

## **CONTEXT AND TERMS OF REFERENCE**

## 5<sup>TH</sup> AFRICAN SOCIAL PARTNERS' SUMMIT FOR EMPLOYMENT IN AFRICA 13 – 14 SEPTEMBER 2018 Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire

The first Summit was held in Casablanca in November 2013 and concluded with the Casablanca Declaration.

The second Summit was again held in Casablanca, this time in December 2015, and led to the adoption of the <u>Blueprint for Jobs in Africa</u>, a multi-stakeholder guidance document unanimously adopted by all parties. The launch of the Blueprint was marked by a <u>high-level discussion</u> in 2016 on the transformation of African agriculture in order to create opportunities for young people. This event enjoyed the support of several partners including the *Office Chérifien des Phosphates* (OCP Morocco), The Coca-Cola Company and the Commission of the African Union, and took place in the presence of several African employment ministers and ambassadors.

The third Social Partners' Summit, which was held in Tunis in December 2016 was officially inaugurated by the Prime Minister of Tunisia, H.E. Mr Youssef Chahed, and by Nobel Peace Prize laureates Ms Wided Bouchamaoui of the Union of Tunisian Industry, Trade and Crafts (UTICA) and Mr Houcine Abassi of the General Tunisian Labour Union (UGTT) who advocated for social dialogue as a means of rising to the challenge of employment in Africa. This third Summit led to the adoption of the <a href="Tunis Action Plan">Tunis Action Plan</a>, which anticipates a series of activities and programmes that governments can put in place at national level, in collaboration with social partners, to create employment and endow young people with the skills they need.

At the fourth Social Partners' Summit on Jobs and Skills, which took place in Algiers in April 2017, African social partners agreed to launch a <u>Call for Action on Employment</u>, which was presented to the African Union Ministers of Labour and Employment during their 26 April 2017 sessions. The Algiers Call to Action reasserts social partners' long-held argument for urgently transforming the demographic dividend represented by African youth into a competitive advantage that can contribute to inclusive growth, job creation, sustainable development and security on the continent.

The fifth Summit will be hosted by the General Confederation of Enterprises of the Côte d'Ivoire (CGECI), in Abidjan, on 13 - 14 September 2018, and will have as its theme the **development and monitoring of national action plans**.

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