



Geneva, 18 June 2013

“High quality apprenticeships are critical to addressing youth employment”, say business and union representatives in a call for joint action to G20 Leaders



In a joint statement issued in Geneva today, global representatives of workers and business, who speak for their constituents within the G20 process as the L20 and B20, call on G20 governments to prioritise quality apprenticeships as a key means to alleviate high levels of youth unemployment, as well as to assist in up-skilling older workers to meet the challenges of a changing world of work.



The L20-B20 meeting drew representatives of business and workers from around the globe in a joint effort to address issues of common concern, and to come up with a set of principles to support quality apprenticeships based on the study of a range of successful national experiences.

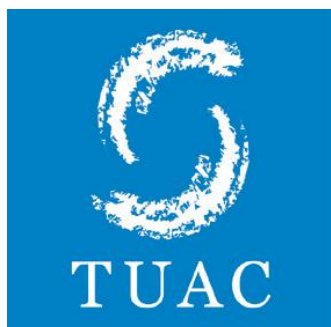


The L20-B20's criteria concluded from the discussion as underpinning successful apprenticeships are that they must, *inter alia*, correspond to the needs of business, and have their own contractual arrangements in line with law and practice.



“Apprenticeship systems must be workplace-centred and a significant part of the training given should be conducted in companies to ensure a work-based character,” says the statement.

The L20-B20 understanding goes on to affirm the commitment of workers and business to work alongside governments in implementing apprenticeship systems that reflect these jointly held objectives.



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