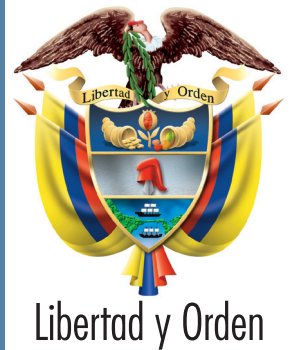


ANGELINO GARZÓN

Candidate of Colombia to Director General
of **the International Labour Organization - ILO**



Republic of Colombia

Vice-President of Colombia since August 2010, Angelino Garzon has a solid background as a public servant, both as an elected official as well as a high-level Government representative. He also has a well known reputation as a social and union leader, human rights defender and peace advocate. Furthermore, he has gained significant experience as a consultant for businesses, international organizations, United Nations Agencies and civil society organizations.

A person of constant determination, Garzon was raised in a very humble and underprivileged environment. His mother, who worked as a grocery seller at the local market, had to provide on her own for the family. Such condition forced him to become a child worker as he attended school. Throughout his 65 years of life, and thanks to the support of many persons and institutions, he has carried out important responsibilities both in the public and private sectors in an efficient manner.

In 2009, before joining Juan Manuel Santos, current President of Colombia, as his formula for Vice president, Angelino Garzon served as the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations, the International Labour Organization –ILO– and other International Organizations in Geneva.

As Ambassador, Garzon made key contributions in areas such as human rights, women's rights, non-discrimination and protection of vulnerable populations as well as in the promotion of social dialogue among governments, workers and employers. He firmly supported multilateralism as a mean to build a fairer and more equitable world and constantly highlighted the work of international organizations as central in supporting the efforts of countries to provide better conditions for the population, with particular attention to children.

Leadership, social dialogue and the capacity to build agreements among different sectors have been a constant in the public life of Angelino Garzon. Evidence of this is his performance as Minister of Labour and Social Security between 2000 and 2002 where he stood out as mediator in labour, political and social conflict management. Both employers and workers openly acknowledged the positive impact of his work in this respect.

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As a Member of the National Constituent Assembly which enacted the present Colombian Constitution in 1991, Garzon advocated for the inclusion as constitutional norms of freedom of association, social dialogue, and the guarantee of labour union rights as constitutional norms. By stressing that labour rights are an integral part of human rights, he also promoted a policy of social dialogue and concertation as the most appropriate way to build solid and peaceful labour relationships.

In the field of public management, Garzon's tenure as elected Governor of the province of Valle del Cauca -Colombia between 2004 and 2007 was acknowledged by its successful strategy to advance towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. Such approach was key to the achievement of significant improvements in human development indicators in the region. Equally remarkable was Garzon's effective fiscal management that strengthened the province's finances. He actually linked policies in this area to practices of accountability, participatory budgets, social dialogue and concertation with civil society.

Angelino Garzon is a well known advocate for peace and conflict resolution both in Colombia and in the Latin-American region. In this area it is important to highlight his work as a member of the Colombian Commission for National Conciliation between 1995 and 2000. The Commission, presided over by the Catholic Church, is aimed to promoting and seeking political solutions to the Colombian armed conflict. It is also noteworthy Garzon's participation as a member of the Carter Group for the improvement of bilateral relations between Colombia and Ecuador from 2007 to 2008 as well as his role as member of the Colombia - Venezuela Binational Commission on border issues, maritime areas and migrant population.

The career of the current Colombian Vice-President has been also characterized by his outstanding participation in social movements and labour union organizations in Colombia and abroad. He began his working life in 1967 at the Pacific Iron and Steel Company in the province of Valle del Cauca, then continued at the National Railways and later at the National Department of Statistics.

In a parallel way, thanks to his very active role in the promotion of labour rights, he was able to hold important positions in Colombian unions such as Secretary General of the National Federation of State Workers (FENALTRASE) and of the Trade Union

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Confederation of Workers of Colombia (CSTC). In 1986 Garzon was one of the main advocates for the creation of the Unified Confederation of Workers (CUT) and became his first Secretary General until 1990. Along these years in his capacity as trade union leader, he participated as representative of Colombian Workers in a number of regional and international ILO meetings and events.

Garzon was also Vice-President of the International Union of Public Servants until 1982 and substitute member of the Bureau of the World Federation of Trade Unions until 1986. He was a member of the Executive Committee of the Colombian Communist Party and Vice-President of the "Union Patriótica" political party until 1990. He was also Vice-President of the "Alianza Democrática M-19" from 1990 to 1994. Since then, he has not been part of any political party but rather defines himself as a catholic-center-left wing person.

Upon retiring from trade union activism due to his election as member of the National Constituent Assembly, Garzon assumed an active role as a consultant in labour and social issues. In such capacity he assisted and developed projects for companies, international organizations, United Nations agencies and civil society organizations. It is important to highlight his work as Director of the International Union of Food Workers -UIF Human Rights Program between 1995 and 1996, Director of the UNDP tripartite project "New Labour Relations in Colombia" between 1996 and 1997 and his leading role in the development of the ILO Study on Experiences of Social Dialogue, Concertation and Cooperativism in Italy and Spain between 2002 and 2003.

Vice-President Angelino Garzon was born in Buga, Province of Valle del Cauca, Colombia on October 29th, 1946. He graduated from the University Jorge Tadeo Lozano, Bogota, with a major in Social Communication. He holds postgraduate degrees in Administrative Law from the University of Salamanca, Spain -2008-, and in Comparative Labour Relations of Italy, Spain, Austria and Latin America at the ILO International Training Centre in Turin, Italy -1985-.

Garzon's current responsibilities, delegated by the President of Colombia, include the coordination of the human rights national policy, the promotion of social dialogue for conflict prevention and conflict resolution, the coordination of the Colombian



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Commission for the Prevention of Child Recruitment by illegal armed groups and the coordination of the Commissions of the Space and of the Oceans. As Vice-President, Garzon represents the Colombian Government in a number of international meetings. He also undertakes significant efforts to promote Free Trade Agreements, advocating for the inclusion of specific provisions and commitments related to the protection of human rights including labour rights as well as environmental rights.

By presenting this summary of Angelino Garzon's life story to the social actors that integrate the International Labour Organization ILO, Colombia would like to highlight the extraordinary contribution of this Organization to the improvement of the living conditions of workers around the world, to the realization of their rights and to the advance of more solid and peaceful labour relations based on social dialogue and collective bargaining.

Such achievements have been possible not only thanks to the meaningful contribution of governments, workers and employers, but also to the remarkable work of the present and past ILO Directors and also to the committed effort of the ILO team worldwide.

Colombia presents the candidature of Angelino Garzon convinced that the basic criteria for the election of the new ILO Director General should be based mainly on the knowledge, experience and life story of the candidates. Such characteristics should bear close relation to the tripartite principles and values that gave origin to the ILO and that have guided its work and that of its social actors throughout nine decades of existence of the Organization.



ANGELINO GARZÓN

Vice-President of Colombia

EDUCATION

Social Communicator

Jorge Tadeo Lozano University
Bogotá, Colombia, 2000

Specialization Course in Administrative Law

University of Salamanca
Salamanca, Spain, 2008

Studies on Comparative Labour Relations of Italy, Spain, Austria and Latin America

ILO International Training Centre
Turin, Italy, 1985

Languages

Spanish

EXPERIENCE

High-Level positions by popular election

Vice-President of Colombia

Bogotá, Colombia, August 2010 – August 2014

Governor of the Province of Valle del Cauca

Valle del Cauca, Colombia, January 2004 – December 2007

Member of the National Constituent Assembly

Bogotá, Colombia, February 1991 – July 1991

Government High-Level Positions

Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations, the International Labour Organizations and other International Organizations

Geneva, Switzerland, January 2009 – March 2010

Minister of Labour and Social Security

Bogotá, Colombia, July 2000 – August 2002

Responsibilities in Trade Union Organizations and International Organizations

Unified Confederation of Workers -CUT

Secretary General

Bogotá, Colombia, December 1986 – May 1990

Trade Union Confederation of Workers of Colombia -CSTC

Secretary for International Relations and Secretary General

Bogotá, Colombia, June 1978 – December 1986

National Federation of State Workers -FENALTRASE

Secretary General

Bogotá, Colombia, 1978-1981

Inter Union Committee of State Workers - CITE

National Coordinator

Bogotá, Colombia, 1975-1978

Trade Union of Workers of the National Administrative Department of Statistics

Affiliate from 1970 to 1990 and Secretary General from 1975 to 1981

Trade Union International of Public and Allied Employees -TUI

Vice-President 1978-1982

World Federation of Trade Unions -WFTU

Substitute member of the Bureau 1982-1986

Activities as Consultant for International Organizations and United Nations Agencies

International Labor Organization - ILO

Study on experiences of social dialogue, concertation and cooperativism in Italy (Emilia-Romagna) and Spain (Andalucía and Mondragón)

August 2002 – June 2003

United Nations Development Program - UNDP

Director of the Tripartite Project "New Labour Relations in Colombia", Colombian workers and employers, as well as government representatives actively participated in this project.

Bogotá, Colombia, January 1996 – July 1997

Activities as Consultant to Business Companies and Civil Society Organizations

Econlex Development Strategies – HIFAB International AB

Consultant to the Interamerican Development Bank Project on social dialogue and competitiveness in Latin America, with particular emphasis in Colombia and Uruguay

July – December 2008

ETERNIT Colombia

Consultant on issues related to investment and relationship with communities

Bogotá, Colombia, January – December 2008

Regional Port Society of Buenaventura

Consultant on issues related to port expansion projects and relationship with communities

Buenaventura, Colombia, January – December 2008

Viva la Ciudadanía – NGO dedicated to human rights and participation

Consultant

Bogotá, Colombia, February 1999 – June 2000

International Union of Food Workers UIF

Director of the Human Rights Program

Bogotá, Colombia, January 1994 – January 1996

International Groups and Commissions

Carter Group for the improvement of the relations between Colombia and Ecuador

Permanent Member, October 2007 - December 2008

Colombian Commission for National Conciliation, presided over by the Catholic Church

Member, July 1995 - July 2000

Colombia – Venezuela Binational Commission on Border issues, Maritime Areas and Migrant Population

Member since the year 2000

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Doctor in Law - Honoris Causa

Central University of Valle

Tulua, Valle del Cauca, Colombia, 2011

Doctor – Honoris Causa

ISALUD University

Buenos Aires, Argentina, 2011