

## Global Social Protection Week

# Achieving SDG 1.3 and Universal Social Protection (USP2030) in the Context of the Future of Work

### Stream 3

Building universal social protection systems

#### Technical session 3.1

Building rights-based social protection systems

**Wednesday, 27 November 2019**

**10:45am – 12:00pm**

### BACKGROUND

Despite social security being a basic human right, the road towards universal coverage still remains long 70 years after the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which states that everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security. Indeed, it is estimated that only 29 per cent of the world population enjoys access to comprehensive social security coverage and more than half of the world's population still does not have access to any form of protection.

Since first proclaimed in the Universal Declaration in 1948, the human right to social security has been re-affirmed and formally recognized by numerous legally binding international human rights instruments such as the International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights of 1966, currently binding 170 States. It also lies at the centre of the standard-setting action carried throughout the XXth century by the tripartite members of International Labour Organization in the area of social security which, in order to secure social security as an individual right, places the emphasis on the responsibility of the State to secure its proper implementation. In particular, the Social Security (Minimum Standards) Convention, 1952 (No. 102) and the more recent Social Protection Floors Recommendation, 2012 (No. 202) are two key rights-based instruments aimed at giving effect to the human right to social security through comprehensive social security systems.

More recently, the human right to social security emerged as a key element in the pursuit of the 2030 Development Agenda, in particular its great potential as an important tool to end poverty in all its forms everywhere, reduce inequalities, secure good health and wellbeing, and progress towards decent work and gender equality. Many countries around the world, supported by development partners and notably UN specialized agencies, have started developing and implementing a rights-based approach to guaranteeing universal social protection. Such an approach places human beings at the centre and calls on States to ensure that plans, policies and programmes are anchored in a system of rights and corresponding obligations established by international law<sup>1</sup>. In the same vein, marking the turn of the ILO's first century, the ILO's Centenary Declaration for the Future of Work stressed the need for the future of work to adopt a human-

---

<sup>1</sup> The Social Protection and Human rights resource platform provides extensive information on how to better align social protection and human rights <https://socialprotection-humanrights.org>

centred lens, including with respect to building universal, comprehensive, and sustainable social protection systems.

The human rights framework and the ILO social security standards, with their corresponding monitoring mechanisms, provide a sound and tested base to bring national social security systems under the rule of law. Ratifying and implementing these standards therefore plays a critical role in guiding the development of comprehensive and rights-based social protection systems worldwide. This rights-based approach is all the more important in the context of the proliferation of actors operating in the area of social protection, including international financial institutions, and the need to ensure that such an approach is duly taken on board by all. The session aims at further discussing the advantages of rights-based approaches to social protection and the benefits of making fuller use of existing internationally agreed principles and goals as a level-playing field towards building universal social protection systems.

## OBJECTIVES

Organized in the context of the Global Social Protection Week as part of the ILO Centenary celebrations, this technical session has the following objectives:

- To discuss the challenges, opportunities and added value of undertaking a rights-based approach in building comprehensive and universal social protection policies and systems.
- To discuss country experiences and the role of development partners and civil society in supporting the establishment of rights-based social protection systems.

## FORMAT

This technical session will consist of a moderated discussion, where the moderator will ask two (or three rounds of questions) to the panel members. The questions are:

- How to build and implement rights-based social protection policies, legal frameworks and systems?
- What is the added-value of international principles, human rights standards and development goals in the area of social protection?
- How to harness the current momentum in favour of social protection to ensure that social protection policies adopt a rights-based perspective?

## MODERATOR AND PANELLISTS

Moderator: **Magdalena Sepulveda**, Executive Director, Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (GI-ESCR)

*The advantages and basis of a rights-based approach for extending social protection*

- **Stefania Tripodi**, Human Rights Officer, OHCHR
- **Kroum Markov**, Social Protection Policy Specialist, ILO
- **Prof. Filali Meknassi**, Member of the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, ILO

*Hands-on : anchoring the development of comprehensive social protection policies and systems into sound legal frameworks*

- **Aboubacar Wade**, Cabinet director, Ministry of Labour, Social Dialogue and Relations with Institutions, Senegal
- **Monica Recalde Da Giacomi**, Director of Social Security, Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security, Paraguay
- **Gertruda Uścińska**, Professor, University of Warsaw, Poland

- **Yaroslav Nilov**, Deputy of the State Duma and Chairman of the Duma Committee on Labour, Social Policy and Veterans' Affairs, State Duma, Russian Federation
- **Sulistri Afrileston**, Vice-president, KSBSI, Indonesia
- **David Clarke**, Team Leader, UHC and Health System Law, Health System Governance, Policy and Aid Effectiveness Health Governance and Financing Department, WHO
- **Anna Carolina Machado**, Researcher, IPC-IG, Brasilia.

*Rights-based legal frameworks to reach the SDGs*

- **Maya Stern Plaza**, Social Protection Legal Standards Officer, ILO
- **David Clarke**, Team Leader, UHC and Health System Law, Health System Governance, Policy and Aid Effectiveness Health Governance and Financing Department, WHO
- **Anna Carolina Machado**, Researcher, IPC-IG, Brasilia.