

## ESTABLISHING A CONTEXT OF THE EVOLVING LABOUR MARKET AND CHANGING ECONOMY

[Note that this issue note will be discussed during the “Taking stock” session of the Preparatory Meeting and is *complementary* to the context-setting to be presented by ILO and OECD followed by Social Partners]

### STRATEGIC CONTEXT:

- Driven largely by “disruptive technologies”, automation of tasks, and a rise in online platforms, the new economy has been reshaping workplaces, redefining the idea of being employed, and shifting the expectations for education and skills.
- The mismatch between the skills required for the current jobs versus the new ones is expected to be very significant, and it is not clear whether the learning institutions are responding and adapting quickly enough.
- It is in this context that economies are challenged to survey and project employment landscapes in order to foresee and respond to new demands for skilled workers.
- G7 countries have witnessed an increase in new forms of employment. Temporary work, part-time work and self-employment now account for a third of total employment in OECD countries.
- The demand for contingent labour in a booming virtual marketplace has created opportunities for flexible employment, where those who might have experienced barriers to entering traditional workforce can now work when they want and for as long as they want. These forms of employment, however, raise concerns about job quality and stability.
- While opportunities could be broadly shared, winners and losers are emerging in the transition. Those on the lower end of digital divide might be disproportionately affected by technological disruptions. Also, it is important to monitor the outcomes for women in relation to skills and employment due to persistent gender gaps in certain sectors of the economy.

### QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

- What are the major trends in member countries that are changing the labour market?
- Are there specific segments of the labour market that are expected to be disproportionately impacted either positively or negatively?
- What changes in skills training will be necessary to reflect the labour market of the future?
- How can labour market information on new forms of work be collected, shared and analysed?