THE FUTURE OF WORK WE WANT
Regional Conference for the Americas
Santiago de Chile, 31 May - 1 June 2017
ACTRAV- ILO

Context
Increasingly, over the last decades, there have been profound changes in the world of work in the economies across the world, whatever their stage of development.

These changes are governed by a few quite diverse factors: globalization and technological innovation, leading to changes in production; greater inequality, polarization and exclusion; demographic shifts, including migrations; climate change; and, since 2008, economic stagnation.

There is a widespread concern regarding the impact of these social and economic transformations on the workers which urges reflection. This task should not be limited to the more developed countries, since these transformations manifest themselves in every country and region, arguably with some delay in less developed countries, although it is expected that the latter should, at the same time, be affected by the fast-evolving relocation trends challenging them.

Hence, in 2013 the Office launched the Future of Work Centenary Initiative. Under this initiative, this Regional Conference is an important step to gain greater understanding of the changes we are witnessing and to develop effective policy responses from a gender perspective that may offset the negative outcomes affecting the workers.

Based on the slogan “The future of work we want”, the conference is structured around the Initiative’s four “Centenary Conversations” proposed by the Director-General. These are: 1. Work and society; 2. Decent jobs for all; 3. The organization of work and production; and 4. The governance of work.

The goal is to contribute to the Future of Work Centenary Initiative from a trade union perspective based on the specificities of the Americas and its member countries, while focusing on the current transformations and discussing governmental responses as well as those of social and trade union interlocutors as a means to promoting and protecting the rights of working men and women.
Programme

**Wednesday, 31 May.**

08:30-09:00 **Registration**

09:00-09:20 **Inauguration**
- Fabio Bertranou, Director, ILO-Santiago Office-welcome
- Maria Helena Andre, Director, ACTRAV-Introduction to the Regional Conference

09:20-09:30 **Opening Session: Future of work we want**
- Guy Ryder, Director General, OIT (video)

09:30-11:00 **SPECIAL DIALOGUE:** Setting up a future that fits everyone: giving a new role to politics.

**Facilitator:** María Helena André, Director of ACTRAV

- José Mujica, Former President of Uruguay
- Mario Fernández Baeza, Minister of Interior of Chile

11:00-11:30 **Coffee break**

11:30-13:30 **DIALOGUE 1. WORK AND SOCIETY**

**New settings and changes in the world of work: challenges for the social identities of the workers and societal management.**

- Globalization/de-globalization (return to nationalism). Trends and challenges for inclusive growth at the global and regional levels.
- Industry 4.0 technological revolution under way (hinged on digitization and hyper connectivity). Risks and opportunities for society.
- Inequality, segregation, polarization, exclusion (as regards income and wealth distribution, demographics, migrations, education, climate change). Gender perspective.
- Centrality of work: renewed or interrupted?

**Facilitator:** Anna Biondi, ACTRAV
Comments on facilitator’s questions:
- Lais Abramo, Chief Social Development Division, ECLAC
- Marcela Otero, Director for Multilateral Economic Issues, DIRECON/Chile
- Ernesto Murro, Minister of Labour of Uruguay

Participants’ opinions
- Eulogia Familia, Vice-president CNUS Dominican Republic
- Cassandra Waters, International Department AFL-CIO
- Roberto Betharte Mazorra, Head of the Department for Social and Labour Affairs CTC Cuba
- Ricardo Patah, President UGT Brazil
- Bernardo Rojas, General Secretary CUT-A Paraguay
- Hugo Yasky, General Secretary CTA-T Argentina

13:30-14:30 Lunch

14:30-16:30 DIALOGUE 2. DECENT WORK FOR ALL
Challenges posed to the commitment to full, productive and freely chosen work as the basis for sustainable economies.

- Trends in quantity and quality of employment demanded. Structural unemployment and underemployment.
- Dynamics of job creation and preservation: traditional sectors and new sectors (green economy, care economy, collaborative economy).
- The role of the State in applying and promoting a global labour framework at different policy levels (investment, innovation, research and development, macroeconomic aggregate demand policies (minimum wages, consumer credit); accessible and quality public services; active and passive employment policies, educational and vocational policies; social protection and social security policies. Funding of public policies.
- The roles of social interlocutors and other civil society sectors.
**Facilitator:** Fabio Bertranou, Director, ILO-Santiago Office

**Comments on facilitator's questions**
- Jurgen Weller, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, Economic Development Division, ECLAC
- Juan Manuel Rodríguez, Director Institute of Labour Relations, College of Business Sciences, Catholic University of Uruguay
- Simone Cecchini, Senior Social Affairs Officer, Social Development Division, ECLAC
- Alejandra Krauss, Minister of Labour and Social Security, Chile

**Comments from participants**
- Marcelo Di Stefano PSI/CONTUA
- Kjeld Jakobsen, CUT Brazil
- Miguel Morantes, President CTC Colombia
- Carlos Navarro, President ASI Venezuela
- Cristóbal Souza, CONUSI Panamá
- Amanda Villatoro, Secretary, Trade Union Policy and Education Department, TUCA

16:30-17:00 **Coffee break**

17:00-18:30 **SPECIAL DIALOGUE:** The Agenda 2030: A Way to Promote a Future of Work based in sustainable development, inclusive and centred in the creation of decent work in a complex context of conjunctural and structural challenges.

**Facilitator:** María Helena André, Director ACTRAV

- Alicia Bàrcena, Executive Secretary CEPAL
- José Manuel Salazar, Regional Director ILO-Lima
- Víctor Báez, General Secretary TUCA

18:30 **End of day**

**Cocktail**
09:00-09:15 **“Future of work starts now”**
Sharan Burrow, General Secretary ITUC (video)

09:15-11:15 **DIALOGUE 3. THE ORGANIZATION OF WORK AND PRODUCTION**

Challenges faced by public policies and institutions created to promote social justice and social protection.

- New kinds of companies and occupations, challenges posed to governments and social interlocutors.
- Shifts in the organization of production and their impact on work organization (hours, pay, health and safety at work (physical and psychosocial risks), reconciliation between work and private life).
- Non-typical forms of employment. Changes in the temporality and nature of employer/employee relations. New dynamic of independent employment.
- Effects of employment relations on level of precariousness, informality and concealment.
- Effects on public policies and institutions.
- Workers’ collective action in the new economy (affiliation, workplace representation, collective bargaining).

**Facilitator:** Hilda Sanchez, ACTRAV

**Comments on facilitator’s questions**
- Guillermo Gianibelli, Professor, University of Buenos Aires
- Marcio Pochmman, Professor University of Campinas
- Alfredo Villavicencio, Professor Pontifical University of Peru

**Comments from participants**
- Antonio Fritz, Regional Representative, ITF
- Nilton Freitas, Regional Representative ICM
- Fernando Lopes, Regional Representative IndustriALL
- Marcio Monzane, Regional Representative UNI
- Chris Roberts, Director, National Economic Policy CLC Canada
- Gustavo Suarez, CUT Colombia
11:15-11:30 Coffee break

11:30- 13:30 DIALOGUE 4. THE GOVERNANCE OF WORK
The role of the ILO in a new world setting.

- Challenges for social dialogue and collective bargaining; balance between regulatory framework and contract provisions; levels of negotiation; role of social interlocutors.
- Challenges for the State: Identifying loopholes in regulatory framework and the need for reforms to incorporate new tools and institutions.
- The role of ILO: ILS, tripartism, social dialogue. Main challenges to promote decent work and social justice in a fragmented, world-supply-chain, labour market.

**Facilitator:** Carlos Rodriguez, ACTRAV

**Comments on facilitator’s questions**

- Pablo Topet, Professor at the University of Buenos Aires
- Humberto Villasmil, Senior Specialist on Standards ILO – Santiago
- Pedro Weinberg, Professor at the National University of San Martín, Argentina

**Comments from participants**

- Fernando Alvear, General Secretary of the Production and Commerce Confederation of Chile
- Barbara Figueroa, President CUT Chile
- Toni Moore, General Secretary BWU, Barbados
- Julio César Bazán, President CUT Peru
- Fernando Gambera, International Relations PIT-CNT Uruguay
- Agustin Rodriguez, Representative UNT Mexico

13:30-15:00 Lunch

15:00-15:30 Closing ceremony

- Nicolas Niemtchinow, ILO (video)
- Maria Helena Andre, Director of ACTRAV.