

**ILO Director-General's Message for the HLPF side-event on the
"ROLE OF SOCIAL AND SOLIDARITY ECONOMY IN ACHIEVING THE
SDGS: POTENTIAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION"**

July 22, 2022

Draft (350 words)

I am happy to address this side event on the role of the social and solidarity economy in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

International momentum to promote the social and solidarity economy is growing.

The European Union's social economy action plan was adopted in December last year. The OECD adopted a Recommendation on the Social and Solidarity Economy and Social Innovation last month.

And at the global level the International Labour Organization adopted a resolution and conclusions on decent work and the social and solidarity economy, also last month.

In fact, the general discussion at the 110th International Labour Conference was the first high-level debate in the United Nations system on the topic.

I should stress that the promotion of the social and solidarity economy is not new to the ILO. It is embedded in the constitutional mandate of the organization.

The ILO has worked closely with social and solidarity economy actors in advancing social justice since its foundation, and ILO texts referred to it as early as 1922.

More recently international labour standards and declarations adopted by the ILO also address the social and solidarity economy.

The conclusions adopted at our Conference this year are important.

They include the first agreed definition of the social and solidarity economy that is based on principles and values.

The conclusions also call upon the ILO to continue its leadership on the social and solidarity economy for advancing decent work and sustainable development. This includes its work on the UN Inter-Agency Task Force on the SSE, promoting policy coherence within the UN system.

We are now developing an office-wide strategy and action plan based on the resolution for discussion at our Governing Body in November of this year.

I applaud the efforts of Spain and other Member States in tabling a Resolution on the SSE and Sustainable Development at the United Nations General Assembly.

You can count on the ILO in continuing its efforts in advancing the SSE in the service of decent work and a planet- and people- centred future of work.

Good luck, and thank you.