**Business and Human Rights**

The ILO has been in the business of human rights right from its establishment in 1919. Since then, ILO adopted 8 Fundamental Human Rights Conventions which cover freedom of association, non-discrimination, forced labour and child labour. While it could be said that in many ways these Conventions are primarily aimed at Government, they are of equal relevance for business.

In some instances, additional instruments have been developed so as to ensure relevant developments in the world of work are adequately captured. For instance, the 2014 Protocol, which supplements Convention No 29 on Forced Labour, adopted in 1930, is a response to the global increase in trafficking for purposes of labour exploitation, which is primarily a private sector scourge that did not exist in its current forms in the 1930’s.

Other responses acknowledge the important role business can play in promoting respect for the human and labour rights as a necessary prerequisite for the development of sustainable enterprises.

For example, the ILO Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy, better known as the ILO MNE declaration was adopted 40 years ago, and amended a number of times since then, the latest in 2017. The MNE Declaration is the only ILO instrument that provides direct guidance to enterprises (multinational and national) on social policy and inclusive, responsible and sustainable workplace practices.

The most important obligation for the MNEs is to carry out Due Diligence in their head offices as well as through their contractors and supply chains aiming at

* identifying possible gaps in their policies and documents that may not comply with ILS.
* detecting facts of violations of labor rights
* coming up with strategies in cooperation with workers’ organizations to tackle incompliance and address violation of the rights

Global Framework Agreements (GFA) that most of the socially responsible multinational companies sign with Global Trade Union Federations (GUF), set general principles of MNEs commitment to comply with ILS and cooperate with trade union through meaningful social dialogue.. Good example is LUKoil that is regularly signing GFA with IndustriALL. Last time GFA was signed or rather renewed in June 2018 by the LUKoil President and IndustriALL General Secretary.

Another example is the ILO helpdesk**, a one-stop shop for company managers and workers on how to better align business operations with international labour standards and build good industrial relations.**

The ILO also plays an active role in providing inputs into the work of the open-ended intergovernmental working group on transnational corporations and other business enterprises**,** which was established in 2014 by the UN Human Rights Council to elaborate an international legally binding instrument to regulate the activities of transnational corporations and other business enterprises.