



OECD WEEK 2017

TRADE UNION

KEY MESSAGES

CREATING GOOD JOBS & REDUCING INEQUALITY

The need for a new social contract

The 2017 Ministerial Council Meeting sets out to “*make globalisation work... for all*” and the preceding OECD Forum intends to “*bridge divides*”. This is necessary after a year of popular backlash against governments, institutions and the very functioning of economic systems. At the root of this backlash is a double policy failure: (1) to deliver a satisfactory economic recovery since 2008, creating a low-growth trap instead; and (2) to achieve a more equal distribution of the gains from technological and economic progress. TUAC’s affiliates are in the frontline in proposing policy solutions and in responding to these genuine grievances. The governments meeting at the OECD must give hope that they are being responded to by policy change.

Trade unions urge the OECD Ministers to focus on key policy measures to both confront the short term challenges for jobs, growth and social justice as well as taking action to achieve the long term objectives for inclusive growth in digitalized and green economies including:

EXITING THE LOW-GROWTH TRAP & TACKLING INEQUALITIES

Undertaking coordinated fiscal expansion with a **substantial rise in public investment** focusing on job creation, infrastructure, gender and youth employment gaps and the low-carbon economy, while maintaining a sufficiently expansive monetary policy stance;

Addressing the productivity wage gap by **moving away from structural reforms** that weaken labour market institutions, halting the rising share of the top 10% incomes and by balancing employer power to unilaterally set wages;

Sustaining **robust domestic demand** by strengthening the coverage of collective bargaining, well-set minimum wages and job protection, in particular advance notification;

Giving a mandate for the **revised OECD Jobs Strategy** to ensure fair and equitable labour market outcomes.

MANAGING DIGITALISATION, STRENGTHENING SOCIAL DIALOGUE & PUBLIC SERVICES

Tailoring the “**just transition**” **framework to the impacts of digitalisation**, and address regulatory challenges coming from business models in the digital economy in the realms of taxation, working conditions, social security, competition, corporate governance and data privacy;

**TUAC Recommendations
on Digitalisation
& the Digital Economy**



Strengthening education and training systems

to cater to future skills needs across all age and social groups paired with gender-specific considerations and acknowledging the needs of migrants;

Promoting social dialogue through **collective bargaining and firm-level worker participation** to anticipate change and improve firm-level productivity;

Committing to **people-centred public governance** based upon social dialogue, integrity and accountability, universal access to public services, and supporting the care economy;

Restoring progressive taxation for inclusive growth and sustainable public service funding.

MOVING TOWARDS A MULTILATERAL SYSTEM THAT PEOPLE CAN TRUST

Supporting the creation of a financial transaction tax and **address the impact of financialisation of our economies** on productivity, inequality, and financial stability;

Developing a blue-print for a progressive trade and investment agenda that would rebalance foreign investors rights and obligations, increase transparency and accountability in negotiations, protect the right to regulate and public services, and ensure a level playing field and fair competition, including a **floor of enforceable international labour and environmental standards**;

Changing the rules governing National Contact Points so that home and host country NCPs have joint responsibility for handling specific instances, before changing the rules on widening adherence to the OECD MNE Guidelines;

Introducing national legislation on **corporate human rights due diligence** and promote the sectoral and general OECD Due Diligence Guidance.

OECD Membership

- Re-affirming the fundamental democratic values of the OECD which all member and Accession countries should observe;
- Verifying, working with the Colombian trade unions, that there is positive change on-the-ground in relation to labour rights and trade union rights and safety, prior to Colombia's Accession to the OECD; and calling upon the Republic of Korea to honour its commitments, 20 years after Accession, to respect international standards on labour rights.

ABOUT TUAC

The Trade Union Advisory Committee (TUAC) to the OECD is the interface for trade unions with the organisation and its members in Paris. Its members come from 58 national trade union centres representing 66 million workers in OECD countries. Beyond that, TUAC has associate members in Brazil, Indonesia, the Russian Federation and South Africa. Over 500 trade union representatives take part each year in TUAC and OECD meetings.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Informing on OECD Policies
Facilitating Policy Dialogue
Conveying Trade Union Positions
Convening Meetings and Working Groups

TUAC is focused on promoting policies that create sustainable and inclusive growth and quality jobs worldwide. It closely monitors policies on investment, financial markets, corporate governance, innovation, skills, development and climate change, as well as on tax. In co-operation with the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), the TUAC co-ordinates inputs to the G20 and G7 processes through the L20. To address future challenges, comprehensive policies need to be developed in participatory structures with all stakeholders. This makes social dialogue and collective bargaining more important than ever.



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