

Labour Leaders in Davos 2015

Stop the disintegration of our democracies and economies

Jobs, jobs and jobs

Raising wages and social protection
Taming corporate power and eliminating slavery

Climate Justice
Economic Governance

1

Jobs, jobs and jobs

The worlds' working people and their families need a shift in policy to:

- Targeted investments in infrastructure to improve long-term productive potential and move to a low-carbon economy
- Raising the purchasing power of low and middle-income households by reducing inequality and strengthening collective bargaining and minimum wages
- Investing in active labour market policies to raise skill levels and reduce youth unemployment
- Reducing informality and creating decent work in emerging and developing countries
- Ensure the creation of quality jobs

With a fall in participation rates in many industrialized countries and rising informality in developing countries we are beyond the crisis level of more than 200 million workers unemployed globally and more than half the developing world's workers in vulnerable employment.

2

Raising wages and social protection

A minimum living wage, collective bargaining, progressive taxation and social protection are the keys to reduce inequality we call for:

- A Social Protection Floor in every country, with a global fund to kick-start development in the poorest countries
- Negotiated and legislated minimum wages on which people can live with dignity
- Income support for low income groups to reduce inequality
- An end to precarious work
- Collective bargaining rebuilt to ensure fair wages and decent work and raise demand

82 percent of people in the ITUC Global Poll say their wages are falling behind the cost of living or stagnant. One in two working families cannot keep up with the rising cost of living.

3

Taming Corporate Power

Corporate power, profit and exploitation increasingly depend on an impoverished model of trade – notably in global supply chains, a global trade which keeps millions of workers in poverty and precarious work. 60% of global trade (\$20 trillion) is dependent on contracts in supply chains sourced from different parts of the world.

Corporations must:

- Purge forced and informal labour
- Pay a minimum living wage
- Expand collective bargaining and safe and secure work
- Take responsibility for workers in supply chains and respect national and global law including the UN Guiding principles and the OECD MNE Guidelines

According to the ITUC Global Poll, 62 percent of the world's people want corporate power tamed.

4

Climate Justice

- Governments must agree to Reduce emissions of industrialised countries by 25-40% by 2020
- Governments must fund the Green Climate Fund
- A Just Transition for workers and communities must be realised
- Plans to ensure food security are urgent
- Industrial transformation is urgent and will protect and grow jobs

73 percent of people in the ITUC Global Poll want governments to do more to limit the pollution that is causing climate change.

5

Economic Governance

Urgently require:

Debt reduction plans for countries where austerity is destroying the economy

Governments must stand by their promises and stand up to the banks and:

- Re-regulate the financial system
- Tackle “too-big-to-fail” global banks
- Introduce due diligence, legal liability and regulation of the credit ratings agencies
- Implement IFL governance reforms for greater democracy, rights and accountability to the world's people

78 percent of people in ITUC Global Poll believe the economic system favours the wealthy, rather than being fair to most people. Governments must:

- Implement G20 commitments to end corporate tax avoidance (BEPS) - Make corporations pay their fair of tax
- Repair Government balance sheets by shifting to progressive taxation
- Introduce a Financial Transactions Tax
- Put a stop to corporate welfare

The Virgin Islands are the second largest investor in the US and China.

Global leaders must address urgent global risks to democratic rights and freedoms, freedom of speech, freedom of association, and an end to slavery and the Kafala system.