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Decent Work for All



ILO

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Content of the presentation

- **DW : A Motto**
- **DW : A Concept**
- **DW : An Agenda**

DW : A MOTTO

• WORK

- *Employment* is a **contract** between two parties, the employer and the employee; The employee contributes *labour* to the enterprise, usually in return for payment of wages; it concerns only the formal economy.
- *Labour* is an harsh **effort** expended on a particular toil : eradication of child labour
- *Job* is nowadays used in the same way as *employment*. It is even considered as a “possession” (e.g. *having a job*). However, the origin of *job* is from the obsolete expression a “gobbe of work" in the sense of a “small piece of work", coming from the French “gober” which implies something **very limited** to be eaten in one bite.
- *Work* is a physical or mental **process** (therefore it is also a verb) directed towards the production or accomplishment of something important through which a person expresses his or her self; that **result** is also called *work*. It includes also the informal economy; and the education of children to work is important.

DW : A MOTTO

- **DECENT**

- In English and French, *decency* refers to the way in which human dignity is respected and expressed in the **specific context** of a community, or a country, according to its own values and value's hierarchy.
- When Member States ratify our legal instruments (Conventions or Recommendations), the ILO provides assistance (Latin: *subsidium*), according to the principle of **subsidiarity** which has marked the history of the ILO since its creation in 1919, to help them implement policies dedicated to create more productive decent work opportunities for their citizens, in accordance with their own priorities and values.

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Content of the presentation

- **DW : A Motto**
- **DW : A Concept**

DW : A CONCEPT

Constitution of the ILO, Versailles 1919

- “Whereas universal and lasting peace can be established only if it is based upon **social justice**;
- And whereas conditions of labour exist involving such injustice hardship and privation to large numbers of people as to produce unrest so great that the **peace and harmony** of the world are imperilled;
- Whereas also the failure of **any** nation to adopt humane conditions of labour is an obstacle in the way of **other nations** which desire to improve the conditions in their own countries;

The High Contracting Parties, moved by sentiments of **justice** and humanity as well as by the desire to secure the **permanent peace** of the world, and with a view to attaining the objectives set forth in this Preamble, agree to the following Constitution of the International Labour Organization”

DW : A CONCEPT

Declaration of Philadelphia, June 1944

“labour is not a commodity;

- (a) all human beings, irrespective of race, creed or sex, have the right to pursue both their material well-being and their spiritual development in conditions of freedom and dignity, of economic security and equal opportunity;...
- (c) all national and international policies and measures, in particular those of an economic and financial character, should be judged in this light and accepted only in so far as they may be held to promote and not to hinder the achievement of this fundamental objective;
- (d) it is a responsibility of the International Labour Organization to examine and consider all international economic and financial policies and measures in the light of this fundamental objective;”

DW : A CONCEPT

Juan SOMAVIA ILC Geneva, June 1999

- “The primary goal of the ILO **today** is to promote opportunities for women and men to obtain decent and productive work, in conditions of freedom, equity, security and human dignity, in which rights are protected and adequate remuneration and social coverage are provided .”
- “Human work is *a key*, probably *the essential key*, to the whole social question, particularly if we try to see that question from the point of view of man’s good.”

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DW : AN AGENDA

A UNIVERSAL FLOOR OF DECENCY

Declaration on Fundamental Labour

Principles and Rights, ILO 1998

- Freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining;
- The elimination of forced and compulsory labour;
- The abolition of child labour;
- The elimination of discrimination in the workplace.

DW : AN AGENDA

FOUR DYNAMICS FOR BUILDING

- Creating more work opportunities;
- Respecting existing international labour legislation;
- Creating safe working conditions and social security systems;
- Enhancing tripartite dialogue.

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CONCLUSION

Decent work

A **motto**

anchored in a firm **concept** and
implemented in a precise **agenda**
is now adopted by
the international community

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CONCLUSION

MDGs assessment summit UN 2005

AU summit 2005

EU 2006

ECOSOC 2006 Ministerial Declaration

ECOSOC 2007 DW Toolkit

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CONCLUSION

DECENT WORK

For

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPEMENT

