



Decent Work in
Global Supply Chains

International Labour Conference 2016



ILO Governing Body
decided to put on
agenda an item:
*“decent work in global
supply chains with a at
the 105th Session
(2016) of the
Conference”*





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Global supply chains



Global lead-firm coordination of cross-border and within-border activities – and labour involved in these activities - required to bring a good or service through all or part of the stages from its conception and design, through the inputs and different phases of production to its delivery to final consumers



Decent work...



ILO Decent Work Agenda

- Promoting jobs
- Guaranteeing rights at work
- Extending social protection
- Promoting social dialogue

Opportunities and challenges

- Widened scope for inclusive development and job creation
- Increased danger of global competition and race to the bottom with downward pressure on wages, working conditions and rights at work
- Governance challenge as institutions and regulations are designed for national labour markets (not for cross-border activities)



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The game changer Rana Plaza



issues to be considered

- key structural changes, trends and drivers

- the implications of GSCs (including gender-specific effects) on job creation, skills development, distribution of employment, and working conditions, including wages, working time and occupational safety and health;



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issues to be considered



- the effects of GSCs on the nature of the employment relationship, as well as on collective bargaining and social dialogue;
- policies and good practices to promote backward and forward linkages, the integration of local SMEs, cooperatives and other companies into GSCs, and transitions to formality;
- strategies to accelerate skills upgrading, improve organizational procedures and increase productivity and sustainability;



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issues to be considered



- the role of international labour standards and, in particular, fundamental principles and rights at work;
- strategies that build on multiple, complementary approaches to achieving workplace compliance;
- the distinct roles and responsibilities of employers and workers at the national and international levels as well as of governments, including government's role in law enforcement;



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issues to be considered



- the role of organizations representing workers and employers at the global level, including by sector, in view of the opportunities for cross-border social dialogue; and
- the role of multinational enterprises in the promotion of decent work in GSCs.



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ILO not the first to discuss



- UNCTAD World Investment Report 2013
- WTO Global Value Chains in a Changing World 2013
- OECD, WTO and UNCTAD for G20 in 2013
- Huge amount of research on global value chains and global supply chains

- BUT: ILO focus is on decent work



Why ILO?



- Mandate and history (Decent Work and Social Justice)
- Tripartite governance structure
- ILO standards and normative approach
- In-depth knowledge and expertise of the world of work.



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What will happen?



- A report to inform the discussion will be prepared and released by the end of March 2016
- International Labour Conference will discuss in June 2016
- Governig Body will discuss report and possible follow-up October-November 2016



Thank you!

