



**CHAIR  
NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT  
GENEVA CHAPTER**



**Statement by H.E. Ambassador Jorge Valero  
Permanent Representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela  
on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement  
before the plenary of 107<sup>th</sup> Session of the International Labour Conference**

Geneva, Palais des Nations, Hall Assembly  
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Thanks Mr. President,

I have the honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM).

At the outset, we would like to congratulate you on your assumption as the President of the 107<sup>th</sup> Session of the International Labour Conference. The Movement is confident that under your able stewardship, this session of ILC will lead to a successful conclusion.

Mr. President,

The NAM Labour Ministers remains committed to the objectives and Principles of the International Labour Organization enshrined in this constitution and appreciates Director-General endeavors to make the Organization the center of excellence for the world of work.

The NAM affirms our unwavering support to the consolidation and strengthening of the Movement to preserve its legacy and historical relevance and, thus, guarantee its strength and cohesion on the basis of unity in diversity and the solidarity amongst its Member States.

The Movement looks forward to the outcome of the work of the Standard Setting Committee on “Violence and harassment in the world of work”, for standard setting under the double discussion procedure.

The NAM takes note of the Report on “*Social dialogue and tripartism*”, under the follow-up to the ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization, 2008. The report examines the role of tripartism and social dialogue in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals.

The NAM takes note the document on “*World Employment and Social Outlook/Trends 2018*” and note with great concern that the global unemployment remains elevated at more than 192 million in the world. In 2019, the number of unemployment is projected to grow by 1.3 million since the growth rate of labour force is greater than that of job creation.

The Movement urges the Director General to continue the activities carried out to promote the acceptance of the 1986 Instrument of Amendment to the ILO Constitution, and urge the Member States that still haven’t ratified this Instrument, to do so, taking into consideration that the composition of the Governing Body, must represent the sovereign equality of all the States, as well an adequate representation of all the regions.

The NAM appreciates the efforts undertaken by the Office to strengthen the ILO Supervisory System. Balance in the list of individual cases in terms of the four Regions and different conventions must be the guiding principle in the case selection before the Committee on the Application of Standards. It is necessary to improve transparency in this process. The list must be more balanced in terms of fundamental, technical and governance conventions.

The Movement underscores that the supervisory system must be clear, objective and transparent, in order to be efficient, of recognized authority and for the elimination of unnecessary duplications.

The NAM recognizes the importance of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, specifically Goal 8, which promotes sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all, on the protection of labour rights and the promotion of safe and secure working environments for all workers.

The Movement reiterates that the Right to Development is an inalienable, intrinsic, interrelated and interdependent human right, and that its realization could foster achievement of every United Nations Sustainable Development Goals in particular Goal 8.

The NAM welcomes the “*General Survey*, concerning to the instruments on working time, taking into account that the number of hours worked, the length and number of rest periods and how they are organized in a day, week, month or year, have important consequences for both workers and employers.

The Movement reiterates that unilateral coercive measures seriously jeopardize all human rights including the right to development and the right to work. The NAM Ministers oppose and condemn these unilateral coercive measures or laws and their continued application, and requests States applying these measures or laws to revoke them fully and immediately.

The NAM takes note of the “*Report – ILO programme implementation 2016–17*”, and underscore in this regard the global challenges faced by the countries hosting large numbers of refugees at all levels, and more specifically in their labour markets, and call, in this respect, on the Office and the International community to increase the support and assistance provided to those countries in line with the principle of sharing burden and responsibility.

The Movement takes note that according the Report of "*The Women at Work initiative*", women's contribution to national economies is apparent in rich and emerging economies alike.

The NAM condemns the Israeli occupation of occupied Palestinian territories as well as the occupied territories in the Syrian Golan and express their rejection of the Israeli policies in this regard.

The Movement deplors Israel's continuing intransigence and obstruction of peace efforts and entrenchment of its more than fifty-year military occupation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem - the territory that constitutes the State of Palestine, and express grave concern about the consequent human rights crisis and protection crisis being inflicted on the Palestinian People, and the deepening insecurity and humanitarian and socio-economic suffering they are enduring.

The NAM welcomes the recent visit by the Director- General of the ILO to the Occupied Palestinian Territory, which is the first visit by an ILO Director General in two decades.

The Movement expresses deep concern for the occupation, a stalled peace process, persistent political instability, and a worsening humanitarian crisis in Gaza.

The NAM welcomes the Report of the ILO Director General on the situation of workers of the occupied Arab territories and express their deepest concern over the violation of human rights continuously perpetrated by the occupying power. The predicament of the Palestinian and Syrian workers, employers and their severely constrained economic activities exacerbated by physical and administrative restrictions. According to that Report, the restrictions on movement and economic activity and the overbearing presence of settlements have fragmented the labour market. Gaza continues to be sealed off by land, sea and air. Measurable unemployment remains well above 40 per cent.

The Movement expresses their support to all efforts aiming at uniting the Palestinian national struggle for the establishment of the independent Palestinian State with East Jerusalem as its capital, and expresses the support to the Palestinian people in their endeavors to exercise the right of self-determination, national independence and sovereignty, and the right to return to their homes.

The NAM urges ILO Director-General to continue his efforts with international donors to provide financial support to the Fund to contribute to the social and economic progress of the Palestinian people.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, the NAM reassures you of its full and constructive engagement during the course of discussion of different but important issues in the agenda of the 107<sup>th</sup> session of International Labour Conference with a view to achieving more action-oriented results for the betterment of the situation of our people around the globe

Thank you.