, etc.)?
- Where we find good practice, what are the characteristics of the surrounding ecosystem of public policies (including enterprise-government partnerships), finance and accounting practices, labour market institutions, actors and norms that enable enterprises to promote sustainable development? Does ethical business practice also extend to support for effective corporate tax regimes?
- Are new statutory rights needed so that local stakeholders can hold business to higher labour standards?
- What lessons can be drawn from the social and solidarity economy about how to engage with, and respond to, the needs of multiple local stakeholders not only shareholders?

15:00 – 15:30

Coffee break (*Espace Gobelins, R2-South*)

15:30 – 17:00

Session 4: *What can be done? Recommendations for progressive business policy and practice*

All experts to make brief interventions

- What tools and frameworks can policymakers use to encourage more businesses to follow the approach by private sector leaders in this area?
- How can business integrate the views and interests of other stakeholders?
- What incentives and measures can narrow the gap between ethical financing on the one hand and the needs of ethical business and ethical projects on the other?
- What are the lessons from countries or industries where incentive structures for business investment have successfully fostered longer time horizons, leading to better forms of employment and improved working conditions?
- Are there possibilities to shape the norms and rules of civil society (consumers, workers, voters, volunteers, etc.) as well as business practices?

17.00 – 17:30

Summary and final statements