

## **Statement of the Major Group of Workers and Trade Unions at 1<sup>st</sup> Session of the Intergovernmental Negotiations on Post-2015**

The Workers and Trade Unions have three key messages at this stage of the process: a concern, a proposal and a question.

Firstly, we are concerned about the use of the term decent jobs in place of decent work. While decent jobs sound nice, they do not cover the four pillars of the Decent Work agenda. These four pillars are job creation, workers' rights, social protection and the social dialogue.

The Decent Work agenda is rights-based, clearly defined and intergovernmentally agreed but far from ensured in today's world.

Secondly, we propose that advantage is taken of all the work that has been done to define and operationalise the decent work agenda. Considerable work has been done within the International Labour Organisation (ILO) to develop indicators for decent work, and the ILO Recommendation 202 sets an international standard for social protection to be applied at national level. In addition, there are frameworks for monitoring and accountability, which offers best practice also in terms of stakeholder participation. The tripartite system of the ILO is based on the equal participation of workers, employers and member states.

Finally, over the past days the development of indicators has been framed as a technical exercise. Considering that the indicators will guide the implementation of the new agenda, we ask whether this technical exercise could be supported by clear guidelines to ensure that indicators are tied to the most transformative element of each target and include the three dimensions of sustainable development.

Thank you and we look forward to continuing this dialogue as the process moves forward.