

Implementation of The Doha Political Declaration Regarding Social Protection at All Levels: Moving from Rhetoric to Action

A side event at the 64th Session of the UN Commission for Social Development (CSocD64)

Friday February 6, 2026, 11:30am - 12:45pm (EST)

Conference Room 11, UN HQ, New York

(live-streamed at UN WebTV)



1. **Background:** Social protection is a cornerstone of the Doha Political Declaration, referenced 26 times as a major instrument to reduce inequalities, combat poverty and accelerator progress for sustainable development. With only five years remaining before the 2030 SDG deadline, progress remains uneven: nearly half of the world's population still lacks any form of social protection coverage despite member countries coming up with robust and innovative strategies to expand coverage of social protection interventions. This gap underscores the urgency of moving from rhetoric to action in order to achieve universal social protection.
2. The side event aims to assess social protection coverage gaps and implementation challenges, emphasizing their impact on vulnerable populations, while showcasing how the Doha Political Declaration's commitments can be translated into concrete, multi-level actions rooted in sustainability, equity, inclusion, and resilience. It will also present data to monitor progress, with special attention to marginalized groups such as women, youth, older persons, persons with disabilities, and rural communities. Expected outcomes include actionable policy recommendations, strengthened understanding of financing and monitoring barriers, and practical strategies to advance coordinated and inclusive social protection policies aligned with CSocD64, the SDGs, and the Doha Declaration. By highlighting country success stories and concrete examples, the event seeks to demonstrate how pledges can be operationalized, with key conclusions feeding into national, regional, and global reporting processes to ensure continuity and accountability.
3. **Organizers:** Kenyan Government, USP 2030, International Labour Organization (ILO), Global Coalition of Social Protection Floors (GCSPPF), Global Call to Action Against Poverty

(GCAP), International Presentation Association (IPA), Bread for the World, Friedrich Ebert
Stiftung

List of speakers:

Opening remarks – **Jane Muyanga**, Director at Social protection Secretariat, Government of
Kenya

- **Veronika Wodsak**, Social Protection Policy Specialist, International Labour Organization
- **Peter Ombasa**, Assistant Director Children's Service| Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, State Department of Social Protection and Senior Citizen Affairs - National Social Protection Secretariat (NSPS)
- Permanent Mission of Thailand TBC
- **Irem Arf**, Policy Advisor, International Trade Union Confederation
- **Stephanie Winet**, Head of Stakeholder Engagement, International Organization of Employers
- **Sylvia Beales**, Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors and Global Call to Action Against Poverty

Closing remarks: **Jorge Aranda**, Deputy Permanent Representative of Portugal

Moderator: **Dr. Despoina Afroditi Milaki**, UN Representative, International Presentation Association