



CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

IOE Forum on Diverse Forms of Employment
14 June 2017: 14:00 – 17:00
Room XI – International Labour Office

Opening Remarks by Mr Erol Kiresepi, IOE President

Good afternoon Minister Johansson of Sweden, ladies and gentlemen, distinguished guests and colleagues,

It gives me great pleasure, as the newly-elected President of the International Organisation of Employers, to open this 2017 IOE Forum during the ILC.

I would like to welcome you, and to thank you for taking the time from your busy ILC schedules, to contribute to this event.

We often say that the strength of the IOE lies in its network of 158 employers' organisations in 146 countries around the world, and it is this diversity which also makes these events so enriching.

Organising a special forum at this time of year, to celebrate the presence in Geneva of so many of our members, is a tradition established by my predecessor, former IOE President, Daniel Funes - and it is one that I am proud to take forward as the IOE's new President.

Because this is a golden opportunity for the IOE's members from around the world to come together, to exchange our diverse perspectives on current topics of interest to employers' organisations and business - with each other - as well as with our partners from other organisations, governments, academia, think tanks and more.

In his report to the 102nd ILC, ILO Director-General Guy Ryder (who we are delighted will be joining us later this afternoon) noted that: "the classic stereotype of a full-time permanent job, with fixed hours, and a defined-benefit pension on the completion of a largely predictable and secure career path with a single employer... **is an increasingly infrequent reality.**"

Now it is our duty to develop a new approach to diverse forms of work. For instance, OECD defines non-standard forms of work by what they are not: "full-time dependent employment with a contract of indefinite duration, or what is generally considered the "standard" work arrangement."¹ Within IOE's future of work activities, we should aim to specify and name diverse forms of work according to employer's needs. If we don't advocate our needs, diverse

¹ OECD New Forms Of Work In The Digital Economy Report, 2016

[http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=DSTI/ICCP/IIS\(2015\)13/FINAL&docLanguage=En](http://www.oecd.org/officialdocuments/publicdisplaydocumentpdf/?cote=DSTI/ICCP/IIS(2015)13/FINAL&docLanguage=En)

forms of work will be shaped and named by the ones who are not been affected by the economic and social consequences.

We have to prepare ourselves, our businesses and our representative organisations, for this new reality and, indeed, it is part of the **IOE's mission to support its members as they prepare to be "future ready"**.

Today, we will explore the enormous opportunities, as well as the challenges, created by **diverse, forms of employment**. We will consider the implications for the regulatory environment, for industrial relations, business models, social security systems, and more.

We will seek to address the outdated distinction between "standard and non-standard" forms of employment; and identify how employers' organisations will need to re-define their services to meet members' needs as **they** adapt to the new realities emerging in the future world of work.

This forum is part of the IOE's ongoing activity: it builds on the outcomes of the IOE's recent **Global Employers' Workshop** in Madrid on the **Future of Work**.

Today's deliberations will inform the business and employer community's contribution to the Future of Work debate in the ILO, to the G20/B20 employment work stream - **in which I am personally very closely involved** – as well as to the debates at the OECD and in other national, regional and international forums.

Our learnings from today's discussion will shape ongoing IOE guidance, training and publications tailored to the needs of our members, to build their capacity to contribute to the social and economic development of their nations in line with the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, to which we, as the global business community, are highly committed.

Our speakers and participants reflect the diverse composition of the IOE's membership - this international line-up will ensure we capture a global picture of the situation, as well as provide examples of some of the best practices in the 146 countries where our members operate.

We invite you, the audience, to contribute your own reflections and observations during the interactive sessions.

Thank you for your attention and I anticipate a fruitful exchange as we prepare to be "future ready"!
