Jobs for Africa Foundation President calls on African Union Ministers of Labour and Employment to declare war on youth unemployment

At a meeting with African Union Ministers of Labour and Employment in Algiers on 26 April, Jobs for Africa Foundation President called for urgent action to address critical and unsustainable unemployment levels, especially for Africa’s youth.

"The figures show that we are in a complete state of emergency with regard to youth unemployment," said Mr Belahrach, "African governments must declare war on unemployment and review and adapt the Ouagadougou Declaration on Employment and Poverty Alleviation and the Malabo Declaration, as well as the AU's Agenda 2063." He went on: "There are no easy solutions. The only way is to enact the equivalent of a Marshall Plan in each African nation to address the crisis."

Mr Belahrach’s statement was delivered during his presentation to the Labour and Employment Ministers of a Call for Action adopted by the African social partners’ Jobs & Skills Summit which took place in Algiers from 22-23 April.

The social partners’ outreach to the ministers in this way marks a further step in the implementation of the Blueprint for Jobs in Africa which was endorsed by the social partners in Casablanca in December 2015.

Please refer to the links in the side panel for additional information and contact details.