

8 February 2016

**3rd Annual IOE Leaders Forum
8 June 2016
International Labour Office**

PRELIMINARY INFORMATION



Background

The first Annual IOE Leaders Forum was held during the 2014 International Labour Conference (ILC) on the proposal of IOE President Daniel Funes de Rioja, who recognised the unique opportunity provided by the ILC for bringing together hundreds of employer experts and leading figures from the IOE's member federations and affiliated companies around a key theme of current interest to business. Of the 7000 delegates to the 2015 ILC there were approximately 700 registered employer delegates, including many federation presidents, making this the largest annual gathering of the global employer community's leadership anywhere in the world.

While many employer delegates were occupied in the various technical committees of the ILC, the 2014 and 2015 Leaders Forums nevertheless attracted more than 100 participants on each occasion, and provided a platform for IOE members and their affiliates, as key speakers and contributors during the Q&A sessions. Each Forum successfully achieved a high-level of exchange of information on current trends and best practices on the selected topics, enhanced by various regional and industry perspectives.

The 2014 Leaders Forum had as its theme *Addressing Key Barriers to Business Sustainability* and the 2015 Forum looked at *The Role of SMEs, Entrepreneurship and Innovation in Sustaining Growth, Jobs and Productivity*. Each Forum was a venue for showcasing the expertise and experiences of the presenters and contributors from within the IOE membership and its affiliates and from partner organisations within and beyond the UN family and academia.

Overview of The 3rd Annual IOE Leaders Forum (2016):

The Future of Work – what’s in store and how to optimise success?

Every day, reports in academic and industry publications and the media tell us how cutting-edge technologies and disruptive innovations are creating new industries and supplanting old ones; driving productivity; engendering new business and employers’ organisation models and rendering obsolete traditional ways of doing business and being employed. Employers and workers alike are impacted by the rapid pace of change, and business, people, skills and career management will need to adapt to accommodate the new realities.

Public and private institutions, enterprises and organisations around the globe, including the ILO and OECD, among many of the IOE’s partners, are discussing as a matter of high priority the future of work - how to identify and interpret the trends; how to prepare and adapt to meet the challenges, as well as harnessing the new opportunities being presented for sustainable success.

The Future of Work is also high on the agenda of the IOE and will be the theme for the 3rd Annual Leaders Forum to take place during the afternoon of 8 June 2016.

This year’s Forum will be chaired by IOE President Daniel Funes de Rioja and Moderated by IOE Secretary-General Linda Kromjong.

For practical purposes, the Forum will not to address every Future of Work-related issue; it will build on work currently being undertaken by the IOE’s Future of Work Task Force. The Forum will be organised around three panel discussions, each with three-four speakers, exploring a different angle of the three Future of Work topics:

- **Employment/Jobs versus Work - what will future employment look like?**
- **Human work versus Mechanical Work - how will technology change jobs?**
- **The Workplace versus the Place where we work - will it exist as it does today? how will it be organised?**

The panellists will be drawn from IOE member federations, affiliated and partner companies, the IOE’s Future of Work Task Force, academia and other external experts. The line-up will be diverse, inclusive and informed; reflecting the global reach and nature of the IOE.

The aim will be to harness the unique and rich body of knowledge, expertise and experience that only the IOE can bring together thanks to its global reach and to provide direction to employers’ organisations and companies in preparing to maximise success in what will undoubtedly be a reshaped world of work, just as our forebears had to adapt to previous industrial and technological revolutions.

For further information, please contact Linda Hotham at hotham@ioe-emp.org
