



## G20 Leaders launch Brisbane Action Plan for Growth and Quality Jobs

A comprehensive communiqué issued by the G20 leaders at the end of a two-day Summit in Brisbane on 15-16 November includes an action plan setting out strategies to boost growth and create quality jobs.

Recognising that more than 200 million people remain unemployed globally, some 30 million more than when the crisis began, and including 75 million young people, the G20 statement recognises the urgency to reverse this trend and make the creation of quality jobs a top priority.

With this in mind, the leaders have pledged to ensure that their employment plans work alongside comprehensive growth strategies and more effectively integrate macroeconomic and labour market policies.

The Brisbane Action Plan underlines the need to promote greater participation by women in the labour market and improve the quality of their employment, which will contribute to stronger and more inclusive growth. There is an agreed goal of reducing the gap in labour force participation rates between men and women across the G20 by 25 per cent by 2025, taking into account national circumstances. The leaders recognise that such a commitment will require the support of international organisations such as the ILO and OECD, including in measuring progress.

While referring to the existence of country-specific action plans to lift employment and participation, the Brisbane Plan reports that all members of the G20 are taking measures to varying extents to raise female participation and tackle youth unemployment, including many of the recommendations put forward by the IOE in its contributions to the B20. These involve:

- introducing and strengthening policies that promote entrepreneurship and skills development, strengthening the linkages between education, training and workforce needs;
- addressing the problems faced by disadvantaged groups, including people with disabilities and the long-term unemployed;
- addressing long-term and structural unemployment, underemployment and low-quality, insecure jobs in the informal economy;
- taking measures to improve occupational health and safety policies;
- moving to establish or increase minimum wages, improve social

## G20 Leaders' Summit - Communiqué



## G20 Leaders' Summit - Brisbane Action Plan



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- dialogue and improve social safety nets; and
  - taking steps to streamline labour market regulation and reduce non-wage costs of labour.

The heads of State and Government invite their Labour and Employment Ministers to report back in 2015 on progress in reducing youth unemployment, reducing gaps in labour force participation and further developing and implementing their country employment plans. The IOE and BIAC also plan to continue their joint monitoring activity regarding implementation of these commitments.

The IOE welcomes the continuation of the Human Capital Task Force under the new title of G20 Employment Working Group, which will develop terms of reference and a work programme regarding these priorities and other key elements that support higher levels of employment and participation.

“We welcome the recognition by the G20 leaders that further action is needed in the areas of boosting human capital, enhancing labour market flexibility in some advanced economies, and improving job formality, especially in the emerging economies,” said IOE Secretary-General Brent Wilton. “We look forward to working hand-in-hand with our Turkish member, TISK, to coordinate the B20 input to this process as it addresses these pressing issues.”

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