



## ILOs STATEMENT ON THE EMPLOYMENT AND SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE INDIAN OCEAN EARTHQUAKE AND TSUNAMI

Mr Chairman, delegates,

First of all we want to express our feelings of mourn and compassion to the people of the areas affected by this dramatic catastrophe.

The ILOs urges that "Employment Intensive Jobs Creation Strategies" be integrated into humanitarian and reconstruction response to this disaster that destroyed livelihoods of an estimated 1million persons in Indonesia and Sri Lanka alone.

The flooding coastal areas, the extended destruction of infrastructures and services facilities, crops, irrigations and fishing facilities, productive assets and small and micro businesses has had a severe impact on the livelihoods of people in the most affected areas.

What's more, the impact on the predominantly poor people mainly live off sea and marginal lands has cost people not only their incomes, but also their meagre possessions.

Adequate aid and support mobilized rapidly for the reconstruction, repair and replacement of physical infrastructures including work places and equipment and for livelihood and job recovery and reestablishment of social protection systems, could result in between 50% to 60% of the affected individuals being able to earn a living for themselves and their families by the end od 2005 and that around 85% of the jobs could be restored within 24 months.

Employment is core at all stages of disaster management and response it is an immediate as well as a development need. Thus requiring that job creation be integral part of both humanitarian and reconstruction response

The ILOs confirms its commitment to continue helping the concerned countries and communities to materialize these recommendations in order to contribute to restore hope and dignity of the suffering communities.

Thank you very much.