

**ISO Workshop: The Role of Government
in Social Responsibility**

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Guaranteeing labour rights in time of crisis & ISO26000

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ILO Declaration on Social Justice for Fair Globalisation, 2008

- Decent Work Agenda's 4 equally important objectives
- Freedom of association specially important
- Violation of FPRW not a "comparative advantage"
- Labour standards not to be used for protectionist purposes
- Role of MNE Declaration, different actors

G20 Summit, 2 April 2009

- Growth & jobs, fair & sustainable recovery for all
 - MDGs, social protection, UN role (para.25)
 - Human dimension of crisis (para.26)
 - Employment, education, vulnerable
 - ILO et al. to assess
- New global consensus
 - Sustainable economic activity charter? (para.21)

"Global Charter"/"Legal Standard"

First Inventory - ILO principles:

- FPRW (freedom of association, freedom from forced labour, freedom from child labour, freedom from discrimination)
- Social dialogue
- Full, productive, freely chosen employment; the right to decent work

ILO key issues for "Global Charter"

- Governance
- Employment policy
- Labour market
- Sustainable enterprise development
- Social protection
- Contribute to global economic & social policies

Towards a global jobs pact: ILO Conference, June 2009 #1

- Vision, principles, policy
- Tripartite constituency
- Crisis mitigation
- Productive & sustainable recovery
- International policy convergence

Towards a global jobs pact: ILO Conference, June 2009 #2

- Vulnerable groups & sectors
- Labour market policies
- Income maintenance, social protection
- Investment, skills
- Implementation through international labour standards

Meanwhile ...

- UNCEB (5 April): MDGs, policy coherence & coordination ..
- Special representative of the S-G (22 April): Business & human rights
- World Bank (27 April): Doing Business EWI removed; compliance with ILO Conventions recognised
- ISO26000 (22 May): Social responsibility

Readapting procurement for socially responsible crisis response

- Pay the going rate, decent work, fair globalisation
- Human rights, labour clauses, transparency; sustainable (G20 para.27)
- ILO Convention No.94, Declaration on Fundamental Principles & Rights at Work
- ISO 26000: role of governmental and private organisations

Procurement: examples

- **World Bank:** Standard Bidding Documents prohibit breach of FPRW
- **Six American States:** e.g. New York prohibits purchase of apparel for non-compliance with labour standards, on wages, OSH, employee right to form unions, use of child labour
- **UK Equality Bill:** public bodies to be allowed to use procurement to drive equality (now being consulted)

Gender equality

- MDG: promote gender equality, women's empowerment
- Gender distinction uniquely ubiquitous; multiple discriminations
- Gender discrimination impacts on men and boys as well as women and girls
- Women an under-employed asset in social & economic development, focus for crisis response

Organisational focus on gender in time of crisis

- Stimulate & facilitate awareness, debate
- Gender analysis - who does what - sex-disaggregated data - to understand issues
- Identify comparative advantages of men & women in workforce, to eliminate human rights abuses while increasing efficiency
- Analyse sex differentials in sphere of influence (supply chains, consumers ..)