**Meeting of IOE Members from Europe and Central Asia**

**Points for the presentation during the**

**Session: The transformation of work: what challenges for Employers’ Organisations?**

***Interest representation by Employers’ Organisations in the context of the multiplication of lobby actors***

**Moderator: Deborah France, Director, ILO ACTEMP (TBC)**

*11:15 – 12:15*

*Friday, 13 September 2019*

*Sina Bernini Bristol Hotel*

*Piazza Barberini, 23, Rome*

**Ladies and gentlemen!**

By adopting in 2015 the UN2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development the world community laid a vector of development for the next 15 years with regard to the social, economic and ecological priorities.

The SDGs have become key indicators in assessing progress of countries` development and results of the business communities’ activities.

A Survey IOE hold this year on SDGs and Employers’ Organizations Outcomes, shows that the SDG 17 ‘Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development’ is among 5 priorities SDGs companies would like to focus on. Considering SDG 17 as an undeniable part of Social Dialog we think that its achievement is one of the global lobbing instrument what business can use also via increase of its contribution to the Official development aid (ODA) . Net ODA totaled $149 billion in 2018, down by 2.7 per cent in real terms from 2017. The decline was largely due to a reduction in donor country aid for hosting refugees. Aid for bilateral projects, programmes and technical assistance, which represents over half of total net ODA, rose by 1.3 per cent in real terms from 2017 to 2018. Contributions to multilateral organizations, which represent about one third of total net ODA, were stable. Humanitarian aid fell by 8 per cent in real terms.

Effective mobilization of domestic resources, including through taxation, is critical to achieving the SDGs. The effective mobilization and use of domestic resources, underscored by the principle of national ownership, is vital to achieving the SDGs. Assessing the tax burden—that is, revenue in the form of taxes—is an important fiscal policy exercise with economic and social implications. The average overall rate of taxation among the Group of 20 and other advanced economies was 23 per cent of GDP in 2017, compared to 18 per cent among developing and emerging market economies.

On average, in 2017, the share of government expenditure funded by taxes was 64 per cent among the Group of 20 and other advanced economies and 61 per cent among emerging market economies. Globally, the slight reduction in the role of taxes in government spending—from an average of 64.5 per cent in 2005 to 62.3 per cent in 2017—may be attributable to a combination of improved revenue mobilization and public financial management. Trade tensions among the world’s largest economies are reverberating, affecting producers and consumers worldwide

Decreasing tariffs provide wider access to goods and contribute to a more open trading system. However, ongoing and increasing trade tensions among large economies have adversely affected consumers and producers worldwide and negatively impacted business and financial markets. Those tensions also cast doubt on the future of a sound multilateral trading system under the World Trade Organization.

In 2017, trade-weighted tariffs decreased to an average of 2.2 per cent worldwide. Large differences were found at the regional level, however, reflecting global economic imbalances. The highest tariff rates in 2017 were applied by sub-Saharan African and LDCs, averaging 7.1 per cent and 7.8 per cent, respectively, of the value of imported merchandise. Those tariffs were significantly higher than those applied by high-income countries (1.2 per cent) as well as developing regions as a whole (3.7 per cent). South-Eastern Asia had an import tariff rate of 1.7 per cent, indicating the region’s growing openness to international trade.

Active business participation in BRICS, B- 20, OECD, and ECOSOC is a possibility to deliver a message to the Global leaders and to lobby its interests by inserting the questions of critical importance into the Global political Agenda. It’s even more important due to the fact that current demand for business, especially for the Multinational (Global) Corporations from the outer world is such that in some cases they are expected to fulfill the functions of the State via their corporate and social programmers. On top some Governments driven by the good intention to promote a social dialog as it is are coming with propositions with no consultations from business, Employers Organizations’ side but just by imposing obligations they think might serve the best for all. (as example The Global Deal: Enhance Social Dialog for Decent Work and inclusive Growth, initiative by Swedish Government). In this respect Employers Organizations via IOE (on the Global Level) and by themselves on the national levelы should stand together to deliver a right message to the Governments, International Community and Trade Unions.

It’s also applicable to the cases where some legally recognized economic sectors (as example tobacco) are due to the mass pressure of different form are turning up to be a total outlaws is a way of communications within the SDG's process achievements, violating its imperative "leave no one behind" and from the other side such businesses are legitimate enough to pay taxes to governments.

That required a scrupulous discussion and proper lobbing on all levels as among the Employers organization, while acting on the national or sub regional level, as for the IOE, while lobbing on the Global platforms.

That’s why, by closing my intervention, I would like to endorse the IOE initiative, which is supported by RSPP, also via lobbing ☺ to get an observer status to United Nation General Assembly.