



**Economic and Social Council and the Economic and Financial Committee  
(Second Committee) of the General Assembly**

***Special Joint Meeting***

**The future of employment: The world of work in 2030**

**8 November 2013**

**10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**United Nations Headquarters, New York**

**Background**

Important changes are taking place in the world economy with long term consequences for the nature of employment. In particular, fast developments in information and communication technology are reshaping business. The "digital revolution", including 3D printing, will accelerate the process further by changing the global supply chains and allowing people everywhere to become entrepreneurs, provided that appropriate skills are developed to make full use of this new production and consumption system.

Job markets will be impacted by this evolution in both developed and developing countries. These trends need to be fully taken into account in the context of the current fragile recovery from the jobs crisis and given the global challenge to create 470 million jobs between 2015 and 2030 just to keep up with the growth of the world's working age population.

A vision and great effort will be needed to anticipate the skills for the future of employment and to start preparing the future generation of workers for the challenges ahead, including investment in education, technical and vocational training and lifelong learning, to enhance productivity and minimize skills mismatches.

Megatrends in population dynamics may also affect the future labour market. While some countries are facing the challenge of adapting the world of work to an increasingly aged working force, others have to cope with the youth bulge and need to enhance employment prospects for the youth. Rural – urban national migration and international migration will also pose additional challenges and opportunities.



**Speakers**

The joint event, which will be co-chaired by the President of ECOSOC and the Chair of the Second Committee, will feature a mix of thinkers, trade union representatives, Government officials as well as a high-level official from the ILO. The panelists and lead discussants include:

- Mr. Raymond Torres, Director, International Institute for Social Studies, ILO
- Mr. Peter Padbury, Director, Scanning and Foresight, Policy Horizons Canada
- Mr. Marcio Pochmann, Professor, Economist and Professor at the Institute of Economics and the Centre for Trade Union Studies and Labor Economics at the State University of Campinas (Unicamp), Brazil (tbc)
- Ms. Barbara Birungi, Founder/Director – Women in Technology Uganda
- Mr. Adam Greene, United States Council for International Business (USCIB)
- Mr. Peter Bakvis, Director, ITUC/Global Unions