



Global Coalition for **SOCIAL PROTECTION FLOORS**

Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors Narrative Report November 2016 – December 2017

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I. MAIN ACTIVITIES

Highlights of the period reported (in chronological order):

- The meeting “*Social Protection and Sustainable Development Goals: A Joint Agenda*” brought together Core Group members of the Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors (GCSPF) and Latin American social protection experts. The meeting was organized by the Centro de Implementación de Políticas Públicas para la Equidad y el Crecimiento (CIPPEC) and took place in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 2 to 4 November 2016.
- Members of the GCSPF presented a statement at the fifty-fifth session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD55) held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 1 to 10 February 2017.
- Members of the GCSPF submitted comments on the draft General Comment of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) on Business activities and human rights. The meeting was held in Geneva, Switzerland on February 2017.
- The side event “Financing social protection floors throughout economic cycles” was held on Monday 22 May, 2017, on the occasion of the Second Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Forum on financing for

development follow-up (FfD forum. The event was organized jointly by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Germany), the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations, the International Labour Organization (ILO), and Brot für die Welt and SocDevJustice on behalf of the GCSPF.

- Members of the GCSPF participated in the ILO's Global Flagship Programme on Building Social Protection Floors for All, Western and Central African tripartite and development partners networking meeting on implementing social protection floors in the 2030 Agenda that was held in Dakar, Senegal, from 23 to 25 May 2017.
- Members of the GCSPF participated in the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development 2017 and:
 - An informal meeting of members was held on July 13th.
 - Side event "Global Partnership on Universal Social Protection: Ending Poverty by 2030"
On Monday, 10 July a joint event of SPIAC-B and GCSPF. Organized by Finland, Malawi, the ILO and the World Bank, and co-sponsored by the Social Protection Inter-Agency Cooperation Board (SPIAC-B), and the GCSPF.
 - Side Event "Universal Social Protection: End poverty and reduce inequality"
On Tuesday, 18th July.
- Members of the GCSPF worked on a draft resolution on Social Protection Floors, Human Rights and the Eradication of Poverty that the NGO Committee for Social Development in New York wants to pass on to some government members in the UN Commission for Social Development. The NGO Committee met on Thursday, 21 September 2017.
- The side event "Financing universal social protection in developing countries" was held on Tuesday 11 October, 2017, at the Civil Society Policy Forum, World Bank Group / International Monetary Fund (IMF) 2017 Annual Meetings. The event was jointly organized by the NGO Committee on Financing for Development with Social Justice in Global Development, Brot für die Welt and Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund.
- A joint statement on behalf of the Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors expressing concerns about the report's findings and the IMF's approach towards social protection in general was sent to Ms. Christine Lagarde (Managing Director of the IMF) and the Executive Directors of the IMF. The statement was sent on 25 October 2017.
- Members of the GCSPF participated in the ILO's Global Flagship Programme on building Social Protection Floors for all. Second Development Partners Meeting, that was held in Geneva, Switzerland on 25 October, 2017.
- In November the working group on financing social protection of the GCSPF submitted comments to the ILO document on Financing Social Protection.
- Members of the GCSPF participated in the launching of the ILO World Social Protection Report 2017-2019 that was held in Brussels on 30 November 2017.
- The GCSPF endorsed the statement "Towards inclusive social protection systems supporting full and effective participation of persons with disabilities".

II. KEY AREAS OF WORK

The key areas identified are:

1. **Advocacy impact**
2. **Members**
3. **Meetings**
4. **Information and communications**

The results achieved for each of them are the following:

1. **Advocacy impact**

During this period the GCSPF maintained its presence as an active participant in key international decision-making processes, including intergovernmental fora.

The GCSPF concentrated its advocacy around the following events:

- a) The 55th session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD55)
- b) Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) on Business activities and human rights
- c) Second Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Forum on financing for development follow-up (FfD forum)
- d) Supporting SPFs in Africa: partnerships for development
- e) High-Level Political Forum 2017
- f) Advocacy subcommittee of the NGO committee for Social Development
- g) Civil Society Policy Forum, World Bank Group / IMF 2017 Annual Meetings
- h) Statement to the IMF
- i) ILO's Global Flagship Programme on building Social Protection Floors for all
- j) ILO document on Financing Social Protection
- k) Report launch: ILO World Social Protection Report 2017-19
- l) Social protection and persons with disabilities

a) The 55th session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD55)

Members of the GCSPF presented a statement at the fifty-fifth session of the Commission for Social Development (CSocD55) held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 1 to 10 February 2017.

The choice of Strategies for the Eradication of Poverty to Achieve Sustainable Development for All as the priority theme of the 55th session of the Commission for Social Development is timely and of utmost importance as it firmly embeds anti-poverty efforts undertaken globally and nationally in the context of the SDG framework. Striking a balance between social, environmental and economic goals is essential to ensure that the benefits of growth reach all people, especially those still living in poverty. Evidence confirms that eradication of poverty can bring numerous opportunities and benefits to society, facilitating concrete actions on the road towards sustainable development. At the same time, it is widely recognized that the effective efforts aimed at poverty eradication are closely linked to mitigation and adaptation policies.

Read the statement here: <http://www.socialprotectionfloorscoalition.org/2017/02/statement-55-csod/>

b) Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) on Business activities and human rights

Members of the GCSPF submitted comments on the draft General Comment of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR) on Business activities and human rights. The meeting was held in Geneva, Switzerland on February 2017.

The crucial role of business on decent work and the financing of social protection floors was recognized in the document. A number of general comments were included and also pleaded for tax justice at the international level to make sure that social protection floors can be properly financed.

Read the statement here: <http://www.socialprotectionfloorscoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/201702-GCSPF-Notes-CESCR-WvG.pdf>

c) Second Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Forum on financing for development follow-up (FfD forum)

A side event on financing social protection floors (SPFs) was held on Monday 22 May, 2017, on the occasion of the Second Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) Forum on financing for development follow-up (FfD forum) which took place at the UN in New York from 22 to 25 May 2017.

The event was entitled “Financing social protection floors throughout economic cycles”, and was organized jointly by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Germany), the Permanent Mission of Argentina to the United Nations, the International Labour Organization (ILO), and Brot für die Welt and SocDevJustice on behalf of the GCSPF.

The list of Speakers comprised: H.E. Mr. Martín García Moritán, Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations; Mr. Stephan Reichert, Deputy Head of Division, Donor Relations and Financing for Development, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Germany; Mr. Vinicius Pinheiro, Special Representative to the United Nations, International Labour Organisation (ILO); Mr. Roberto Bissio, Coordinator, Social Watch/ GCSPF; Ms. Serpil Bouza, Strategy, Policy and Review Department, International Monetary Fund (IMF); Ms. Shari Spiegel, Chief, Policy Analysis and Development Branch, Financing for Development Office/United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Ms. Gemma Adaba, SocDevJustice/GCSPF moderated the session.

The side event offered an invaluable opportunity to focus on the domestic and international dimensions that should be considered in the financing of social protection floors.

A webcast of the side event is available at <http://webtv.un.org/watch/financing-social-protection-floors-through-economic-cycles/5444071127001>

The report of the event is available here: <http://www.socialprotectionfloorscoalition.org/2017/05/financing-spf/>

d) Supporting SPFs in Africa: partnerships for development

Members of the GCSPF participated in the ILO’s Global Flagship Programme on Building Social Protection Floors for All, Western and Central African tripartite and development partners networking meeting on implementing social protection floors in the 2030 Agenda that was held in Dakar, Senegal, from 23 to 25 May 2017. This workshop

contributes to ILO's efforts to support the implementation of the SDGs. While recognizing that the State has the overall and primary responsibility of extending social security coverage along the horizontal and vertical dimensions as set out in R202, this workshop aims to engage with tripartite constituents and to consult with other relevant stakeholders. The workshop also contributes to enhancing South-South cooperation as a tool to support the development of social protection floors in Africa.

Further information is available here: <http://www.socialprotectionfloorscoalition.org/2017/05/supporting-spfs-in-africa/>

e) High-Level Political Forum 2017

The meeting of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in 2017 convened under the auspices of the Economic and Social Council, was held from 10 -19 July 2017.

The theme was *“Eradicating poverty and promoting prosperity in a changing world”*. The set of goals to be reviewed in depth will be the following, including Goal 17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development that will be considered each year.

Members of the GCSPF held an informal meeting on July 13th. Taking advantage that members of the GCSPF participated in the HLPF 2017, an informal meeting was held on July 13th. The notes of the meeting were shared by email and are included in the Annexes.

Side events on Social Protection during the High-level Political Forum in New York

Side event “Global Partnership on Universal Social Protection: Ending Poverty by 2030”

On Monday, 10 July, 1:15-2:30 pm in the ECOSOC Chamber: Joint event of SPIAC-B and GCSPF. Organized by Finland, Malawi, the ILO and the World Bank, and co-sponsored by the Social Protection Inter-Agency Cooperation Board (SPIAC-B), and the GCSPF.

Mr. Roberto Bissio spoke on behalf of the GCSPF, his notes are published here:

<http://www.socialprotectionfloorscoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/20170718-HLPF-speaking-notes-Bissio.pdf>

Side Event “Universal Social Protection: End poverty and reduce inequality”

On Tuesday, 18th July, from 18:15 – 19:45 at the Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to the United Nations.

Dr. Luise Steinwachs (BfW) article is available here: <http://www.socialprotectionfloorscoalition.org/2017/08/hlpf-end-poverty-reduce-inequality/>

Dr. Gala Díaz (Director of Social Protection Program at CIPPEC Argentina/GCSPF) spoke on behalf of the GCSPF, her notes are published here: <http://www.socialprotectionfloorscoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/20170718-HLPF-CIPPEC-Gala.pdf>

f) Advocacy subcommittee of the NGO committee for Social Development

Members of the GCSPF presented a draft resolution on Social Protection Floors, Human Rights and the Eradication of Poverty that the NGO Committee for Social Development in New York passed on to some government members in the UN Commission for Social Development. The NGO Committee met on Thursday, 21 September.

The draft of the resolution is only available for members of the coalition at:

<http://www.socialprotectionfloorscoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/10/20170921-Draft-resolution-SPF-HR-EP-200917.docx>

g) Civil Society Policy Forum, World Bank Group / IMF 2017 Annual Meetings

The side event “Financing universal social protection in developing countries” was held on Tuesday 11 October, 2017, at the Civil Society Policy Forum, World Bank Group / International Monetary Fund (IMF) 2017 Annual Meetings. The event was organized jointly by the NGO Committee on Financing for Development with Social Justice in Global Development, Brot für die Welt and Virginia Gildersleeve International Fund.

The concept note is published here: <http://www.socialprotectionfloorscoalition.org/2017/10/financing-social-protection/>

Barry Herman, Social Justice in Global Development, moderated the session, and his report of the panel discussion is available here: <http://www.socialprotectionfloorscoalition.org/2017/10/financing-universal-social-protection-in-developing-countries/>

His statement to open the session is available here: <http://www.socialprotectionfloorscoalition.org/2017/10/panel-financing-usp-developing-countries-bh/>

Rachel Moussié spoke on behalf of the GCSPF. Her statement is available here:

<http://www.socialprotectionfloorscoalition.org/2017/10/gcspf-financing-universal-social-protection/>

h) Statement to the IMF

A joint statement on behalf of the Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors expressing concerns about the report’s findings (“The IMF and social protection. 2017 Evaluation Report”) and the IMF’s approach towards social protection in general was sent to Ms. Christine Lagarde (Managing Director of the IMF) and the Executive Directors of the IMF in order to draw their attention on the issue and in the hope to influence a reconsideration of their position.

The statement was sent on 25 October 2017 and it is published here:

<http://www.socialprotectionfloorscoalition.org/2017/10/statement-to-the-imf-on-the-findings-of-the-evaluation-report-and-the-imfs-approach-towards-social-protection/>

IMF Managing Director Lagarde’s replied to the Statement of the Global Coalition on December 8th.

The response is listed in the Annexes.

i) ILO’s Global Flagship Programme on building Social Protection Floors for all

Members of the GCSPF participated in the ILO’s Global Flagship Programme on building Social Protection Floors for all. Second Development Partners Meeting, that was held in Geneva, Switzerland on 25 October, 2017. A statement was presented in the opening session, it is available here:

<http://www.socialprotectionfloorscoalition.org/2017/10/gcspf-ilo-meeting/>

j) ILO document on Financing Social Protection

In November the working group on financing social protection of the GCSPF submitted comments to the ILO document on Financing Social Protection: a baseline for 2015.

In 2015, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) agreed to a new social compact to deliver social protection and essential public services for all. In 2016-17, the major substantive input to the Financing for Development (FfD) Forum was prepared by the FfD Inter-agency Task Force (IATF), the 2017 thematic report includes a chapter on social protection due to the working group led by ILO and UNDESA's Financing for Development Office – a good development. The 2017 UN FfD follow-up Forum was held from 22 to 25 May 2017, it included a side event on social protection floors developed by Argentina, ILO, BMZ and the Global Coalition on Social Protection Floors.

As a result of all these efforts, the outcome document of the FfD Forum in 2017 contained a meaningful reference to social protection, and a request to the IATF for a draft on financing social protection, in the context of the AAA Social Compact and 2030 Agenda. The document was discussed with UNDESA's Financing for Development Office and shared with the members of SPIAC-B. As observing members of the SPIAC-B, the working group on financing social protection of the GCSPF submitted comments to this document.

k) Report launch: ILO World Social Protection Report 2017-19

Members of the GCSPF participated in the panel of the launching of the ILO World Social Protection Report 2017-2019 that was held in Brussels on 30 November 2017. Gijs Justaert (WSM) and Evelyn Astor (ITUC) spoke on behalf of the GCSPF.

The ILO World Social Protection Report 2017-2019. This ILO flagship report provides a global overview of recent trends in social protection systems, including social protection floors (SDG 1.3).

l) Social protection and persons with disabilities

The GCSPF supported the statement "Towards inclusive social protection systems supporting full and effective participation of persons with disabilities".

This statement is the result of the different expert meetings organized by the International Labour Organization and the International Disability Alliance in 2015 and 2016. The statement has benefitted from three rounds of consultation with the involvement of UNICEF, UNDP, WHO, OHCHR, World Bank, Finnish MFA, DFAT, GIZ, DFID, DFAT, JICA, IDDC, the Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors and others.

2. Members

The GCSPF has more than 90 members. There are members in the following 39 countries: Argentina, Bangladesh, Belgium, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, China (Hong Kong), France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Malawi, Malaysia, Mexico, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestine, Peru, Philippines, Russia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Tunisia, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

For a complete list of members visit: <http://www.socialprotectionfloorscoalition.org/members/members-of-the-global-coalition/>

New members

The following organizations have joined the GCSPF in 2017:



SODEM, Chile

SODEM is a civil society organization with 27 years of work in contexts of social vulnerability in rural and also in urban areas. Further information is available at <http://www.sodem.cl/>



Save the Children UK

Save the Children UK vision's is a world in which every child attains the right to survival, protection, development and participation. Further information is available at <http://www.savethechildren.org.uk/>



South Asia Alliance for Poverty Eradication (SAAPE)

SAAPE is a civil society organization of South Asia (a regional network) comprising of trade unions, peasant organizations, women rights organizations, youth, human rights organizations, NGOs and academic organizations working to end poverty and injustices. SAAPE's secretariat is based in Kathmandu, Nepal. Further information is available at <http://saape.org/>



Psychological Research & Development Council-India (PRDC India)

PRDC India focuses on youth training, women empowerment and environmental protection (against nuclear weapons project). Members of the organization are doctors, psychologist, social activists, social workers, and teachers. Please visit their facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/prdcindia/> and more information is available at <https://www.facebook.com/GSK2017/>



Studies in Poverty and Inequality Institute (SPII), South Africa

SPII is an organisation characterised by a sense of vision, justice and commitment to research and policy innovation. SPII focuses on generating new knowledge, information and analysis in the field of poverty and inequality studies in South and Southern Africa. Through facilitating collaborative partnerships with and between government, labour, institutions of democracy, academia, social movements and civil society organisations, SPII is able to develop and advocate for the implementation of innovative and empirically-based social and economic policies capable of combating poverty, reducing inequality, and promoting sustainable development. SPII supports the development of a tradition of effective public participation in policymaking and implementation.

Further information is available at <http://www.spii.org.za/>



Social Support Foundation, Ghana

Social Support Foundation (SSF) is an International Non-Governmental Organization and Civil Society Organization that is dedicated to improving the situation of marginalized Ghanaians. SSF recognizes the ideals enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and seeks to empower those who have fallen by the wayside through grass-roots initiatives aimed at education, counseling, community intervention, and economic training. The Social Support Foundation's mission is to contribute to the growth and development of deprived communities and to work toward achieving healthy living conditions for disadvantaged persons.

Further information is available at <http://www.ssfghana.org/>



Center for Economic and Social Rights (CESR)

CESR's mission is to work for the recognition and enforcement of economic and social rights as a powerful tool for promoting social justice and human dignity. CESR exposes violations of economic

and social rights through an interdisciplinary combination of legal and socioeconomic research and analysis. Together with civil society groups around the world, CESR advocates for changes to economic and social policy at the international, national and local levels so as to ensure these comply with international human rights standards.

CESR works in three main areas: Human rights in economic policy; Human rights in Sustainable Development and rights claiming and accountability.

Further information is available at <http://www.cesr.org/>



Bretton Woods Project (BWP)

BWP envisions a global economic system that operates on the primary principles of justice, equity, gender equality, human rights and environmental sustainability, with international institutions that are democratic, inclusive, transparent, accountable, and responsive to citizens, especially the poorest and most vulnerable. BWP focuses on the World Bank and the IMF to challenge their power and open space for civil society and social movements to contribute to the development of policies that are gender transformative, equitable, environmentally sustainable and consistent with international human rights norms.

Further information is available at www.brettonwoodsproject.org/



Women in Development and Environment (WorldWIDE Network Nigeria)

Women in Development and Environment (WorldWIDE Network: Nigeria) is a development, non-governmental organization established in 1992 in Nigeria, with the aim to encourage women from all walks of life to share information and help create solutions for environmental and development problems.

The organization which was established in 1995, was registered in 1997 as a Nonprofit Non Governmental Organization, with Corporate Affairs Commission, Abuja Nigeria. In Special Consultative Status with the United Nations ECOSOC. A member of the NGO Committee on United Nations Commission on Social Policy and Development. A member of the International Cooperation Platform of Non- Governmental Organizations (USTKIP) A member of Civil Society Action Coalition on Education For All. (CSACEFA), Nigeria. Steering Committee member of Africa Network of Women Shelters.

Further information is available at

<http://www.socialprotectionfloorscoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/12/20171214-PROFILE-WIDE-Nigeria.pdf>

Survey

In 2017 a survey was conducted to get an overview on the activities of the members regarding SPFs. The results of the survey will allow us to increase the capacity of the coalition to better link member organizations on social protection.

3. Meetings

Social Protection and Sustainable Development Goals: A Joint Agenda

The meeting “Social Protection and Sustainable Development Goals: A Joint Agenda” brought together Core Group members of the GCSPF and Latin American social protection experts. The meeting was organized by the Centro de Implementación de Políticas Públicas para la Equidad y el Crecimiento (CIPPEC) and took place in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 2 to 4 November 2016.

The exchange with the experts over the first two days resulted in technical and methodological recommendations as to how best to link Social Protection Floors and Social Development Goals, as well as a thorough analysis of the social protection challenges and opportunities in each world region. The third and last session dealt with future planning for the Coalition and resulted in several concrete decisions. It was agreed that the GCSPF ought to focus on helping build national coalitions in selected countries, as well as supporting one regional coalition, that of the Southern Cone in South America.

Read further information here: <http://www.socialprotectionfloorscoalition.org/2016/11/meeting-buenos-aires-november-2016/>

The report of the meeting is only available for members of the coalition at:
<http://www.socialprotectionfloorscoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/2017-GCSPFS-Report-BA-meeting.pdf>

Informal meeting in New York

Members of the GCSPF held an informal meeting last July 13th. The meeting was held taking advantage that members were participating in the HLPF 2017. The notes of this informal meeting are included in the Annexes.

4. Information and communications

Given the vast scope of the GCSPF and its members, successful communication plays a vital role in a wide array of its functions. As such, the GCSPF recognizes the importance of effective and up-to-date communication methods, and strives to implement them in an innovative and practical manner.

The website is permanently updated.

The GCSPF E-newsletter, with articles featuring news from the global coalition, the members as well as new resources and articles of interest has been published monthly since June 2017.

As another means of fostering communication in and between the members and civil society in general, the Global Coalition has a Facebook page and a twitter account. The Facebook page has now more than four thousand and fifty “friends”.

III. LIST OF ANNEXES

(ONLY THE INFORMATION THAT IS NOT PUBLISHED IN THE WEBSITE IS INCLUDED HERE.)

1. Notes of the informal meeting of members (New York, July 13th, 2017)
2. IMF Managing Director Lagarde’s response to the Statement of the GCSPF.

ANNEX 1. Informal GCSPF meeting, 13 July 2017 in New York 17 – 19.30hrs

Name	Organization
Adaba, Gemma	Social Justice in Global Development
Beales, Sylvia	African Platform for Social Protection
Bissio, Roberto	Social Watch
Blissman, Beth	Loretto Community
Campuzano, Guillermo	Congregation of The Mission
Diez , Cristina	ATD-Fourth World
Doherty, Winifred	Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd
Donatus, Lili	Congregation of our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepard
Fernandes, Dorothy	International Presentation Association
Florito, José	CIPPEC
Herman, Barry	Social Justice in Global Development
Kotturan, Teresa	Sisters of Charity Federation
LeBlanc, Daniel	OMI / vivat international / FfD
O'Dwyer, Margret	Daughters of Charity
Paramunda, Celine	Medical Mission Sisters
Saldanha, Helen	Vivat international
Schildberg, Cäcilie	FES
Simonds, Matt	ITUC
Steinwachs, Luise	Bread for the World
Timsina, Netra	South Asia Alliance for poverty eradication

1. Introduction into the history and structure of the Global Coalition

Next meeting of the core group is in November 2017 in Nairobi

Discussion:

- make clear that UPS (WB/ILO) is something different from the GCSPF;
- topic for Nairobi – discuss the relationship of UPS and the GCSPF
- GCSPF works on international level and support national dialogue
- Use the statements of the GCSPF it as lobby instrument at national levels
- There are statements and definitions on the website and TORs regarding the procedure if members want to be representing the Global Coalition in various contexts
<http://www.socialprotectionfloorscoalition.org/>
- Official statements in the name of the GCSPF should follow the TORs
- Suggestion: Organize a googlegroup / email group

Resolution:

- Check again on the cooperation of GCSPF and NGO committee for social development; share the draft of the resolution so as not to have different drafts; inform the GCSPF about the draft of the resolution
- Time frame to get the resolution through – February 2018, consensus from the Bureau is necessary

2. Financing Social Protection

- Working group of the GCSPF
- NGO FfD work on social protection
- Document: e/ffdf/2017/3 report of the meeting para 7 “ECOSOC forum of the FfD follow up”:
<https://documents-dds-ny.un.org/doc/UNDOC/GEN/N17/163/84/PDF/N1716384.pdf?OpenElement>
- Inventory of facilities of IMF and others (dev. Banks, bilateral) against volatilities – whatever austerity happens – it should not affect spending on social protection
- Key objectives for lobbying:
 - o SPF with sustainable financing and
 - o This should not be part of austerity
- Finance people (Gemma and Barry and others) of coalition provide information of opportunities for lobbying and influencing, invite others to participate – provide short write up
- Financing should be on the Agenda of the Nairobi meeting

3. G20 in Argentina

- Social protection will probably be one of the topics

4. Relation to UPS initiative of ILO and WB

- Should be talked about at the core meeting / within the core group
- The difference of the rights-based approach of the GCSPF and the USP was stated again. GCSPF should observe the initiative and stay critical especially regarding the possible involvement of the private sector.
- We need more information on the initiative.

5. Gender and SP

- Discuss at Nairobi meeting, possibly set up a new working group within the GCSPF
- Initiative by CIPPEC
- Try to interest more women’s and feminist groups in the coalition

6. ILO Rec 202

- In 2020 revision of the rec 202 – idea of having a conference with all the members of the Coalition in 2019 in preparation for the revision in 2020
- On Agenda in Nairobi



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December 7, 2017

Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors

Dear Members of the Coalition for Social Protection Floors:

Thank you for your letter of October 25 on the critically important issue of social protection. I welcome your engagement and appreciate your interest in working with us.

As you know, the Fund has been giving increasing attention to distributional issues in recent years, reflecting our broader view that ensuring inclusion is key to achieving growth and economic stability over the longer term.

The Fund stands ready to assist its member countries in the design and reform of social protection systems, by focusing on those aspects in which we have expertise, and also by cooperating with other international organizations. In our work, we are fully aware that affordability is only one aspect of designing effective social protection systems—but it is an essential element if the system is to be sustained over time.

The Fund is also committed to helping countries that have to undertake fiscal consolidation design measures that will limit the burden of adjustment on the poorest and most vulnerable. We work with authorities to build such measures into their Fund-supported adjustment programs, while accepting that national governments make the final choices in determining budgetary priorities.

The recent IEO report you highlight indicates the Fund has made significant progress in advancing its engagement on social protection issues, while noting that there is room to do better. I support the IEO's recommendations, which have also been endorsed by the IMF's Executive Board.

One of the IEO's recommendations—which received broad support from the Board—is to establish a clear strategic framework to guide the Fund's involvement in social protection. The strategic framework will, among other elements, look at one issue you raised

in your letter—the choice between universal and targeted approaches to social protection. In developing this work, staff will consult with the relevant international organizations active in this area, as well as civil society organizations including yourselves.

More details in this regard will be available in early in 2018, after the Executive Board has considered the implementation plan with specific proposals to address the IEO recommendations.

We look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Chirpaud". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C' and a long, sweeping tail.