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## **Employers' priorities for a just transition and a successful Work Programme**

**Date and Time: 4 December 13:30-14:30**

**Location: COP28 Blue Zone, Thematic Arena 3 - Employers Pavilion for Green Skills**

**Objective: to discuss the role of employers and priorities for effective action in the Just Transition Work Programme, sharing views of the private sector on what works and what doesn't in terms of policies and best practices and exchanging views with government representatives**

**Audience: IOE members, B&I Constituency, policy makers, governments**

Join us at COP28 for a thought-provoking event on priorities for the Just Transition Work Programme and an exchange of views between employers, governments and international organisations. As difficult negotiations take place at COP this year, this event will focus on a crucial aspect of the path to a sustainable future: ensuring that businesses as well as labour markets generally are well-equipped for a just and equitable transition.

Business plays a crucial role in defining and implementing climate action. It employs the largest proportion of working-age people globally, drives economic growth, provides goods and services, and harnesses creativity and innovation to help solve societal challenges. If properly managed, the risks arising from climate change can be turned into opportunities, and through appropriate mitigation and adaptation policies, labour markets could be more dynamic, accessible, and sustainable. IOE is a leading stakeholder in the global just transition policy debate and is an official constituent of the ILO. IOE represented the Employers' Group during the June 2023 International Labour Conference and the General Discussion on a Just Transition. This event will be an occasion to share insights and perspectives from experts directly involved in leading policy discussions.

Our expert panel will explore strategies, policies, and best practices to facilitate this transition, and exchange views on the priorities and key ingredients for a successful Just Transition Work Programme. Don't miss the opportunity to engage in discussions on how the private sector and governments can work together in the global climate transition while prioritising the optimal labour market outcomes and sustainable development.

#### List of speakers:

- Welcome remarks and moderation by IOE Secretary-General, Roberto Suárez Santos
- Keynote remarks by H.E. Hala el-Said, Minister of Economic Planning and Development of Egypt
- Marianne Karlsen, Chief Climate Analyst & Department Head of Delegation, Norway
- Simon Cardy, Director for Climate Change and Environment, Department of International Relations and Cooperation, South Africa
- Celeste Drake, ILO Deputy Director-General
- Cas Coovadia, CEO of Business Unity South Africa (BUSA)
- Seema Arora, Deputy Director-General, Confederation of Indian Industry
- Norine Kennedy, Senior Vice President, Policy and Global Strategy, United States Council for International Business (USCIB)
- Carine de Boissezon, Chief Impact Officer, EDF

#### Run of show and script

13:30-13:32 – Welcome remarks by Roberto Suarez Santos, IOE Secretary-General

13:32-13:40 – Keynote remarks by the Egyptian Minister for Planning and Economic Development

13:40-13:50 – Overview and state of play of negotiations by Norway and SA negotiators (5 minutes each)

13:50-13:55 – ILO's role and priorities for the Just Transition Work Programme by Celeste Drake, ILO DDG

13:55-14:15 – 5 minutes per speaker on key employers' and national priorities for JTWP

14:15-14:25 – Looking ahead and how can we ensure collaboration and efficient action at national level

14:25-14:30 – Closing remarks by Roberto Suarez Santos, IOE Secretary-General

#### Guiding questions for speakers:

For Marianne Karlsen – Can you give us an overview of the progress of the negotiations so far and what are the main challenges and considerations for you as a co-facilitator?

For Simon Cardy – As the lead negotiator for the G77 how do you take into account national contexts and priorities, what is the goal of the JTWP for your group?

For Celeste Drake – ILO is the leading authority in the UN system on the just transition agenda, what are your expectations for the outcome at COP28 and how does this relate to the ILO's work and the outcome of the 2023 general discussion at the International Labour Conference?

For Cas – South Africa is one of the countries with a Just Energy Transition Partnership and advanced experiences on this process, what can you tell us about your lessons learned and priorities for the future?

For Seema – The Confederation of Indian Industry is strongly engaged in work on green skills and sustainability transitions and is just handing over the G20 process, what do you see as the main ingredients for success?

For Norine – With your wealth of experience in the UNFCCC COP process and perspective of American business, tell us about your expectations for the Work Programme?

For Carine – At EDF you have on the ground insights about the complexities of energy system transformation, what do you see as your main needs and priorities to ensure a green grid and how can the UNFCCC framework support that?