**Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors: Strategy on USP2030**

**Concept note for discussion**

1. **Background information**

***The background information provided here resumes the information stated in the official USP2030 documents. It does not represent a position of the Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors.***

* The **Partnership on Global Universal Social Protection to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (USP2030)**, launched at the United Nations General Assembly in New York in September 2016, is a multi-stakeholder partnership that brings together governments, international and regional organisations, civil society organisations, social partners, and other organisations.
* The **mission of USP2030** is a world where anyone who needs social protection can access it at any time. In order to achieve this, USP2030 urges countries and international partners to support the global commitment to implement nationally appropriate social protection systems and measures for all, including floors, in line with the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, and in particular target 1.3 of the Sustainable Development Goals. Universal social protection is key to sustained inclusive economic and social development, for individuals, communities and nations. It is also a human right.
* The USP2030 Call to Action, launched on February 5th 2019, highlights the **core principles** of universal social protection:
* **Protection throughout life cycle**: Establish universal social protection systems, including floors, that provide adequate protection throughout the life cycle, combining social insurance, social assistance and other means, anchored in national strategies and legislation;
* **Universal coverage**: Provide universal access to social protection and ensure that social protection systems are rights-based, gender-sensitive and inclusive, leaving no one behind;
* **National ownership**: Develop social protection strategies and policies based on national priorities and circumstances in close cooperation with all relevant actors;
* **Sustainable and equitable financing**: Ensure the sustainability and fairness of social protection systems by prioritizing reliable and equitable forms of domestic financing, complemented by international cooperation and support where necessary;
* **Participation and social dialogue**: Strengthen governance of social protection systems through institutional leadership, multi-sector coordination and the participation of social partners and other relevant and representative organisations, to generate broad-based support and promote the effectiveness of services.
* **Criteria for membership** are the following:
* **Governments**: All United Nations Member States can join the partnership. Interest and commitment to the Call to Action has to be expressed at least at a ministerial level. Governments can nominate one government agency or other organisation to represent them in the partnership by informing the Steering Committee in writing.
* **International and regional organisations, civil society organisations, social partners, and other organisations**: All organisations that work on social protection and are committed to the Call to Action can join the partnership. Organisations that are part of a network that is a Member of USP2030 in its own right, such as the Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors (GCSPF) or the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), are welcome to join the partnership also independently.
* The **USP 2030 Membership Assembly** takes place [decide on intended frequency – Options: once per year/at least once every two years], either as a face-to-face or remote meeting. Members always have the possibility to join remotely and/or to provide their comments in writing prior to the meeting to the Secretariat. The purposes of the Membership Assembly include:
	+ for the Secretariat to report on implemented and planned activities;
	+ for the Steering Committee to present the annual work plan and, if necessary, adjustments of the strategy or governance structure;
	+ for all Members to discuss the work plan and to approve the strategy or proposed changes to the strategy or governance structure;
	+ for all Members to approve candidates for Steering Committee seats.
* The **Steering Committee** has 12 members who represent international organisations, governments of Member States at different levels of economic development and from different regions, civil society, and trade unions. The composition of the Steering Committee reflects the partnership’s commitment to representation and inclusivity.
* 2 seats for the co-chairs ILO and WB
* 2 seats for UN organisations
* 6 seats for governments, namely
	+ 2 seats for representatives of low-income countries, including countries that recently graduated from this status (during the last 15 years)
	+ 2 seats for representatives of middle-income countries
	+ 2 seats for representatives of high-income countries
* 1 seat for civil society organisations (GCSPF)
* 1 seat for trade unions (ITUC)

The seats of the Steering Committee will be rotated after three years, maintaining the above composition.

* The secretariat for USP2030 is co-hosted by ILO and WB: secretariat@usp2030.org.
* More information on USP2030 can be found on the website <https://www.usp2030.org/gimi/USP2030.action>.
1. **Joint position of the GCSPF towards USP2030**
* The GCSPF has been part of the interim steering committee of UPS2030 since February 2018. It has used this position to contribute both critically and positively to the development of the Call to Action and the organisation of the High Level Conference in February 2019. It will keep giving particular attention to the recognition of a human rights-based approach and to human-rights implementation of social protection floors and the four social security guarantees formulated in Recommendation 202.
* The GCSPF is committed to the mission and principles of USP2030 and is an official member of the partnership. The GCSPF is interested to maintain participation in the full-fledged steering committee, which will start operating in 2020. All members with a strong interest to contribute to USP2030 are invited to participate in the USP2030 working group of the GCSPF, coordinated by the representatives of the GCSPF to the steering committee of USP2030.
* In the Geneva Core Team Meeting (11/2019) it was decided to delegate Bart Verstraeten from WSM and Nicola Wiebe from Brot für die Welt to fill the seat for civil society organizations, on a rotational basis. They will inform the GCSPF on the ongoing discussions and planned activities. Members of the GCSPF are invited to get more closely involved by joining the working group on USP2030 (please contact Bart/Nicola).
* Being part of USP2030, the GCSPF can represent the views of a large coalition of civil society organisations in this partnership and bring in voices of beneficiaries, practitioners and experts that otherwise would not be taken into account. We are specifically interested to ensure that social protection systems suit the priorities and circumstances of people, and in particular of marginalized and excluded groups. Our active involvement provides us with an opportunity to contribute to shape the future development of the global partnership, as well as social protection strategies and the actions of participating partners (e.g. international institutions and governments).
* As member of USP2030 the GCSPF will keep insisting on:
* The human rights language as part of the narrative of USP2030; and the necessity to implement human rights procedures, such as accountability, transparency and participation;
* The participation of social partners and civil society in national dialogues and in the implementation of social protection policies, and to ensure that marginalized and excluded groups are included in these processes;
* the importance of sustainable and equitable financing for universal social protection;
* the international responsibility towards effective realisation of USP2030 in all countries.
* More than half of the world population has no access to social protection floors. Therefore the GCSPF insists on more financial and political commitment to effective action and support to countries.
1. **Work plan**
* Continue our active participation in the steering committee of USP2030 and re-define every 2 years who is going to participate on our behalf in the steering committee (Responsibility: Bart, Nicola; continuously).
* Inform GCSPF members on ongoing discussions, important decisions and planned action of the USP 2030 partnership (Responsibility: Bart, Nicola; minimum twice a year).
* Invite all GCSPF members to become direct members of USP 2030 to increase overall visibility of the initiative and to strengthen the importance of civil society within the initiative (Responsibility: Bart, Nicola; until 6/2020).
* Invite GCSPF members to lobby their governments to become members of USP2030 (Responsibility: Bart, Nicola; until 6/2020).
* Provide good practices to USP2030 partners on how civil society and trade unions succeed in extending social protection to people who are not covered today (informal economy, precarious jobs, women, elderly people, people with disabilities etc.).
* Keep lobbying for funding commitments of governments (especially SPIAC-B members) to the USP2030 initiative, dedicated to country support, training and implementation additionally to financing secretariat and conferences (Responsibility: Bart, Nicola; continuously).
* Use USP2030 as a forum to lobby for an international financing mechanism. Prepare an input or proposal to be presented to the steering committee (Responsibility: Michael, Markus, Ellen, Nicola until 12/2020).
* Use USP2030 as a forum to advocate for the effective ratification and/or implementation of the relevant ILO standards, in particular Convention 102 and Recommendation 202, and to find ways in which governments can be held accountable for guaranteeing the social security guarantees formulated in Recommendation 202 (Responsibility: Bart, Wouter).

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