



APYouthNet Talk Show Summary #29

Sharan Burrow
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Available at: <http://apyouthnet.ilo.org/podcast/>



ITUC's commitment to youth employment

The global economy is no more stable than it was 7 years ago. Now it affects people. The unemployment rate is historically high and will become structured. Indeed, young people make up almost half of those who are at risk of never having jobs. We are facing a lost generation. One of our largest priority is job-centered growth. Young people, along with women, are the most vulnerable people in our society and their working lives.

How young people can voice out their rights in trade unions' activities

As often as young people are working as precarious workers, they are not part of trade unions. Trade unions need to reach out to them and let them know that our models of unionism encompass workers, particularly in informal sector. Young people and women are often the victims of informality. If we can organize them whether they are at work or looking for work, then their voices can be heard.

Union growth and youth engagement

Unions affiliated many workers from informal sectors and formalized the jobs. Now, they are heavily involved in planning and social dialogue for legislative arrangements. We advocate labour rights for domestic workers, minimum wage and social protection for union growth and helping all workers in various sectors, including young people.

Cooperative relationship between trade unions and employers on apprenticeships

While we are creating jobs for everybody, young people can be included in the workforce if we scale up apprenticeships. Trade unions and employers' organizations agreed that apprenticeships, along with investment and formalizing the informal economy, are the high priorities to achieve, which will positively affect young people. We also advocated to G20 that quality apprenticeships are essential.

Climate change and trade unions

The trade union demands climate action. We believe that investing in green jobs and greening old jobs, in a transition to a low-carbon future, will impact multiplied industry policies. In Germany, 400,000 new jobs in the renewable energy sector have been created. From our research, 48 million new jobs can be created in green businesses. We can ensure the stability of planet and jobs when we support a green economy.

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