

Report The Asia Global Pathfinders 1st meeting

Organized by INSP!R Asia,
with the support of WSM and Belgian Development Cooperation

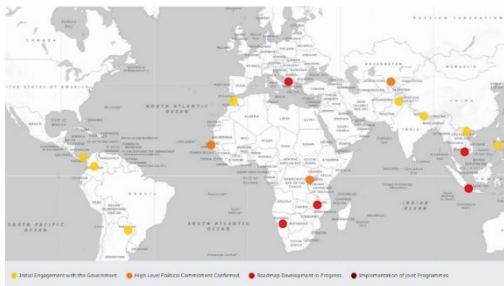
Jakarta, 19 April 2024



INTRODUCTION AND CONTEXT

<https://www.unglobalaccelerator.org/>

The Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions, or **the Global Accelerator**, launched in September 2021 by the UN Secretary General, aims to bring together member States, international financial institutions, social partners, civil society, and the private sector to help ‘pathfinders’ countries create 400 million decent jobs, including in the green, digital and care economies, and to extend social protection coverage to the 4 billion people currently excluded. The proposed strategy builds upon the priorities set forth in the UN Secretary-General’s report “*Our Common Agenda*” and related road maps on social protection, care economy and health workers, informality, jobs and just transitions (including green and digital), youth and financing.



Global Accelerator 6 themes:

1. Jobs and Just Transitions
2. Care economy
3. Financing social protection
4. Financing frameworks
5. Transition to formality
6. Youth

The Global Accelerator will build on existing initiatives, such as the Global Partnership for Universal Social Protection (USP2030), the Social Protection Interagency Cooperation Board (SPIAC-B), etc. Germany and Spain respectively committed €7 million and €10 million, while Belgium is committing €3 million to the Global Accelerator for Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions.

At the global level, a coalition of governments, social partners and other stakeholders will provide oversight and strategic guidance to the Global Accelerator’s operations, as well as advocate for more and sustainable investments in social protection and employment for just transitions. The Global Accelerator governance structure is comprised of three main bodies namely the Steering Group, the Technical Support Facility, and the National Steering Committees. On 20 February 2024, The Steering Group finalized the Term of Reference.

At the National level, the Global Accelerator will be governed through The National Steering Committees composed of participating ministries, social partners, civil society, and supported by UN Resident Coordinators and participating UN agencies, development banks, donors, and others as appropriate.



Leading Ministries in the Global Pathfinder’s Countries:

Indonesia: National Development Planning Body ([BAPPENAS](#))

Cambodia: Deputy Economy and Finance Ministerial

Philippines: Department of Labor and Employment.

Nepal: [National Planning Commission](#).

Agenda

Friday, 19 April 2024

09.30: Registration (*Snack, Tea, & Coffee available*)

09.40: Opening

- 5" introduction: WSM/ INSP!R Asia Network Coordinator, Bismo Sanyoto
- 5" Welcoming remarks: KSBSI President, Elli Rosita Silaban
- 10" Opening remarks: Belgium Ambassador for Indonesia, H.E. Frank Felix. Mr

10.00 Global Accelerator in Indonesia: (Moderator: Yatini Sulistyowati – YPSI/ INSP!R Indonesia)

- 30" Roadmap for implementation of GA and participation of social partners, BAPPENAS, Deputy Minister for Population and Manpower, Maliki Phd. Mr
- 60" Question and answer

11.30: *take a picture and lunch*

13.30: Global Accelerator in Asia & International (Moderator: Maria Emeninta – ACV-CSCi)

- 20" Worker's perspective on the Global Accelerator, ITUC-International Trade Union Confederation, Economic & Social Policy, Beatrice Dipadua
- 20" Global accelerator in Asia (Nepal, Cambodia, and the Philippines), ILO JPO Employment and Social Protection, Anna Brachtendorf
- 20" Sharing information & experience by participants from Cambodia, Indonesia, Nepal, and the Philippines
- 30" Group discussion on advocacy and way forward

15.00: Coffee break (*Snack, Tea, & Coffee available*)

- continued group discussion on advocacy and way forward

16.45: Conclusion and Closing

- 10" Conclusion by WSM Asia Coordinator, Bruno Deceukelier
- 5" Closing by WSM/ INSP!R Asia, Asia Network Coordinator, Bismo Sanyoto



Opening

Welcome by Bismo Sanyoto, WSM/ INSP!R Asia network coordinator.

Introduction of the participants in the room:

1. Belgium, His Excellency, Belgium Ambassador for Indonesia, Frank Felix. Mr
2. Belgium, ITUC, Human and Trade Union Officer, Monina Wong. Ms
3. Belgium, ITUC, Legal director, Paapa Danquah. Mr
4. Belgium, WSM, Asia Coordinator, Bruno Deceukelier
5. Cambodia, CLC, ACVi Project Coordinator, Penh Senghak. Mr
6. Cambodia, CLC, Legal Dept, Chea Sopheak. Mr
7. Indonesia, ACV-CSCi, Asia Coordinator, Maria Emeninta. Mrs
8. Indonesia, BAPPENAS, Deputy Minister for Population and Manpower, Maliki Phd. Mr
9. Indonesia, BAPPENAS, Anggita Suwandani. Ms
10. Indonesia, ITUC AP, Senior Director, Patuan Samosir. Mr
11. Indonesia, KSBSI, President, Elli Rosita Silaban. Mrs
12. Indonesia, LKS Tripartit Nasional, KSBSI, member, Carlos Rajagukguk. Mr
13. Indonesia, Perhimpunan Jiwa Sehat, Nindia. Ms
14. Indonesia, TURC-Research center, researcher, Angga. Mr
15. Indonesia, University Indonesia, KSBSI Advisor / Post graduate lecturer, Rekson Silaban. Mr
16. Indonesia, WSM / INSP!R Asia Network Coordinator, Bismo Sanyoto. Mr
17. Indonesia, WSM, Country Coordinator, Kifli Meirhaq. Mr
18. Indonesia, YPSI/ INSP!R Indonesia, Coordinator, Yatini Sulistyowati. Mrs
19. Indonesia, YPSI/ INSP!R Indonesia, M. Iqbal. Mr
20. Nepal, GEFONT, Secretary General, Janak Chaudhari. Mr
21. Nepal, NTUC, President, Yogendra Kunwar. Mr
22. Philippines, KMU, President, Elmer Labog. Mr

Online participants:

1. Belgium, ITUC, Economic & Social Policy, Beatrice Dipadua. Mrs
2. Belgium, WSM advocacy, Koen Detavernier. Mr
3. Belgium, WSM advocacy, Sara Ceustermans. Ms
4. Belgium, WSM Program officer, Jeroen Roskams. Mr
5. Cambodia, CLC President, Ath Thorn. Mr
6. Cambodia, CLC Project Coordinator for WSM, Meng Navy. Ms
7. ILO Geneva, JPO Employment and Social Protection, Anna Brachtendorf. Ms
8. Indonesia, BPJS Watch, Timboel Siregar. Mr
9. Indonesia, JBM-Migrant, Savitri Wisnuwardani. Mrs
10. Indonesia, KPI-Women coalition, Mike Verawati. Mrs
11. Indonesia, KSBSI, Emma Liliefna. Ms
12. Indonesia, REKAN Indonesia, Halim. Mr
13. Nepal, GEFONT, International Dept, Smritee Lama Tamang. Mrs
14. Nepal, GEFONT, Secretary General, Laxman Sharma. Mr
15. Nepal, SPCSN, Diksha Khadka. Mr
16. Nepal, SPCSN, National Coordinator, Tilotam Paudel. Mr
17. Nepal, SPCSN, Rashmi Subedi. Ms
18. Philippines, AHW, Angela Doloricon. Mrs
19. Philippines, YCW ASPAC, Brian Geronimo. Mr
20. Philippines, YCW Philippines, Joan Letada. Ms

1. WELCOME REMARKS by KSBSI President, Elli Rosita Silaban

Dear participants,

- His Excellency, Belgium Ambassador to Indonesia, Frank Felix. Mr
- BAPPENAS, Deputy Minister for Population and Manpower, Maliki Phd. Mr
- WSM Asia Coordinator, Bruno Deceukelier
- ITUC teams; Paapa Danquah, Monina Wong and Patuan Samosir
- Colleagues from Cambodia, Indonesia, Nepal and the Philippines
- All participants here and online

First I would like to start by thanking INSP!R Asia for organizing this meeting.

The second thanks go to the Indonesian government for their willingness to be part of the global accelerator and become one of the pathfinder countries. Definitely, we, from the labour unions, fully support this engagement, as it shows Indonesia's commitment to creating more decent jobs, expanding social protection, and promoting pathways for just transitions.

Promoting decent jobs and universal social protection is especially important in the midst of the expansion of the platform economy. When many workers cannot get protection due to the blurring of industrial relations, caused by the artificial intelligence that take over human jobs, and the presence of algorithmic systems that can replace the role of human resources management in the social dialogue process. In addition to this, more workers potentially will lose access to social security due to the blurred status of workers who are categorised as non-workers or profit-sharing partners, as well as the current trend toward more and more remote workers.

We see the urgency of the need to change the concept of social security to accommodate the needs of **digital platform workers**. For example, of the 20 million Indonesian workers who are directly or indirectly involved in the platform economy, less than 1% are covered by social security. This data suggests that Indonesia will fail to achieve universal coverage as stipulated in the law.

Another problem occurs in the absence of regulations ensuring employment protection for platform workers, making almost all platform workers work without employment protection. This situation will create a labour rights deficit. Becoming a pathfinder country certainly requires commitment to develop national policies and integrated strategies for just transitions, to the creation of green jobs, reskilling, social protection, and this through social dialogue.

For these purposes, we, from trade unions, think is important to have:

1. A clear concept to meet the emission mitigation ambitions while upholding human and labour rights.
2. To boost the institutional capacity of trade unions to incorporate their voices in the development of just transition policies.
3. To learn lessons from international best practices related to the Decent Work Agenda in the climate justice.

Last but not least, as a pathfinder country, we have opportunity to benefit of technical support from other countries, international agencies, and development partners. For this, we insist government and trade unions use this opportunity to get technical support from international donors to support our goals and meet our resources gap challenges.

Looking forward to a productive discussion today and to good results.

2. OPENING REMARKS by the Belgian Ambassador to Indonesia, H.E Frank Felix

Thanks for inviting me. Worldwide labour organisations are under threat, with more authoritarian regimes appearing. The changes in the labour market in the near future, with AI and robotisation, also creates more challenges, even for youths today. Work is still an important part of the identity and pride of people. We also must address the social protection and labour laws, the rights, human and social of workers. In this meeting focusing on the Global Accelerator, it is important to share, reflect and cross border cooperate on these issues. This should also be with the members and the public and it is in every interaction that we gain understanding and insights, and the civil society plays this role of raising their voices. Wishing you good luck with this conference and the work you are doing!

Bismo then briefly introduces the Global Accelerator (PPT [here](#)).



INDONESIA: Mr Maliki, BAPPENAS-Govt Body on National Planning & Development

Yatini, KSBSI and INSPIR Indonesia, moderator introduces and welcomes the panel.

Mr Maliki (PPT [here](#)): Indonesia has two coordinating ministries, HR and Labour, but also involves other ministries and the national Steering Committee for the Global Accelerator also includes several embassies, development partners and trade unions. Indonesia has a population of 278 million, but atypically experiences both aging population but also a population growth, though more and more families chose not or to have less children. Indonesia is thus confronted to a double burden for SP: ensuring coverage for children and elderly, which strains the care services and social security.

For Indonesia, the focus of the Global Accelerator is to contribute to reaching zero percent of population poverty, which will be complicated but which we believe is possible. Our priorities are:

- Integrated SP: defragment the existing schemes managed by different ministries.
- Quality of childhood
- Ageing population
- Need of care economy: for elderly, PwD and children
- Skills development and technological progress
- Missing middle and informality

We need not to re-form but to trans-form in three areas by 2045:

- Social
- Economic
- environmental

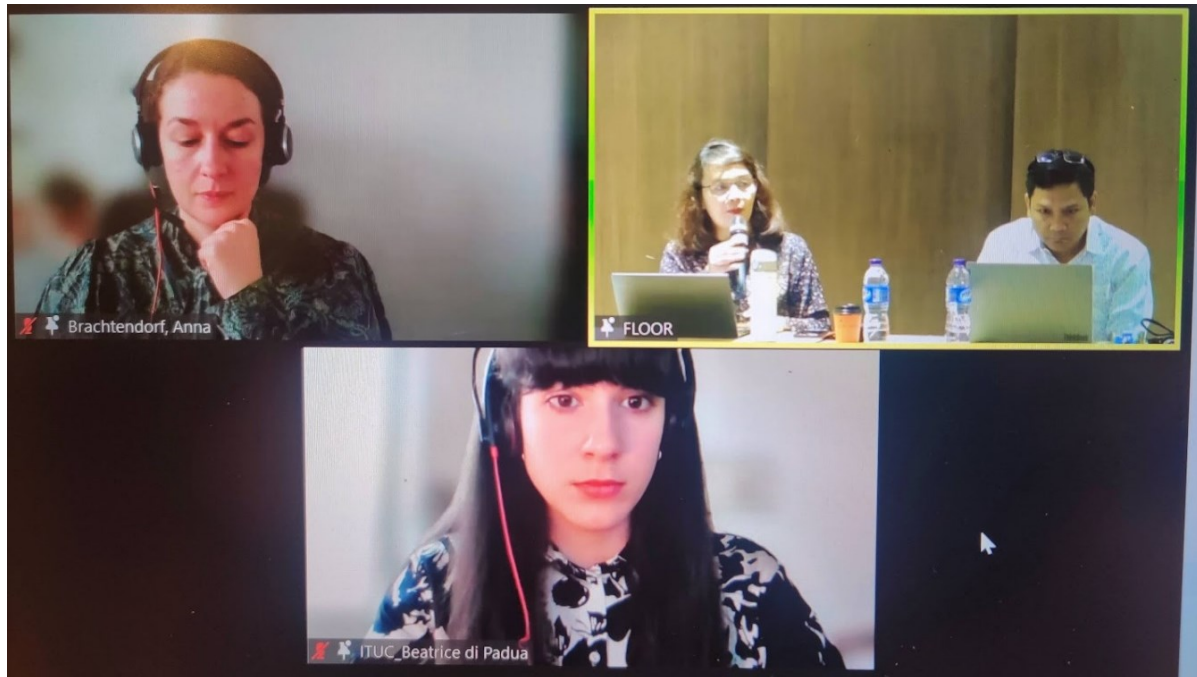
Entry points: the Social Protection for all. We want to achieve our vision within 20 years, by 2045, with better line ministries involved, as well as UNDP, with labour unions and employers and organisations for PwD.

Comments and questions from participants:

1. *Rekson, KSBSI Indonesia*: the 2045 vision and plan is very encompassing, but should also include **platform workers** and the **environment transition**, for instance for workers from energy sector. Role of KSBSI: should we simply trust and follow, while we were not involved in the inception of this plan and the employment policies, while this is linked to SP?
 - We need to make the distinction between Indonesia's all-encompassing 2045 vision and what is the focus of the Global Accelerator for Indonesia.
2. *Carlos, KSBSI and tripartite SD*: how can we eradicate poverty by 2045 if current legislation and labour laws do not allow for sustainable jobs? There are too many skill gaps between job seekers and jobs on offer.
3. *Monina, ITUC*: while many ambitious goals in BAPPENAS, the **Omnibus law** is also enacted, which has absence of OHS, policy formulation without TU at the centre.
 - The Steering Committee looks very much at the bigger picture and vision, while the working groups should serve for the TUs and labour groups to influence and guide us, within our resources.
4. *Elmer, KMU Philippines*: platform workers and how it is expanding, as well as the departing Indonesian migrant workers should also be included in the BAPPENAS roadmap.
 - Indonesian migrant workers are an important part of our challenges. However, if we chose to focus on them, we will have to leave out other elements, but we are very welcome to discuss and look for solutions and that is what the working groups are for.
 - World economic forum might support this Global Accelerator, but we must align all these donors and their respective priorities and expertise so that as a country we can benefit the best from the support through the GA.
5. *Patuan, ITUC*: care economy was discussed in past days, and will also be discussed at ILC, where Maliki will also attend. This topic would be good to further explore with the ITUC and GUFs. Could you also explain about your understanding of the concept of the **adaptive SP**?
 - **Care economy**: Indonesia also looks at how communities can be involved. For instance, Long term care does not have to be institutional, where elderly can receive care in nursing homes. But often, this burden is only carried by women. We could provide compensation to caregivers, which we are trying to develop but needs support and legislative changes.
 - **Adaptive SP**: Indonesia is prone to a lot of disasters, not just floods but also long droughts which are often not seen as disasters since slow. We need to adjust amounts to the level of disasters and be flexible, which adaptive SP should allow for and provide fast response and build resilience. Currently, there is often a confusion about the responsibilities of local and central government.
6. *Maria, KSBSI Indonesia*: specify you more on just transition and the role of the GA there?
7. *Yogendra Kunwar, NTUC, Nepal*: how to ensure SP for all as these global funds often do not reach the most marginalized?

GLOBAL ACCELERATOR IN ASIA & INTERNATIONAL

Moderator: Maria Emeninta – ACV-CSCi



3. Worker's perspective on the Global Accelerator, Beatrice Dipadua (Economic & Social Policy, ITUC-International Trade Union Confederation)

PPT [here](#). We also demanded for this Global Accelerator, asking for integrated vision of employment and SP strategies. The ITUC had advocated for ILO to have a leading role. CSOs and TUs should be key actors in the development, as they can strengthen or create institutionalized involvement, tripartite structures. This might require building capacity of countries and ensure domestic ownership. The GA also incorporates aspects of financing, but the global labour movement is strongly pushing for *solidarity financing* as complementarity, through debt relief, increasing ODA and implementing the *Global Fund for SP* as financing remains main obstacle (The ILO will be releasing next month a report on financing SP with new data, where they estimate 53% of the global population is not covered by any benefit). The Global Fund is still very relevant, demanded by CSO, and a recent feasibility study supports that with data.

Trade union involvement:

- in each country a steering committee that should involve TUs, and which first task is developing a roadmap (in Asia, already done in Indonesia and Cambodia).
- at the global level is the Steering Group.
- Technical support facility (not yet incorporating TUs)

She lists the pathfinder countries, now 15 but which are continuously expanding. ITUC has an informal group Trade Union Coordination Group, representing the affiliates demanding national involvement of the TUs, as in some countries this is not yet the case. Namibia will be first year delegate at global level. On 26 April, INSP!R and the GCSPPF will have online meeting on this, where everyone can register for [online](#).

4. Global accelerator in Asia (Nepal, Cambodia, and the Philippines), Anna Brachtendorf, ILO JPO Employment and Social Protection

PPT [here](#).

The GA promotes idea that investing in job and SP will lead to facilitate economic, social and environmental transformations. This can allow for people to transition from polluting jobs to greener jobs. It works through three interconnected pillars:

1. Financing pillar
2. Integrated national strategies.
3. Enhanced multilateral cooperation

This combines with financial and technical cooperation, as well as knowledge sharing. More info can be found [online](#). It requires a strong mobilisation of the partners. To be a pathfinder country, the head of state needs to formally commit by letter to UN or UN ResRep, detailing how SC (either new or existing) would be set up. This is to ensure all ministries, UN agencies, ILO, CSOs and Tus are involved and around the table, which is often an innovative approach. The backbone at national level is that it gathers the various stakeholders: the whole of the government, including Min Labour, Economy, Finance, as well as private sector, CSOs, UNRC and UNCT and the development partners. These start by drafting national roadmaps which determine the strategic investments. This can take different forms but requires meaningful contribution from CSO and representing marginalized groups.

Cambodia:

- Joined as a pathfinder country on 28 July, 2024 ([News item](#))
- Lead Ministries: Ministry of Economy and Finance, Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training

Contact information: Oktavianto Pasaribu, ILO Deputy Director, Decent Work Team Bangkok, pasaribu@ilo.org - Jie Yu Koh, ILO Programme Manager, koh@ilo.org - Giulio Bordon, Social Protection Technical Officer, bordon@ilo.org

Roadmap entry points:

1. Accelerating the improvement of skills and employability through TVET
2. Accelerating the extension of social protection with a focus on health insurance and social assistance
3. Accelerating the formalisation of the informal economy into the formal economy

In advanced stage of drafting roadmap. After August 2023, there was a joint statement from by trade unions, which is a good example of how social partners can engage.

Nepal:

In early stage. ILO Nepal: André Bongestabs as main contact person and Kripa Basnyat.

- Joined as a pathfinder country on 26 February, 2024 ([News item](#))
- Lead Institution: National Planning Commission
- National Steering Committee: Global Accelerator Steering Committee
- High-level policy and financing dialogue: Dr. Ram Kumar Phuyal, Deputy Minister, Hon. Member of National Planning Commission ([Link to the video](#))
- SDG Acceleration Day: Dr. Ram Kumar Phuyal, Deputy Minister, Hon. Member of National Planning Commission ([Link to the video](#))

Nepal participated in two high level events (see videos), with Dr Ram Kumar from national planning commission. She refers to the past SPF4PFM project with the role of WSM, also leading the involvement of civil society, which was documented in the *Bridging the divide* report. While this was not systematic, ILO looks forward to strengthening social partners involvement in the future.

The Philippines:

- Joined as a pathfinder country on 24 March 2024 ([News item](#))
- Lead Ministry: Department of Labour and Employment (DOLE)
- National Steering Committee: Trabaho Para sa Bayan (TBP) Inter-agency Council
- Potential entry points could include construction sector and transportation sector.

Contact persons: Khalid Hassan, ILO Country Office Director, khalid@ilo.org Ma. Concepcion Sardaña, ILO Senior Programme Officer, sardana@ilo.org Stephanie Jaurigue, Programme Officer, jaurigue@ilo.org

At global level:

GA steering Group role:

1. provides strategic guidance for the GA;
2. monitors progress made.
3. contributes to global knowledge sharing and dissemination of results and evidence.
4. plays a key role in advocacy and resource mobilization.

CSOs members in GA steering Group: Laura Alferts (WIEGO) and Markus Kaltenborn (GCSPF individual member), with Substitutes: Séraphin Basore (INSP!R Rwanda) and Nicola Wiebe (Bread for the World)

Next steps:

- **March-April 2024:** Development of proposals in 14 pathfinder countries
 - Albania, Cabo Verde, [Cambodia](#), Colombia, [Indonesia](#), Malawi, Namibia, [Nepal](#), Paraguay, [Philippines](#), Rwanda, Senegal, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam
 - UN collaboration; UN/WB collaboration
- **May 2024:** Independent review and 2nd GA Steering Group meeting
- **June 2024:** Kick start implementation in early-stage pathfinder countries
- **July 2024:** 3rd GA Steering Group meeting; Kick start implementation in early-stage pathfinder countries

5. Sharing information & experience by participants from Cambodia, Indonesia, Nepal, and the Philippines

Senghak, CLC Cambodia: not sure about this process, CLC has not yet been invited. Oxfam and SP4ALL might be part of it. In August 2023, MoL expressed interest to become part of GA, with focus on skill development as key priority. How can we ensure CSOs and TUs involvement?

Yatini, KSBSI Indonesia: TUs: KSBSI and other four federations are part of the national steering committee, but not yet CSOs, hopefully INSP!R Indonesia will be invited.

Elmer, KMU Philippines: new thing for us, just last month formalized. KMU hasn't yet been invited. ILO had sent a high-level tripartite mission to Philippines, and conclusions still need to be implemented, and was shortlisted for ILO CAS on Freedom of Association. Workers' rights are often violated here. Construction should be represented, and the jeepney sector is on strike, because the government is phasing them out as part of the just transition, affecting 200.000 workers and families. How do we harmonize the GA with the New Social Contract, as governments pick and choose what they focus on?

Yogendra Kunwar, NTUC, Nepal: SC was established with MOLESS, Industry and other ministries, ILO, UNICEF, UNDP, UN Women, as well as for the trade unions: JTUCC (Joint Trade Unions CC). A roadmap is being drafted, with employment and SSF main concerns. A major problem is migrant workers leaving. Two types of SS exist in Nepal: contributory and non-contributory. The lead of SC, Dr Ram Kumar is member of Nepal Planning Commission. This roadmap was linked to the ongoing process of drafting of the Nepal 16th National Plan and Nepal's SDG plan.

Bruno adds that in the previous PFM4SPF project, the steering committee which should have gathered UNICEF, ILO and WSM with Government of Nepal never even met. Hopefully, this project and with lead being more with ILO Nepal will see more of CSOs and TUs involvement, with JTUCC being present and INSP!R Nepal possibly as well.

Bismo: To become Pathfinder's countries, the government needs to have commitment to the GA objectives. However, in some pathfinder's countries, like Cambodia had a double footnote from ILO CAS, Philippines with red tagging, and Indonesia with Job Creation law, we witness shrinking democratic space and these countries are violating ILO Standards application, is this not contradictory with GA objectives?

Answers from Beatrice, ITUC:

- on whether Global Funds are relevant and reach marginalized people, she will share an ILO study that compares various funds. Institutionalized seats for TUs should help ensure this. Low-income countries should have a key role in governing funds, hopefully with ILO right based approach helping to reach people.
- GA can be a good exercise for government to have to provide space for CSOs and TUs to voice their concerns. Donor countries and ILO are there to monitor and can serve to ensure the dialogue is happening.

Answers from Anna, ILO:

- TUs can now advocate for their concerns at the national level, through ILO and MOLESS before the roadmap is finalized and it is too late. Jeepney workers left without income is the opposite of a just transition, since in accordance to the ILO, this is the prerequisite for it to be just, that workers are at the center.
- Please reach out to your contacts in ministries and authorities, and the ILO to ensure TUs are involved with this process and part of the steering committee, and the sooner the better, so the roadmap hasn't been finalized.
- While the GA does not affect the labor standards, but the ILO, as lead, tries to bring the international labor standards into the UN system and gathers support, using this to advocate for ratification of relevant instruments, like the ILR 102 on SP, ILR 104 on formalizing informal sector etc.

Bruno Deceukelier then summarized the meeting and Bismo closed it, thanking all speakers and participants.