



Issue-based Coalition
on Environment and Climate Change



Ministry of Labour and
Social Protection of Population
of the Republic of Azerbaijan



PAGE PARTNERSHIP FOR ACTION
ON GREEN ECONOMY

► **From Vision to Practice for a Just Transition for All: a cross-regional South-South policy dialogue on energy, sustainable finance, and enterprises for inclusive policy-making and enhancing NDC ambition.**

20-21 November 2024, COP29 ILO Just Transition Pavilion – No. B2

DRAFT [18 Nov edits with latest confirmations]

Policy Dialogue 1 (20 Nov afternoon): Strengthening climate plans to promote green jobs, sustainable enterprises, and circular economy approaches for a Just Transition.

Policy Dialogue 2 (21 Nov morning): Financial mechanisms and operationalizing the ILO's Just Transition Guidelines in the energy sector: implementing the NDCs to promote sustainable enterprises and decent work for all.



International
Labour
Organization



► Background

I. Introduction

Climate change is one of the largest and most complex existential challenges of our time, outpacing predictions and placing immense strain on global communities, labour markets, businesses and workplaces. Recent years have witnessed an alarming surge in climate-related disasters, including wildfires, floods, heatwaves, and droughts, leading to socio-economic disruptions, the displacement of populations, agricultural losses, and heightened air pollution. The ongoing climate crisis has significantly increased the risk of life-threatening diseases such as cholera, malaria, and dengue. Further, the climate crisis is not “gender neutral”. In the world of work, climate change impacts carry a high risk of exacerbating existing gender inequalities and decent work deficits.

Energy transition, climate finance, nature and livelihoods in climate action, and inclusiveness were key topics in the 28th session of the UNFCCC Conference of Parties (COP28)’s Action Plan where global stocktake, finance, loss and damage, adaptation and just transition were discussed. **Nations at COP28 in Dubai approved a roadmap for “transitioning away from fossil fuels” – a first for a UN climate conference.** Recognizing the importance of gender-responsive climate policy and action, a new Gender-Responsive Just Transitions & Climate Action Partnership was endorsed by over 80 Parties at COP28 to ensure a gender-responsive just transition to support the implementation of the Paris Agreement.¹ Parties will conclude the review of the enhanced Lima Work programme on gender and its gender action plan at the COP29. Moreover, COP28 also adopted the Just Transition Work Programme, which includes a focus on social dialogue as well as inclusive and participatory approaches that leave no one behind.

COP29, the United Nations next climate conference in 2024 (November 11-22) in Baku, Azerbaijan, presents a crucial opportunity. Parties are expected to agree on the New Collective Quantified Goal (NCQG) on climate finance, a priority for Azerbaijan. COP29 represents one of the last major chances to get the world back on track and hold nations accountable for delivering on their environmental targets, with a focus on ensuring that developing nations receive adequate support. It also presents an important opportunity for countries to reinforce the role of ensuring a just transition for all to enhance ambition and to build the required social consensus for implementing bold climate measures. Employers and workers play a central role are fundamental for accelerating climate action, Employers and workers are fundamental for accelerating climate action and governments need to prioritize the role of sustainable enterprises as engines of just transition processes and decent work creation.

New Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) update preparation and communication process

Effective governance is critical in updating the NDCs and aligning them to national socio-economic policies and strategies. New NDC formulations are underway, with countries expected to make their climate plans bolder and more ambitions by early 2025. Through these NDCs or climate plans, countries undertake strong political commitments and implement clear plans for integrating the entire ecosystem of services (line ministries and different agencies) into climate action. For these climate plans to be holistic and address the social dimensions of climate action, ministries charged with formulating NDCs should work closely with Ministries of Labour, and workers’, and employers’ organizations to ensure that voices of workers and businesses contribute to the formulation and implementation of climate action plans. The COP29 Policy Dialogue ‘A Call to Action for a Just Transition for All’ will enable participating

¹ <https://www.cop28.com/en/cop28-gender-responsive-just-transitions-and-climate-action-partnership>

countries to share experience and gain insights into successes, challenges, and common NDC planning and implementation themes while providing an opportunity for constituents to bridge capacity gaps.

The **ILO's offer on strengthening NDCs for a just transition and decent work** will be used for discussions on leveraging NDCs, with and among tripartite constituents with a specific focus on the role of sustainable enterprises as vehicles for taking forward a just transition for all and realizing ambitious climate action. The COP28 Just Transition work program will serve as an important reference document. Most importantly, the ILO Guidelines for a just transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all will shape the discussions. This should ensure an enhanced understanding among participants on operationalising these, and to ensure that the NDC process is inclusive and leaves no one behind.

Importantly, the Policy Dialogue will showcase the role of **enterprises, including MSMEs and the private sector**. This role is pivotal for ensuring that **NDCs are ambitious and advance a just transition**. It entails their participation in the NDC formulation and implementation, and a focus on policies and tools that support sustainable enterprise development and greening of enterprises. Furthermore, the 2023 Resolution concerning a just transition towards environmentally sustainable economies and societies for all adopted by the International Labour Conference emphasise that governments and employers' and workers' organizations promote the development of sustainable enterprises and create an enabling environment for innovation and entrepreneurship. Moreover, the involvement of enterprises and the private sector is also essential for addressing concerns about funding and financing a just transition to **create decent work, foster productivity and innovation, and promote social justice**.

How can the ILO and UN partnerships help?

The UN Partnership for Action on a Green Economy (PAGE) brings together the specialized expertise of five United Nations agencies – ILO, UNEP, UNDP, UNIDO and UNITAR – to accelerate a just transition to a low carbon, resource efficient, nature friendly and socially inclusive economy. Its [new Strategy until 2030](#) highlights the importance of involvement of **workers' and employers' organizations** in global and national policy-making processes to connect champions of green structural transformation, inspire PAGE and non-PAGE countries, and disseminate tools and knowledge, as well as influence policy debates.

UN-PAGE promotes successful economic transformation through dialogue to inform decision-making, policy-design and build deeper political movement. [PAGE](#) engages across the UN system and through the UN Resident Coordinator network, to leverage collective expertise in economic thinking, offering deeper policy advice to partners and contributing to a strengthened global understanding of green economy principles.

The UN Issue-based coalitions (IBCs) are key platforms to advance policy thematic work in UNCT and UNRCOs on strengthening environmental and climate change governance, improving environmental management and climate change mitigation and adaptation, and contributing to the achievement of the SDGs and the relevant commitments and undertakings under multilateral environmental agreements, including the NDCs. [The Europe and Central Asia IBC Environment and Climate Change](#) serves as a regional platform supporting UN Country Teams (UNCT) through knowledge and policies on environment and climate change to help catalyse Member States' action towards the 2030 Agenda. 18 UN agencies are part of the IBC; together they deliver [key UN messages](#) such as: (i) Even at current levels, climate change already has massive impacts on human rights, humanitarian needs, welfare, and dignity, particularly for those in vulnerable and marginalized situations, rocking the foundations of peace and security – as people are displaced and vital resources depleted; (ii) The climate



crisis is not “gender neutral”. Women and girls are often disproportionately impacted by climate change, which frequently amplifies existing gender inequalities and poses unique threats to their livelihoods, rights, health, and safety; (iii) When taking adaptation action, governments should ensure country-driven, gender-responsive, participatory and human rights-based approaches, as well as intergenerational equity and social justice, taking into consideration vulnerable ecosystems, groups and communities, and including children, youth and persons with disabilities.

[UNECE Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane and Just Transition](#) addresses the issue of Just Transition since 2021 including through its multistakeholder Task Force dedicated to Just Transition, an open, inclusive platform to discuss just and equitable transition in the coal mining regions and beyond. The Task Force is developing a framework for just transition, identifying existing guiding principles and good practices in just transition, and developing recommendations on the adoption of just transition approaches.

The Policy Dialogue will use South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) approaches to foster mutual learning and collaboration among countries facing similar challenges and opportunities.

As highlighted in the PAGE Strategy 2021-2030, SSTC facilitates knowledge exchange between countries and ensures that successful models of just transition and enterprise development are replicated across regions. This cooperative approach will be crucial in supporting developing nations, particularly in Central Asia and the Asia-Pacific regions, to advance their NDCs and transition plans in alignment with global climate goals. This cooperative approach leverages the unique experiences and innovations of diverse nations, enhancing the capacity to implement effective gender-responsive strategies. Moreover, SSTC helps in building stronger partnerships and networks that can drive sustainable development and resilience against climate change. By engaging in SSTC, countries can share best practices, enhance policy coherence, and collectively work towards achieving the goals set for COP29 and beyond.

II. The Cross-regional dialogue at a glance

The Policy Dialogue will be hosted by the ILO Just Transition Pavilion during CoP29 in Baku, Azerbaijan, at the COP29 Blue Zone area which is dedicated to host formal negotiations, high-level meetings, and policy discussions. The ILO's 5 key messages for COP29 provides a broader background for the thematic policy dialogues:

1. Gender-responsive just transition drives adaptation and mitigation actions
2. No climate resilience without universal social protection
3. Sustainable enterprises and skills development unlock more and better jobs
4. Financing a just transition is climate investment in people and planet
5. Effective social dialogue produces ambitious and inclusive NDCs

To support the NDC formulation and implementation process, country delegations are invited to develop position papers for the Policy Dialogue and to share good practices, opportunities and challenges. Preparatory discussions at the National level in Azerbaijan and Central Asia countries have been underway since May 2024.

This activity contributes to PAGE's goal of enabling deeper economic reforms and sustainable development. The outcomes of these exchanges and dialogues will be designed to feed into relevant global and regional negotiations/fora such as CoP30. **Furthermore, it will focus on policy support on environment and climate change to catalyse the PAGE countries' (and non-PAGE countries) actions towards 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and Paris Agreement objectives.** The event will consist of two main policy tracks:



The first policy track focuses on leveraging solutions to support NDCs and/or climate plans for promoting green jobs, sustainable enterprise development, and circular economy approaches for a gender-responsive just transition in Central Asia and South Caucasus. Participants will discuss different scenarios for a just transition in their countries, including in the energy sector and highlight the implementation needs of workers, employers and governments, with a particular focus on an assessment of jobs implications and enterprise development challenges and opportunities. Close interaction will be ensured with relevant PAGE agencies involved in the NDCs update process.

The second policy track aims to discuss climate plans contributing to the NDCs for advancing a Just Transition and Sustainable Financing in Asia-Pacific. The first session will hear from key stakeholders to discuss what actions are needed for mobilizing sustainable financing that promotes equitable transitions and sustainable enterprise development in the Asia-Pacific region. Anchored by the ILO and UNEP report "Just Transition Finance: Pathways for Banking and Insurance," unveiled at COP28, the session will emphasize multilateral partnerships, especially between UNESCAP and ASEAN, and it will leverage South-South cooperation, co-led by UNDP and ILO. This will aim to exchange expertise on financing mechanisms and policy development for energy transitions, particularly between countries like China and Indonesia, which have demonstrated successful models of South-South cooperation for renewable energy development.

The second session will discuss the challenges and financing needs of transitioning from Coal Dependency and Implementing the Roadmap for reaching Net Zero. The session will tackle challenges in reducing coal dependency in Indonesia, focusing on strategies for recruiting and retraining talent from the oil and gas sectors to support the development and growth of enterprises in the renewable energy sector to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045.

III. Objectives of the Cross-regional dialogues:

- ✓ To foster a policy dialogue between the participating countries in Western Europe, Central Asian and South Caucasian region (Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, North Macedonia, Moldova, Serbia and Ukraine) as well as from the Asia Pacific region (China, Indonesia, Mongolia, Thailand, Cambodia) on **leveraging solutions to support green jobs promotion, sustainable enterprise development and circular approaches** for realizing a just transition and creating decent work for all.
- ✓ To explore and bring the **workers' and employers' voices** with particular emphasis on women's representation into the NDCs formulation process; this will involve addressing the social objectives from PAGE and non-PAGE countries to learn good practices and understand challenges in engaging with the NDC process.
- ✓ To discuss different **scenarios for a just energy transition** and policy recommendations for mobilizing sustainable financing that promotes equitable transitions and enterprise development in countries as well as addressing the implementation needs of workers, employers, and governments.
- ✓ To explore ways to unlock **public and private finance** in the region for achieving climate mitigation and adaptation challenges;
- ✓ To draw experience and gain insights into **successes, challenges, and join NDC planning and implementation** themes while providing an opportunity for countries' tripartite constituents to bridge capacity gaps. To foster peer learning/knowledge sharing of integrating Just Transition considerations into the NDCs towards their update in 2025 and COP30.

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- ✓ To share the insights and **lessons learned from PAGE countries at global and regional platforms regarding NDC revision and formulation**, contributing to greater insights on promoting sustainable enterprise development and ensuring a just transition for all.
- ✓ To discuss tripartite “Call to Action for a Just Transition for all” developed by the participating countries.
- ✓ To **leverage South-South and Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) as a platform for fostering mutual learning and collaboration** among PAGE and non-PAGE countries, enabling the exchange of best practices in promoting green jobs, sustainable enterprise development, and gender-responsive just transitions, with a particular focus on aligning NDCs with social and economic priorities across regions.

Event modality

Date & Time: **20-21 November 2024**

Venue: COP29 ILO Just Transition Pavilion- No. B2, Blue Zone

PAGE created event' web-page at: <https://www.un-page.org/event/page-at-cop29/> ,

ILO web-page for COP29 (to see under “Just Transition Pavilion): <https://www.ilo.org/ilo-cop29>

COP29 ILO Just Transition Pavilion, Blue Zone | Livestreaming on ILO Live (<https://live.ilo.org/events/vision-practice-just-transition-all-part-1-2024-11-20>)

Working language: English/ Azerbaijani/ Russian (simultaneous interpretation will be provided).

Participants

The event will gather participants from:

- ✓ Policymakers and key stakeholders from the participating countries in the Central Asian and South Caucasian region as well as the Asia Pacific region responsible for designing climate actions for a just energy transition away from coal and other fossil fuels.
- ✓ Delegations of ILO tripartite constituents (National Tripartite Councils/Committees) from Europe and Central Asia region, Asia and the Pacific region, Arab States, and Latin-American region for peer learning/knowledge sharing of integrating Just Transition considerations in NDCs towards their update in early 2025.
- ✓ UN-PAGE agencies, UNESCAP, ASEAN, UN IBC agencies, staff and technical consultants contributing to the design of climate actions and the NDCs.
- ✓ Development partners.



► Agenda

Policy Dialogue I	Strengthening climate plans to promote green jobs, sustainable enterprises, and circular approaches for a Just Transition
<p>Objective: Focus on peer learning/knowledge sharing of initiatives to promote green jobs, sustainable enterprise development and circular economy approaches for a just transition and decent work in the labour market, strengthening the NDCs' update and implementation process</p> <p>Master of Ceremonies: Mr. <i>Fuad Akhundov</i>, Researcher</p>	
13:50-14:00	<p>Welcome to participants to the ILO Just Transition Pavilion.</p> <p>Video: "The first collective agreement in the East is 120" Azerbaijan, Ministry of Labour, Social Protection of Population, Trade unions confederation, National Confederation of Entrepreneurs (Employers) Organizations</p>
14:00 –14:30	<p>Opening remarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr. <i>Sahil Babayev</i>, Minister of Labour and Social Protection of Population, Azerbaijan - Mr. <i>Marcos Neto</i>, Assistant Secretary-General and Director of UNDP's Bureau of Policy and Programme Support - Ms. <i>Beate Andrees</i>, Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia, International Labour Organization - Mr. <i>Dmitry Mariyasin</i>, Deputy Executive Secretary, UNECE, Co-Chair of the UN Issue-based Coalition Europe and Central Asia Environment and Climate Change - Mr. <i>James Grabert</i>, Director, Mitigation Division, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) - Mr. <i>Eric Manzi</i>, Deputy General Secretary, International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) - Ms. <i>Sonya Mohamed Janahi</i>, Vice President for Asia, International Organisation of Employers (IOE)
14:30-15:30	<p>Session 1: Inter-regional sharing of solutions to support green jobs, sustainable enterprises, repositioning labour markets for contributing to inclusive NDCs</p> <p>Sharing of Experiences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Achieving ambition in the Long-Term Low-Emission Development Strategies and enhanced NDCs for 2025: Delivering the Climate Promise, Ms. <i>Sangji Lee</i>, Global Technical specialist on NDCs, Green economy and Just transition, Climate Hub, UNDP (10 mins) • "Strengthening the NDCs for a just transition and decent work with sustainable enterprises", Ms <i>Camilla Roman</i>, Senior Technical Specialist, Action Program on Just Transitions, ILO (10 mins) • "The role of NDCs in leveraging gender equality for a just transition", Ms. <i>Bermet Karabaeva</i>, Head of Labour unit, Ministry of labour, social security and migration of the Kyrgyz Republic (10 mins)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “<i>Strategic Alignment: Enterprises, Labour, and Policy for formulating and implementing the NDCs</i>”, Prof. Ian Miles, Emeritus Professor (Technological Innovation and Social Change), University of Manchester, UK (10 minutes, online) <p>Panel discussion – reactions: (20 mins)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Ms. Ziba Mustafayeva, Vice-president, State Oil Company of Azerbaijan (SOCAR) ■ Mr. Zhu Hongren, Executive Vice President and Secretary-General of China Enterprise Confederation ■ Mr. Fuad Alekberov, Advisor to the Chair, Trade Unions confederation of Azerbaijan <p>In focus: How can the revision of NDCs be leveraged to promote sustainable enterprises as vehicles for climate action and just transition? How can South-South and triangular cooperation be utilized to share successful strategies, innovations, and resources across countries, enhancing the effectiveness of NDCs? How to integrate just transition principles in the NDCs? Why do the NDCs provide a good tool to leveraging decarbonization and development – through aligning climate action and sustainable development? Why to take NDCs as a critical entry point to bridge decent work and gender equality considerations? What are the effects of decarbonization on labour markets and enterprises? What are the challenges for strengthening policies to support a just transition in the NDCs?</p> <p>Facilitator: Ms. Maria José Torres Macho, United Nations Resident Coordinator for Chile</p>
15:30-15:45	Networking Coffee
15:45-17:15	<p>Session 2: Regional Roundtable - A Call to Action for a just transition with sustainable enterprises enhancing the NDCs’ implementation process – how to integrate climate actions that target an inclusive and gender-responsive just transition? [60 mins]</p> <p>Regional Roundtable: A Call to Action for a Just Transition for All – towards regional consensus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Azerbaijan, Mr Anar Karimov, Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Protection of Population, Azerbaijan • Kazakhstan, Mr. Akmadi Adilovich Sarbassov, First Vice-minister, Ministry of Labor, Social Protection of Population • Kyrgyzstan, Mr. Baymurzaev Muhtarbek Arapbaevich, First Deputy Minister, Ministry of labour, social security and migration • Tajikistan, Mr. Qiyomiddin Davlatzoda, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Labor, migration and Employment • Türkiye, Prof. Dr. Lutfihak Alpkın, Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Security • Uzbekistan, Ms Rano Turdiboeva, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Employment and Poverty Reduction <p>Panel discussion – reactions: [15 mins]</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Jelena Vasić, Employment advisor, Labour & Employment Sector, Ministry of Labour of Serbia

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. <i>Azar Bayramov</i>, Director General, Labour Center of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation • Mr. <i>Joerg Linke</i>, Head of GIZ's Competence Center for Climate Change/ PAGE action partner • Ms. <i>Kusum Lata</i>, Team Lead, Mitigation Impact Assessment Support Unit, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) <p>Reactions from the floor: [15 mins]</p> <p>In-focus: What key messages related to the COP29 outcomes and NDCs are important from the perspective of workers' and employers' organizations? What are the challenges faced by companies and workers in the energy sector and solutions for a just transition in the energy sector? What obstacles do tripartite delegations face in being part of the NDCs' update process in their respective countries? What measures should be undertaken to raise awareness and enhance understanding of national stakeholders on NDCs including through South-South and triangular cooperation to exchange insights and practices among developing nations? How could the NDCs be strengthened to place a greater emphasis on gender equality and inclusion? What needs to be improved in the NDC process to ensure coherent implementation that empower enterprises as key contributors?</p> <p>Facilitator: Ms. <i>Vladanka Andreeva</i>, the UN Resident Coordinator for Azerbaijan</p>
17:15-17:30	<p>Closing remarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. <i>Rie Vejs-Kjeldgaard</i>, Enterprises Department Director, ILO/ PAGE Board member (online) - Mr. <i>Anar Aliyev</i>, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Population, Azerbaijan
17:30-19:00	Group photo and networking reception hosted by the Organization of Islamic Cooperation Labour Center

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Policy Dialogue II	Financial mechanisms and operationalizing the ILO's Just Transition Guidelines in the energy sector: implementing the NDCs to promote sustainable enterprises and decent work for all.
<p>Objective: Focus on the regional dimensions and policy recommendations for NDCs contributions considering elements of collaboration on sustainable financing, just transition finance, biodiversity, sustainable development and green economy</p> <p>Master of Ceremony: Mr. <i>Fuad Akhundov</i>, Researcher</p>	
08:45-09:00	Welcome to participants
09:00-09:30	<p>Opening remarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. <i>Rie Vejs-Kjeldgaard</i>, ILO Enterprises Department Director, PAGE Board member (online) - "Troika" representative/s:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ COP29, Mr. <i>Elmar Mammadov</i>, COP29 Presidency, Azerbaijan ○ COP30, His Excellency, <i>Manuel Adalberto Carlos Montenegro Lopes da Cruz</i>, Ambassador of Brazil to the Republic of Azerbaijan
09:30-11:00	<p>Session 3: Just Transition Finance plans for reducing coal (or fossil fuels) dependency, strengthening the NDCs</p> <p>Sharing of Experiences: (30 mins)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Mine closure and repurposing, and how to cope with abandoned mine methane, Mr <i>Raymond Pilcher</i>, President, Raven Ridge Resources Inc., Chair, UNECE Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane and Just Transition (15 mins, online) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Reduction of methane emissions from active, closed and abandoned coal mines; ✓ Just transition in coal mining regions and development of platforms for collaboration offered by the UNECE Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane and Just Transition, including safe closure of coal mines and approaches that ensure transition justice and decarbonized economies; ✓ New approach which envisions coal resources not as fuel supply, but as provider of a multi-asset resource platform that supports transition from a fossil fuel-based economy through more sustainable and green energy solutions. ■ Mongolia's Just Transition Approach: Mr. <i>Enkhtuvshin Ganbaatar</i>, Head of the Strategy Planning Division, Ministry of Energy of Mongolia (15 mins): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Transition from coal dependency while ensuring social equity through NDCs and other policies; ✓ Leveraging enterprises in the renewable energy sector for enhancing sustainable energy production ✓ Decentralized Energy Solutions: solar electrification program for herders. ■ Spain's Just Transition of coal mining regions: the case of Bierzo Valley, Ms. <i>Judith Carreras</i>, Just Transition Institute, Ministry of the Ecological Transition of Spain (15 mins, online) <p>Panel discussion - reactions (30 mins)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Mr. <i>Atul Sobti</i>, Director General, Standing Conference of Public Enterprise (SCOPE), India ■ Dr. <i>Samantha Sharpe</i>, Associate Professor, Institute for Sustainable Futures (ISF), University Technology Sydney, Australia (online) <p>Open floor discussion (30 mins)</p> <p>In focus: What are Long-Term Low Greenhouse Gas Emission Development Strategy of Thailand and how do they relate to the country's NDC under revision? What policy is applied for a gender-responsive just transition of the coal industry? How are the NDCs applied to ensure transition from coal dependency and social equity in Mongolia, while also promoting renewable energy enterprises?</p>

	<p>Facilitator: Dr Cristina Martinez, Senior Specialist, Enterprise Development and Green Jobs, DWT Eastern Europe & Central Asia, ILO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia</p>
11:00-11:30	Networking coffee
11:30-12:45	<p>Session 4: Examples of Climate Plans for a Just Energy Transition and Sustainable Climate Financing in Asia-Pacific Sharing of Experiences: (45 mins)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • China's Policy Support for Energy Transition Mr. Ma Ding Ping, Secretary General, China Chongqing Energy Research Society (15 mins, pre-recorded video) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Overview of investments in renewable energy and energy efficiency, particularly wind and solar, targeting a significant reduction in fossil fuel reliance by 2050. ○ Expansion of renewable technology investments, domestic production of renewable technologies, and support for enterprises in the sector. ○ Reflection of energy transition measures in China's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). • Indonesia's Energy Transition Mechanism Prof. Dr. Eng. Eniya Listiani Dewi, IPU, Director General of New, Renewable Energy and Energy Conservation, Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources (MEMR) (15 mins) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Insights into financing the early retirement of coal-fired power plants and fostering the development of renewable energy. ○ Innovative financing strategies combining public and private investments to support Indonesia's energy transition. ○ Advanced Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and policies related to gender equality in a just transition. • Cambodia's climate and carbon neutrality plans for sustainable energy transition Mr Taing Meng Eang, Director of the Department of Green Economy, General Department of Policy and Strategy at the Ministry of Environment (15 mins) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Insight into Cambodia's climate commitments as outlined in its Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and the Long-Term Strategy for Carbon Neutrality by 2050. ○ Overview of sustainable energy sector, highlighting the role of renewable energy within the country's energy mix and efforts in energy efficiency ○ Insight into government initiatives for green financing aimed at fostering green investments. <p>Panel discussion – reactions: (15 mins)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Jose Roland Moya, Director-General, Employers Confederation of the Philippines • Ms. Joy Hernandez, Director for Communications and Advocacy, Asia Pacific Regional office, International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) <p>Open floor discussion (15 mins) In Focus: What investments are being made in renewable energy, energy efficiency, and enterprises within the energy sector in China? How are energy transition measures</p>

	<p>reflected in China's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)? Why are public and private investments critical to supporting the energy transition in Indonesia? What is the structure of advanced NDCs in both China and Indonesia? What policies are being applied to ensure a gender-responsive just transition in these countries?</p> <p>Facilitator: Mr. <i>Stelios Pesmajoglou</i>, Manager, Mitigation Sub-Division, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)</p>
12:45-13:00	<p>Closing remarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms. <i>Xiaoyan Qian</i>, Director, ILO Decent Work Technical Support Team for East and South-East Asia and the Pacific and Country Office for Thailand, Cambodia and Lao People's Democratic Republic (online) - Mr. <i>Bernard Crabbe</i>, European Commission focal point, PAGE Steering committee (tbc) - Mr <i>Anar Karimov</i>, Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Protection of Population, Azerbaijan



Policy Dialogue I	Strengthening climate plans to promote green jobs, sustainable enterprises, and circular approaches for a Just Transition
Session - Opening remarks	
	<p>Mr. Sahil Babayev, Minister of Labour and Social Protection of Population of the Republic of Azerbaijan</p> <p>Mr. Sahil Babayev was appointed Minister of Labour and Social Protection of Population of the Republic of Azerbaijan on April 21, 2018. In addition to this role, he also is Co-chairman of the Intergovernmental Commission on trade and economic cooperation between Azerbaijan and Serbia, Co-chairman of the Joint Commission on Economic Cooperation between the Governments of Azerbaijan and Hungary, Co-chairman of the Joint Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technical and Cultural Cooperation between the governments of Azerbaijan and Romania, Co-chairman of the Joint Commission on Economic Cooperation between Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Government of the Republic of Montenegro. Mr. Babayev also serves as a President of the National Boxing Federation since 2022. Prior to this, Mr Babayev served as Deputy Minister of Economy and Industry. During his tenure, among other activities, he oversaw foreign economic activity and trade representations, Export and Investment Promotion Foundation (AZPROMO), the Coordinating Council on Transit Freight, the Southern Gas Corridor project, chaired the Supervisory Board of AzerGold CJSC, participated as a member of the Board of Directors within the Supervisory Board of International Bank of Azerbaijan as well as of SOCAR Turkey Aegean Oil Refinery project. He also was a co-chair of Intergovernmental Commissions with Germany, the Czech Republic, Slovenia, Argentina and Brazil, a co-chair of the Azerbaijan-Iran Working Group on financing the Rasht-Astara section of the North-South Corridor, and a member of the Intergovernmental Commissions with 19 countries</p>
	<p>Mr. Marcos Neto, Assistant Secretary-General and Director of UNDP's Bureau of Policy and Programme Support</p> <p>He currently leads UNDP's work on sustainable finance in more than 140 countries, in collaboration with other UN agencies and partners. As the Head of the G20 Sustainable Finance Working Group Secretariat, Mr. Neto also co-chairs the executive boards of the Business Call to Action and the Connecting Business Initiative. Prior to joining UNDP, Mr. Neto served at CARE International for 17 years, in roles including Regional Manager for Asia and Latin America at CARE UK, Executive Director of CARE, Brazil, and Programme Director for Central America. A lawyer by training, Mr. Neto holds a Master of Law degree from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) at the</p>

	<p>University of London. He is a passionate advocate for the Sustainable Development Goals.</p> <p>Currently, serving as Director of UNDP’s Sustainable Finance Hub, Mr. Neto has more than 25 years’ experience in the field of development - and more recently in finance and private-sector development.</p>
	<p>Ms Beate Andrees, Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia, International Labour Organization</p> <p>Beate Andrees was appointed Regional Director of the ILO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, based in Geneva, on 1 July 2023. Prior to her appointment, Ms Andrees served as Special Representative to the UN and Director of the ILO Office for the United Nations in New York from 2020-2023. In this capacity, she coordinated the ILO’s engagement in various UN and ECOSOC committees and facilitated the launch of the UN Global Accelerator on Jobs and Social Protection for Just Transitions. From 2015-2020, Ms Andrees was the Chief of the ILO’s Fundamental Principles and Right at Work Branch. During this period, she played a key role in the design and consolidation of Alliance 8.7 - a multi-stakeholder partnership to end forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking and child labour, in line with SDG target 8.7. She was also the ILO’s lead focal point in the organisation of the IV Global Conference for the Sustained Eradication of Child Labour, hosted by Argentina in 2017. In 2013-2014, as head of ILO’s Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour, Ms Andrees coordinated efforts which led to the adoption of the 2014 Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention (1930). She also occupied senior advisory roles in ILO Secretariats leading to the adoption of Resolutions on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work in 2012 and 2017, and represented the ILO in numerous UN mechanisms, initiatives and conferences. Ms. Andrees studied political science and history in Jena, Toronto and Berlin. She holds a master’s degree and PhD from the Freie University of Berlin. Prior to joining the ILO in 2003, she worked on special assignments for the public relations department of the German Parliament and lectured at the Freie University on gender, human rights and development.</p>
	<p>Mr. Dmitry Mariyasin, Deputy Executive Secretary, UNECE, Co-Chair of the UN Issue-based Coalition Europe and Central Asia Environment and Climate Change</p> <p>Dmitry Mariyasin was appointed as Deputy Executive Secretary (No2) of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE) on 1 March 2021. UNECE, as one of the five UN regional commissions, covers 56 member States, promotes regional cooperation and facilitates the development of regulation and policy in areas such as energy, environment, trade, transport, housing, forestry and statistics.</p> <p>Prior to joining UNECE, Mr. Mariyasin was heading the Country Office of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Armenia (2017-2021). He also served as the Team Leader,</p>



International Labour Organization



	<p>Partnerships in UNDP Regional Bureau for Europe and the CIS region (2011-2016) and in other positions with UNDP at global, regional and country level. Since 1 May 2023, Mr. Mariyasin is Officer-in-Charge of the UNECE Transport Division, in addition to his responsibilities as Deputy Executive Secretary. In this additional role, Mr. Mariyasin oversees the team supporting the UNECE Inland Transport Committee, home to over 60 global UN legal instruments on road, rail and inland water transport. Mr. Mariyasin holds a PHD in Economics from the Moscow State University, and a MA in Public Administration from the New York University. He is married and is a proud father of three children.</p>
	<p>Mr. James Grabert, Director, Mitigation Division, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)</p> <p>Mr. Grabert has been working for the United Nations Climate Change Secretariat (UNFCCC) for more than 25 years. He heads the Mitigation Division of the UNFCCC, leading the work on market-based approaches to climate change mitigation. Prior to 2006 he served as a greenhouse gas emissions specialist and worked in numerous expert groups of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. Before joining the United Nations, he was an industry and regional analyst for the World Economic Forum in Geneva, Switzerland. Mr. Grabert holds a B.A. in Economics and International Relations from Wheaton College, Masters of International Economics from the Institut de Hautes Études Internationales in Geneva, and has undertaken post-graduate studies in Management at Stanford University, University of Navarra (IESE) and London Business School, and in Development at Harvard University.</p>
	<p>Mr. Eric Manzi, Deputy General Secretary, ITUC-CSI</p> <p>Eric Manzi was elected as Deputy General Secretary of the ITUC, based in Brussels, in November 2022. His responsibilities include Economic and Social Policies, Climate & Just Transition, and the African, Arab and Asia-Pacific Regions.</p> <p>From 2019 to 2022, he was Deputy Secretary General of ITUC Africa, based in Lomé. In 2001, he was elected as Secretary General of CESTRAR (Rwanda Workers' Trade Union Confederation). He served in this role until 2019, during a profound economic and societal reconstruction which needed several reforms and revisions of labour legislation.</p>



Ms. Sonya Mohamed Janahi, Vice President for Asia, International Organisation of Employers (IOE)

Sonya Janahi is the Founder & CEO for Maya La Chocolaterie, Maya Delices and its parent company, ‘SJ Investments’; a hospitality and F&B consultancy mandated to inspire homegrown innovative concepts with vast potential to turn them into international franchise names. Sonya founded Maya La Chocolaterie over 16 years ago as the first artisan chocolate brand in Bahrain and has since evolved it into a successful brand synonymous with some of the best chocolatiers in the world. Boasting a distinguished career that spans over two decades working in the banking and telecom industries, and with specialized know-how in the areas of retail, investment, oil & gas and real estate, Sonya has applied her expertise to strategically diversify and evolve the family business, carving its growth path beyond Bahrain, to international territories, through best-in-class partnerships and Mergers & Acquisitions. Sonya is widely commended for her entrepreneurial spirit; she has sought to make a difference as an enabler of change, advocating for the region’s SME sector and using her own story of achievements and failures to stimulate progress in the realm of entrepreneurship as well as to empower all.

Session 1: Inter-regional sharing of solutions to support green jobs, sustainable enterprises, repositioning labour markets for contributing to inclusive NDCs



Ms. Sangji Lee, Global Technical specialist on NDCs, Green economy and Just transition, Climate Hub, UNDP

Sangji Lee is a global technical specialist on NDCs, Green Economy, and Just Transition with UNDP’s Climate Promise team which supports more than 140 countries in the formulation and implementation of their climate pledges under the Paris Agreement. As a thematic lead on just transition, she spearheads UNDP’s thought leadership and country support for integrating just transition into short term and long-term climate pledges and authored major knowledge products such as the UNDP’s flagship publication on just transition. She also serves as a contribution manager of the NDC and LT-LEDS thematic call workstream and a pilot project on aligning NDCs with green recovery. Her work lies at the intersection of climate policy, development, and social equity, as she navigates the complex landscape of these domains. Previously, she worked with UNDP Mozambique, the UNDP Global Policy Centre in Seoul, the OHCHR Regional Office in Fiji, the UN Department of Political Affairs, various research institutes, and government entities. As a Chevening Scholar, she earned a Master of Science degree in Environment and Development from the London School of Economics.





Ms Camilla Roman, Senior Technical Specialist, ILO Action Program on Just Transitions

Camilla is Senior Technical Specialist in the ILO's global Green Jobs programme. She coordinates technical assistance on a Just Transition towards sustainable economies, leading the development of policy tools, the design and implementation of projects and partnerships and the Just Transition Innovation Hub. She has previously managed capacity building programmes on policies for better productivity and working conditions in Small and Medium Enterprises. Before joining the ILO's HQ, Camilla focused on advancing responsible labour practices in the garment and footwear supply chains within the ILO-IFC Better Factories Cambodia (Better Work). Earlier on, she coordinated Greener Business Asia, a project supporting sustainable enterprise development in Thailand and the Philippines, and the Green Jobs initiative in India.

Camilla holds a doctorate from the University of Oxford with a thesis on learning and innovation in SME clusters and industrial districts.



Ms. Bermet Karabaeva, Head of Labour unit, Ministry of labour, social security and migration, Kyrgyzstan

In 2011 Ms. Karabaeva started her career as Leading specialist of the district Government administration for family and children affairs. Until 2022 she worked as Leading specialist and Deputy Head in the district labour and social development department. Since 2022 she has been in charge of the labour, employment and social insurance issues in the Ministry of labour, social security and employment.



Prof. Ian Miles, Emeritus Professor, Manchester Institute of Innovation Research, Alliance Manchester Business School, the University of Manchester

Ian Miles is Emeritus Professor at Manchester Institute of Innovation Research, Alliance Manchester Business School (AMBS), the University of Manchester. (Until 2018 he was Professor of Technological Innovation and Social Change there.). He has a first-class honours BSc in Psychology and a DSocSci from University of Manchester. Much of his work on technological innovation has concerned new Information Technologies, and he has been particularly interested in service industries as users and sources of innovation; and Knowledge-Intensive Business Services (KIBS), pioneering research into these topics. His research covers both managerial and policy dimensions of these issues and uses tools such as case studies and survey analysis. Broader interests concern the environmental, social and employment implications of changing technology; the social shaping of technologies; the evaluation of social science and other research programmes; social and other indicators; and Foresight methods and practice.

	<p>Ms. Ziba Mustafayeva, Vice-President, State Oil Company of Azerbaijan (SOCAR)</p> <p>Ms. Ziba Mustafayeva has over 20 years of expertise in human capital management, with extensive experience across diverse industries in both public and private sectors. Throughout her career, Ziba has led and contributed to projects in business transformation, employee relations, digitalization, cultural change, and fostering continuous learning in modern technologies.</p> <p>In March 2022, Ziba Mustafayeva joined SOCAR, where she currently serves as the Vice President, Human Capital & Inclusion, Member of the Management Board</p>
	<p>Mr. Zhu Hongren, Executive Vice President and Secretary-General of China Enterprise Confederation</p> <p>Mr. Zhu Hongren serves as the Executive Vice President and Secretary-General of China Enterprise Confederation (CEC) since Dec. 2016 and presides over general operation of the confederation. Since 1992, he has served various economic task positions in respective central government departments including the Division Chief of Economic Operations Department of State Economic and Trade Commission, Deputy Director General of Economic Operations Adjustment Bureau of National Development and Reform Commission, Director General of the Operations and Coordination Bureau. From 2009 through to 2015, he held positions as the Chief Engineer and a member of the Party Leadership Group in the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology.</p>
	<p>Mr. Ilyas Aliev, First Vice-President, Trade Unions confederation of Azerbaijan (tbc)</p>
	<p>Ms. Maria José Torres Macho, United Nations Resident Coordinator for Chile</p> <p>María José Torres Macho has more than 30 years of experience in law, sustainable development, humanitarian affairs, peacebuilding and development coordination, which she has acquired at the United Nations and externally. Within the Organization, her last position was as Resident Coordinator in Malawi, having held other leadership positions in the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), such as Head and Deputy Head of the Office in Colombia and Palestine, respectively. He also worked as a political officer at the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA) in New York and Somalia; and held senior positions at the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Colombia and Rwanda, as well as at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Guatemala. Prior to joining the United Nations, Ms. Torres Macho was Executive Director of the Fundación Instituto de Promoción y Apoyo al Desarrollo (IPADE), a Spanish non-governmental organization specializing in local development, and worked in the European Parliament.</p>

Session 2: Regional Roundtable - A Call to Action for a just transition with sustainable enterprises enhancing the NDCs' implementation process – how to integrate climate actions that target an inclusive and gender-responsive just transition?



Mr. Anar Karimov, Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Protection of Population, Azerbaijan

Mr. Karimov holds a Master's degree from American University (Washington DC, USA) and Ph.D. in international law. Mr. Karimov began his career at the US-Azerbaijan Chamber of Commerce (USA) in 2001. Later he worked in Dept. of Economic Cooperation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and at the Azerbaijani embassy in Switzerland. Then he continued his career at Islamic Development Bank (Jeddah, S. Arabia) in 2007-2010.

Mr. Karimov led foreign investments and economic relations departments at the Ministry of Economic Development. Before joining Ministry of Social Protection in 2018, he worked as a key expert in international projects. Mr. Karimov served as a member of the Azerbaijani Bar Association, co-founder of Azerbaijan-British Lawyers Association and vice-president of the Azerbaijani-Italian Chamber of Commerce. He lectured international law courses for Masters' students.



Mr. Akmadi Sarbassov, First Vice-minister, Ministry of Labor, Social Protection of Population, Kazakhstan

Before June 2020 Mr. Sarbassov worked in the Department of Employment of the Population, Legal Department, Department of Labor and Social Partnership, Migration Committee. From April 2019 to 2020, he worked as Vice Minister of Labor and Social Protection of the Population of the Republic of Kazakhstan. From 1999 to 2005, he worked in the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Kazakhstan as a specialist, leading specialist, chief specialist, head of the department for control and analysis of regulatory legal acts of the Department of Registration and Control over Regulatory Legal Acts of Central and Local Government Bodies. He studied in the Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, the Eurasian Humanitarian University, Central Kazakhstan Academy, ITC ILO, the Graduate School of Public Policy of Nazarbayev University and the Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (Singapore).





Mr. Baymurzaev Muhtarbek Arapbaevich, First Deputy Minister, Ministry of labour, social security and migration, Kyrgyzstan

Until September 2024 he worked as Leading expert in the Office of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic. In 2021-2024 he took a position of the Head of social area expenses planning department in the Ministry of finance. In 2021-2021 he worked as Head of Budget policy and financial analysis department in the Ministry of Health, Ministry of education.

Mr. Baymurzaev has an extensive work experience with UNICEF, OSCE, Public fund "Roza Otunbaeva Initiative", BIOM. He has

	<p>been taken various leading positions in financial and social authorities.</p>
	<p>Mr. Qiyomiddin Davlatzoda, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Labor, migration and Employment, Tajikistan</p>
	<p>Mr. Lutfihak Alpkán, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Labour and Social Security, Türkiye</p> <p>Mr. Lutfihak Alpkán was appointed as Deputy Minister on May 1, 2021. Mr. Alpkán, born in 1969, became an Associate Professor in 2004 and a Professor in 2009 in the field of Management and Organization. He held various administrative roles such as Department Chair, Director of the Institute of Social Sciences, Acting Dean, Director of the Application and Research Center, Advisor to the Rector and Vice Rector at Gebze Institute of Technology and Istanbul Technical University.</p> <p>Currently, Mr. Alpkán is a member of the Presidential Social Policies Council and Vice President of the International Strategic Management and Managers Association. He previously served as Acting Undersecretary of Public Order and Security, Advisor to the Minister of Interior and President of the International Strategic Management Conference. Mr. Alpkán is married and has two children.</p>
	<p>Ms Rano Turdiboeva, Deputy Minister Ministry of employment and poverty reduction, Uzbekistan</p>
	<p>Ms. Jelena Vasić, Employment advisor, Labour & Employment sector, Ministry of Labour, Serbia</p> <p>Ms. Vasić has been working in the ministries competent for employment issues for the past 20 years. Currently, in the Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veteran and Social Affairs, holds the position of senior adviser for the creation of ALMMs and is responsible for monitoring the situation and trends on the labor market, creation of public policy documents in the field of employment, with special focus on hard-to-employ groups and the advancement of employment policy on the local level. She is a member of the Government Council for VET and adult education, as well as in numerous working bodies/groups dealing with policy issues of importance and impact on the area of employment. She graduated with honors at the Faculty of Political Sciences, University of Belgrade.</p>
	<p>Mr. Azar Bayramov, Director General, the Labor Centre of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)</p> <p>Mr. Azar Bayramov was elected Director General of the Labour Centre of the Organisation of the Islamic Cooperation, based in Baku, in November 2023. Prior to his appointment, Mr. Bayramov served as an Advisor to the Chairman of the State Agency for Public Service and Social Innovations under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan from 2020-2023. In this capacity, he coordinated national and international programmes on digitalization and innovation policies and development of startup ecosystem in Azerbaijan.</p>

	<p>From 2013-2019, Mr. Bayramov was the Deputy Executive Director and Executive Director of the State Fund for Development of Information Technologies under the Ministry of Digital Development and Transport of the Republic of Azerbaijan. He was also the Chairman of the UNCTAD Intergovernmental Expert Group on E-commerce and Digital Economy.</p>
	<p>Ms. Kusum Lata, Team Lead, Mitigation Impact Assessment Support Unit, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)</p> <p>Kusum Lata is a climate change expert specializing in policy development, economic diversification, and workforce just transition. She currently leads team in UNFCCC supporting international negotiations on the impacts of climate mitigation policies and has authored influential technical papers, research articles, and book chapters. With a doctorate in waste-to-energy, Kusum spent the first fifteen years of her career in India developing technologies and conducting policy research, securing two patents in the process. She is also a qualified lead assessor for the UNFCCC, having conducted numerous audits to accredit organizations in carbon emission reduction. Passionate about impactful projects in developing countries, she spent part of her professional time in Togo, Africa, working on sustainable initiatives, including efficient cookstove programs and waste management.</p>
	<p>Ms. Vladanka Andreeva, the UN Resident Coordinator in Azerbaijan</p> <p>Ms. Vladanka Andreeva assumed the role of United Nations Resident Coordinator in Azerbaijan on July 1, 2021. With over 25 years of experience in international development, humanitarian coordination, advocacy, and partnership building, Ms. Andreeva has garnered expertise through various assignments within the United Nations and externally across Europe and Asia. Prior to her role as Resident Coordinator in Azerbaijan, she served as the Country Director for the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) in Cambodia, where she also led the United Nations Country Team Task Force for COVID-19 preparedness and response. Before that, Ms. Andreeva held the position of Strategic Intervention Adviser for the UNAIDS Regional Office for Asia-Pacific. Earlier in her career, she served as the Monitoring and Evaluation Team Lead for UNAIDS Viet Nam. Ms. Andreeva's diverse career also includes roles with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as a Policy Advisor for Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States, and as an Advisor to the United Nations Resident Coordinator in North Macedonia. Prior to joining the United Nations, she worked with Pharmaciens Sans Frontières, coordinating humanitarian relief for refugees. Ms. Andreeva holds a bachelor's degree in dental medicine and a master's degree in</p>

	public health from the University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius in Skopje, North Macedonia.
Closing Session	
	<p>Ms Rie Vejs-Kjeldgaard, Director of Department of Sustainable Enterprises, Productivity and Just Transition, ILO</p> <p>Rie Vejs Kjeldgaard is the Director of the Department of Sustainable Enterprises, Productivity and Just Transition. Prior to this assignment she was the Director of the Partnership and Field Support Department. Also, she has served as the Deputy Regional Director of the ILO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia in addition to several other management positions including as the Deputy Sub-Regional Director for Southeast Asia, New Delhi; the ILO Country Director for Viet Nam; the Manager of the ILO Global Programme on Decent Work Country Level Policy Analysis. She has also served as an Enterprise Specialist in several positions including as a Senior Specialist in Enterprise Development; the Global Manager of a Technical Corporation Programme on Job Quality in Micro and Small Enterprises; Enterprise Development Specialist in the ILO Regional Office for Asia and Pacific in Bangkok; and as Senior Specialist in Enterprise Development, ILO Headquarters in Geneva. Prior to the ILO she worked as Head of Product and Market Development in the pharmaceutical industry.</p>
	<p>Mr. Anar Aliyev, Deputy Minister of Labor and Social Protection of Population, Azerbaijan</p> <p>Mr. Anar Aliyev graduated from Baku State University in 2000 with a Bachelor's degree in International Law. He also holds a Master's degree (2002) and a PhD in Law (2006). From 2000 to 2006, Mr. Aliyev worked as a secretary of the court session in the local economic court No. 1. From 2006 to 2008, he served as chief advisor at the Legal Department of the Ministry of Economy. He then took on the role of Head of the Department from 2008 to 2018. Mr. Aliyev was awarded the medal "For Distinction in Civil Service" by the Decree of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan on June 19, 2012, in recognition of his contributions to the development of the Azerbaijani economy. By the Decree of the President dated 3 February 2016, he was appointed a member of the Appeals Board under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, a position he held until 2018. Prior to his current position, he worked as the Chief of Staff of the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Population.</p>



Mr. Mikhail Pouchkin, Director, ILO Office for Eastern Europe & Central Asia

Appointed Director of ILO Decent Work Team and Country Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia with effect from 1 February 2024. Born in 1965, Mr. Pouchkin holds a Master's degree in philosophy and political science from Moscow State University. He is fluent in English, Norwegian, and Russian.

Mr. Pouchkin joined the ILO in 2014 as Chief Technical Advisor. From 2017 till 2020 he served as Senior Employment Specialist, and since 2020 – as Deputy Director at the DWT/CO Moscow. He has been Officer-in-Charge of the office since 1 July 2023. In 1992 – 1994, Mr. Pouchkin lectured in Philosophy at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, and till 2001 held different positions within the Norwegian public administration. In 2001 he joined the Norwegian Labour and Welfare Administration as a Project Manager, advancing to Senior Advisor at the Norwegian Directorate of Labour and Welfare in 2010. His main areas of responsibility included international cooperation on labour market, labour migration, and employment policies.

Policy Dialogue II

Financial mechanisms and operationalizing the ILO's Just Transition Guidelines in the energy sector: implementing the NDCs to promote sustainable enterprises and decent work for all.

Session - Opening remarks



Mr. Manuel Adalberto Carlos Montenegro Lopes da Cruz, Ambassador of Brazil to the Republic of Azerbaijan

Manuel Lopes da Cruz joined the Brazilian Foreign Service in 1987. He has served at the embassies in Washington, Buenos Aires and, as a minister counsellor, in La Paz. In Brazil, he has held the positions of advisor to the Department of Scientific, Technical and Technological Cooperation and to the General Coordination of the Fight Against Cross-border Crimes. He was deputy head of the Division of Disarmament and Sensitive Technologies and head of the Division of Science and Technology. He has also served as general coordinator of the National Authority for Sensitive Goods, executive secretary of the Inter-ministerial Commission of Sensitive Goods Export Control and international affairs special advisor to the Ministry of Science and Technology. From 2007 to 2011, he co-chaired the Group of Technical Experts of the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR). He was deputy chief of staff of the minister of Foreign Affairs, to which he is currently a special advisor.



Mr. Elmar Mammadov, Head of Economic Cooperation Department, co-leader of the COP29 Presidency's Action Agenda Team

Mr. Elmar Mammadov holds Master's degree in International Affairs from the Geneva Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies (IHEID), a master's degree in Legal Regulation of the Economy from the Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and a bachelor's degree in Public and Municipal Administration from the Baku Institute of Social Administration and Political Sciences.

He is an experienced diplomat who held various positions in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from 2001 to 2017. During this time, he served at the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the UN Office and other international organizations in Geneva, as well as at the Embassies of Azerbaijan in Switzerland and France. Following his tenure in the Ministry, he worked as a senior adviser in the Administration of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan from 2017 to 2024. Currently, he leads the economic cooperation department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and is a co-leader of the COP29 Presidency's Action Agenda Team, overseeing global and regional initiatives.

Session 3: Just Transition Finance plans for reducing coal (or fossil fuels) dependency, strengthening the NDCs



Mr. Raymond C. Pilcher, President, Raven Ridge Resources Inc., Chair, UNECE Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane and Just Transition

Mr. Pilcher has worked as a professional in the global energy and mining industries for more than 40 years. His international experience in North America, South America, Europe, Asia, and Africa comprises exploration and sustainable development of energy and mineral resources. Mr. Pilcher consults with private and public sector clients to assist in developing projects aimed at reducing methane emissions at active and closed coal mines and oil and gas facilities. For more than 25 years, Mr. Pilcher provided a range of expertise to USEPA's Climate Protection Program as a contractor engaged in feasibility analysis, outreach, and policy issues related to reducing fugitive methane emissions from the global coal mining sector. He has consulted for the World Bank on coal related methane issues and worked with a team as part of its global effort to develop coal mine closure standards. As the Chair of the Group of Experts on Coal Mine Methane and Just transition and Vice-Chair of the UNECE Committee on Sustainable Energy, Mr. Pilcher works to encourage safe and environmentally responsible project development aimed at a sustainable future. He is licensed as a Professional Geologist, #1602, in the State of Texas. Mr. Pilcher has lived in Grand Junction Colorado since 1975. Raven Ridge Resources is a Colorado company founded in 1988.



Mr. Enkhtuvshin Ganbaatar, Head of the Strategy Planning Division of Mongolia's Ministry of Energy

Mr. Enkhtuvshin has over 13 years of government and professional experience on energy field. He holds doctoral degree of Energy policy. From starting 2012 his first carrier was Officer of Finance and Investment Department, Ministry of Energy, which is Central Government organization of Mongolia. He is still working at the Ministry of Energy at the various positions. Since October, 2023 he is working as a current position of Ministry of Energy.

Ms. Judith Carreras, Just Transition Institute, Ministry of the Ecological Transition of Spain



Mr. Atul Sobti, Director General, Standing Conference of Public Enterprise (SCOPE), India

Mr Sobti is a Member of Central Board of Trustees, "Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO)", India and Board Member of "Employees' State Insurance Corporation, India (ESIC)", which are among the World's largest Social Security Organisations. Mr Sobti works very closely with OECD, ILO and IOE. Given his versatile experience, Mr. Sobti is also nominated as an employer representative to the ILO Working Party for the 'New Social Contract for our Common Agenda' to prepare tripartite input for the UN World Social Summit 2025. Before leading SCOPE as Director General, he was Chairman & Managing Director of Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL), one of the India's largest engineering and manufacturing enterprises. He was also the erstwhile Chairman of "Raichur Power Corporation Limited, Karnataka, India" and former Member of the "General Assembly, Electrical Construction Company, Libya". Professionally, Mr. Sobti is a "Mechanical Engineering Graduate" and a "Law Graduate" with "Post-Graduation in International Management" and "Post-Graduation in Project Management". He is Fellow of the prestigious "Indian National Academy of Engineering" and the "Institution of Engineers (India)". Recognizing his immense professional contribution and leadership insight, Mr. Sobti has been honoured with many awards.



Dr. Samantha Sharpe, Associate Professor, Institute for Sustainable Futures (ISF), University Technology Sydney, Australia

Dr Samantha Sharpe is Associate Professor and Research Director at the Institute for Sustainable Futures at University of Technology Sydney. Her research focus is the intersect of world of work and climate change, public policy development for just transition in the Asia-Pacific region. Samantha has led multiple projects for international organisations (including ILO Regional Office of Asia and the Pacific, ILO country offices in Asia and UN ESCAP) on just transition, including developing recommendations for environmental and social safeguarding as part of energy transition in Viet Nam and Indonesia. She has more than 15 years of research and policy experience at the intersect of sustainable development, climate change and labour markets and is highly experienced in translating research outputs into policy and advocacy outcomes.

Samantha has extensive experience in developing and delivery capacity building activities. She is Program Lead for Course Development and Enterprise Learning at ISF and has undertaken multiple capacity building and training activities as part of her research projects.



Dr Cristina Martinez, Senior Specialist, Enterprise Development and Green Jobs, DWT Eastern Europe & Central Asia, ILO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia

Cristina is the ILO’s Senior Specialist Enterprise Development and Green Jobs for Europe and Central Asia. She is part of the ILO Global Enterprise Team and the Global Team of the Action Program on Just Transition, the ILO Focal point for the UN Issue Based Coalition on Environment and Climate Change Europe and Central Asia region and for the UNECE taskforce on Just Transition, and the Convenor of the Europe and Central Asia Regional Enterprise Development & Just Transition Network. Previously she has served the following International Organizations: Asian Development Bank (ADB) as an Education Specialist (skills and employment); and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) where she held positions as Advisor of the knowledge Sharing Alliance at the Secretary General Office and Senior Policy Analyst at the OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs and Local Development (CFE). After completing her PhD on Economic Development and Innovation Networks at the University of New South Wales in Australia, she worked at the Western Sydney University as an Associate Professor and Head of Research Area on Urban and Regional Dynamics where she continues to have an adjunct research fellowship. She is also an Honorary Adjunct Professor (Industry) at the Institute for Sustainable Futures (ISF) of the University Technology Sydney.

Session 4: Examples of Climate Plans for a Just Energy Transition and Sustainable Climate Financing in Asia-Pacific



Mr. Ma Ding Ping, Secretary General, China Chongqing Energy Research Society

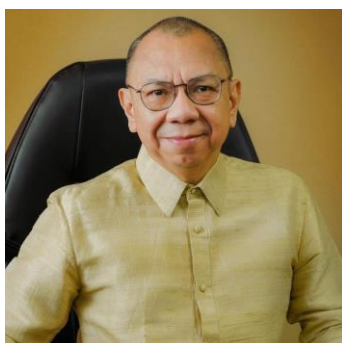
Dingping Ma is a Senior Chinese Engineer, mentor and renewable energy consultant for more than two decades. He is currently serving as Secretary General of the Chongqing Renewable Energy Society (CRES). Simultaneously, Ma holds various membership and honorary positions in China’s various technical and knowledge societies under various ministries. Ma is senior mentor to students and entrepreneurs in the field of renewable energy and digital economy. He is a fellow at the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) in Bangkok.

He is fully dedicated to promotion of sustainable development in the global south, especially in ASEAN and South Asian countries. He has held more than 100 sessions of technology transfer and collaboration sessions for the startups and senior scholars from various countries.



Mr. Taing Meng Eang, Director of the Department of Green Economy (DGE) within the General Directorate of Policy and Strategy at the Ministry of Environment, Cambodia

Since 2015 Mr. Taing plays a critical role in guiding and shaping the regulatory frameworks that drive sustainability. His work focuses on creating policies that foster a green economy, emphasizing Green Building guidelines, Sustainable Cities and Sustainable Energy practices, Sustainable Consumption and Production through initiatives such as circular economic strategies, and plastic waste management. In this capacity, he has been instrumental in coordinating efforts among various ministries and collaborating with numerous development partners, including the United Nations, to implement a range of projects. These initiatives include efforts related to green financing aimed at supporting green investments, as well as promoting renewable energy generation and energy efficiency within Cambodia's industrial and hospitality sectors in line with the country's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) and long-term carbon neutrality strategy 2050.



Mr. Jose Roland Moya, Director-General, Employers Confederation of the Philippines

He served as Secretary-General of the ASEAN Confederation of the Employers (ACE) in 2017-2019. He is ACE's representative in the ASEAN TVET Council (ATC) and its Focal Point on Skills and VET. He currently represents employers in the Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Board- National Capital Region (RTWPB-NCR), National Tripartite Industrial Peace Council (NTIPC), Technical Executive Committee of the National Tripartite Industrial Peace Council (TEC-TIPC), and Regional Technical Education and Skills Development Council (RTESDC) – NCR and Region IVA. He completed two (2) bachelor degrees in Industrial Engineering (BSIE) and Law (LLB). He pursued special studies abroad, including courses on management of employers organizations, human resource development, social accountability, responsible business conduct, conflict management, negotiations, international labour standards, occupational safety and health, among others, at the International Training Center of ILO (ITCILO) in Turin, Italy. He has almost four (4) decades of experience as a professional and senior executive in an employers organization with extensive local and international networks, exposing him to the complexities and dynamics of organization management, policy debate and formulation, practice of tripartism, and relations with government, trade unions and civil society.



Ms. Joy Hernandez, Director, Communications and Advocacy, ITUC-Asia Pacific

Joy Hernandez is the Director for Communications and Advocacy Officer of the International Trade Union Confederation - Asia Pacific, a regional federation of 59 trade union centres from 34 countries and territories in Asia and the Pacific region, representing an effective membership of over 60 million. Besides being responsible for communications, she also coordinates ITUC-Asia Pacific's programmes and activities around Just Transition, development cooperation, and Sustainable Development Goals. She also serves as one of the Co-Chairs of the Asia Pacific Regional CSO Engagement Mechanism (APRCM), a platform that coordinates civil society engagement in regional UN processes. She is also the focal point of APRCM's workers and trade unions' constituency.

Before joining ITUC-Asia Pacific, she held roles that support the labour movement in the Asian region, particularly in areas of social protection, organising, and women workers' rights. She also coordinated Global South-led campaigns and policy advocacies for tax justice in Asia and globally.



Mr. Stelios Pesmajoglou, Manager, Mitigation Sub-Division, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

Dr. Stelios Pesmajoglou is the Manager of the Mitigation sub-division at the UNFCCC Secretariat that deals with mitigation ambition, nationally determined contributions (NDCs), long-term low emissions development strategies (LT-LEDs), sectoral approaches (including emissions from international aviation and maritime transport), and the assessment of response measures. Stelios has been working on climate change since the mid-1990s and has been involved with the negotiations on the Kyoto Protocol, the Paris Agreement and the ICAO Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation (CORSIA). Throughout his career, he has worked for the United Nations, national governments, and non-governmental organizations on matters relating to mitigation of climate change and transparency.

Stelios is an aeronautical engineer with a PhD on aerodynamics of wind turbine.


Closing remarks



Ms. Xiaoyan Qian, Director, ILO Decent Work Technical Support Team for East and South-East Asia and the Pacific and Country Office for Thailand, Cambodia and Lao People's Democratic Republic

Prior to joining the ILO, Ms Qian worked for some 28 years in the public sector in China, mostly with the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security, in various high-level capacities. She spent over five years as Labour Attaché at the Embassy of the People's Republic of China in the United States of America and has also dealt with international development cooperation, policy development and social protection.

A national of China, Ms Qian has a doctorate degree in law focussing on legal frameworks for international migration. She also holds a

	<p>master's degree in economics, post-graduate diplomas in public administration and in politics, and a bachelor's degree in law. The ILO Country Office for Thailand, Cambodia and Lao People's Democratic Republic oversees ILO's work and partnership with those countries and oversees some 40 cooperation initiatives. The ILO Decent Work Technical Support Team for East and South-East Asia and the Pacific provides technical support to ILO Country Offices and assists governments, employers' and workers' organizations in their efforts to promote decent work.</p>
	<p>Mr. Fuad Akhundov, Master of Ceremony, researcher</p> <p>Fuad Akhundov is a seasoned researcher, TV host, and cultural tour guide with over 30 years of experience leading historic walking tours in Baku, Azerbaijan. With a strong passion for history, culture, and architecture, he has spent the past 15 years as a TV host and presenter on Azerbaijan's National Public TV Channel, where he runs a show dedicated to the historic and architectural heritage of Baku, titled "The Mysteries of Baku." His engaging presence on television and his deep knowledge of Baku's history have made him a well-respected figure in his field.</p> <p>In addition to his work in cultural heritage, Fuad has expanded his research focus to encompass environmental policy and climate action, particularly in the context of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). His recent research has centred on the intersection of cultural heritage preservation, urban planning, and sustainable environmental practices. Fuad has explored how historic cities like Baku can adopt climate adaptation and mitigation strategies, contributing to the international discourse on integrating cultural heritage within the framework of global climate agreements such as the Paris Agreement.</p>

Contact persons for this document:

- ▶ Dr *Cristina Martinez*, Senior Specialist, Enterprise Development and Green Jobs, DWT Eastern Europe & Central Asia, ILO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, martinezc@ilo.org
- ▶ Mr. *Fredy Guayacan*, Senior Specialist on Environment and Decent Work at the International Labour Organization (ILO) Decent Work Technical Support Team for East and South-East Asia and the Pacific in Bangkok (Thailand), guayacan@ilo.org
- ▶ Ms *Özge Berber-Agtaş*, Technical Specialist, Gender Equality and Non-Discrimination, DWT Eastern Europe & Central Asia, ILO Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, berber@ilo.org
- ▶ Ms. *Tahmina Mahmud*, Programme Technical officer, ILO Focal Point for the UN-PAGE programme, ILO Department of Sustainable Enterprises, Productivity and Just Transition (ENTERPRISES), mahmud@ilo.org
- ▶ Mr *Yashar Hamzayev*, National Coordinator, ILO NC-Azerbaijan (Baku office), hamzayev@ilo.org
- ▶ Ms. *Ulviyya Rasulzade*, Intern for Just Transition and COP29, ILO-Baku, rasulzade@iloguest.org
- ▶ Ms *Lilia Kachkinbaeva*, Consultant, kachkinbaeva@iloguest.org