



## **Joint Statement on World Day for Decent Work**

October 7, 2014

On the occasion of the World Day for Decent Work, October 7, the Somali Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (MOLSA), Somali Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI) and Federation of Somali Trade Unions (FESTU) jointly call for social justice and decent jobs for all Somalis.

The World Day for Decent Work is a great opportunity for the tripartite partners (trade unions, employers and government) to stress their cooperation to achieve decent work agenda. Success comes through partnership, participation and negotiation, and this joint position of tripartite partners is a strong cooperation.

MOLSA, SCCI and FESTU believe that the notion of decent work is based on the belief that work is not merely a source of income but is essentially a source of personal dignity, family stability, peace in the community, and economic growth for the entire nation that expands opportunities for productive jobs and employment.

For the first time on this occasion, MOLSA, SCCI and FESTU have come together in a spirit of social dialogue and consultation so that the goal of decent work for all really does become a reality in the Federal Republic of Somalia.

Nationwide, unimaginable numbers of Somali workers suffer from precarious, insecure, uncertain, and unpredictable working conditions. Majority of Somali people, who are working, do not have a decent job, with a decent wage, a secure future, social protection, and access to rights. This situation has increased poverty and widened inequality.

MOLSA, FESTU and SCCI reiterate their commitment to cooperate to help create decent jobs for women and men through the Decent Work Programme in cooperation with International Labour Organisation (ILO), and that the existing jobs are linked to international labour standards and rights, including social protection which gives workers the security they need to face the future with confidence.

Tripartite partners agreed to redouble their efforts to combat the inhumanity that blemishes day-to-day labour relations in Somalia. Special emphasis will be placed on eliminating child labour. Children must be given decent education and training to ensure that the dream of a people longing to break free from want and absolute poverty will survive.

By promoting decent work opportunities for all, MOLSA, FESTU and SCCI call for inclusive and sustainable growth and poverty reduction to be at the heart of the national agenda and the rebuilding of the nation.

Somalia needs rights-based and people-centred development. Workplaces and working people are the essence of the social pillar. It is through opportunities for decent work that many of those today trapped in poverty can have access to sustainable livelihoods. It is also by making workplaces safe and healthy that Somali people can meet their needs in acceptable conditions.

MOLSA, SCCI and FESTU collectively call for an end to precarious work and reform of labour code of Somalia in compliance with international labour standards.

Tripartite partners want to send a message that decent work is the foundation of a decent life and a strong and equitable Somalia.

### **TRIPARTITE PARTNERS**

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