International Labour Organization

Regional Initiative
Latin America and the Caribbean
Free of Child Labour

Declaration of the Twelfth Annual Meeting of the Network of Focal Points of the Regional Initiative Latin America and the Caribbean Free of Child Labour

Consensus Declaration

23 October 2026

The Network of Focal Points of the Regional Initiative Latin America and the Caribbean Free of Child Labour, the Regional Initiative's tripartite executive decision-making body, comprising representatives of the governments of its 31 member countries and of employers' and workers' organizations in the region,

Considering

- the tripartite nature of the Regional Initiative, a partnership of governments and employers' and workers' organizations that takes its decisions by consensus and through tripartite consultation;
- the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138), the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182), the Convention on the Rights of the Child and target 8.7 of the 2030 Agenda;
- the Punta Cana Declaration, adopted at the Twentieth ILO American Regional Meeting, which recognizes the value of the Regional Initiative;
- the Durban Call to Action on the Elimination of Child Labour and the Marrakech Global Framework for Action against Child Labour, adopted at the Sixth Global Conference on the Elimination of Child Labour;
- the Regional Initiative's Strategic Plan 2026–2030 and the results achieved throughout its history, with limited resources, in preventing and eliminating child labour in the region;
- the fact that the 2025 deadline established under target 8.7 for ending child labour has not been met;
- that millions of children and adolescents in the region remain in child labour; and that factors such as informality, poverty, economic and climate crises, and migration flows threaten to reverse the progress achieved;
- the value of the Regional Initiative as a regional platform for social dialogue, cooperation among countries and innovation in public policy, through tools such as the Child Labour Risk Identification Model (CLRISK) and the policy acceleration framework;
- the fact that the Regional Initiative is undergoing a transition in its governance, which presents an opportunity to strengthen its tripartite bodies and ownership of the Regional Initiative by countries and employers' and workers' organizations;
- the fact that this transition is taking place against a backdrop of budgetary constraints and changes in international cooperation, making it necessary to diversify funding sources and ensure continued technical support so as not to jeopardize the progress achieved,

1. **Recognizes** the role played by the ILO as the Technical Secretariat of the Regional Initiative and expresses its willingness to promote the continuation of the ILO's support, alongside the strengthening of the tripartite bodies and shared responsibility among its members, within the framework of institutional decisions and available resources.

2. **Requests** the Governing Body of the International Labour Office, through the appropriate institutional channels, to take the necessary technical and institutional measures to ensure continued ILO support and the resources required for the functioning and sustainability of the

Regional Initiative and its Technical Secretariat, from the ILO regular budget, so as to strengthen the Technical Secretariat and provide it with stability, without replacing its capacities or accumulated expertise.

3. **Expresses** the willingness of its members, subject to validation by each constituent group, to:
   - governments: strengthen the active participation and institutional continuity of their focal points; promote the Regional Initiative among their respective authorities and in relevant national and subregional forums; and identify and communicate priority needs for technical assistance and support for activities;
   - employers' organizations: strengthen the participation of their organizations in the Regional Initiative; support their representatives on the Committee; and raise awareness of the Regional Initiative and contribute to advocacy and donor identification;
   - workers' organizations: raise awareness of the Regional Initiative among their officials and within regional integration forums; participate more actively in MIRTI; promote the diversification of the multi-donor fund; and support their focal points and the Committee;
   - all three constituent groups, jointly: advocate before the Governing Body for the continuation of the Regional Initiative and its Technical Secretariat, and gradually strengthen the Tripartite Pro Tempore Committee, with equitable representation of all subregions.
4. **Entrusts** the Tripartite Pro Tempore Committee, with the support of the Technical Secretariat, with the gradual development and implementation of the Roadmap and, in particular, requests it to:
   - submit, in December 2026, its operational roadmap and the method and timetable for clarifying functions and responsibilities;
   - submit, at the first meeting of 2027, initial proposals concerning the functions of the focal points and the High-Level Authority, minimum operational commitments, the advocacy and resource mobilization strategy, and a mechanism for identifying countries' needs;
   - submit, in April 2027, proposals to clarify and strengthen the exercise of the functions and responsibilities Network of Focal Points and the Committee, identifying, where appropriate, the need to develop or amend governing regulations;
   - submit to the focal points Network of Focal Points all matters requiring its validation.
5. **Invites** each constituent group to transmit this Declaration to its representatives on the Governing Body and, in the case of governments, to their permanent missions in Geneva and to the Group of Latin American and Caribbean Countries (GRULAC), as well as to the follow-up process of the Punta Cana Declaration.
6. **Agrees** to follow up on the commitments set out herein in accordance with the Roadmap and to report back at the next Annual Meeting.

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