



OFFICE OF THE MINISTER
MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL SECURITY

PRESS RELEASE



Charles Jr Leads Delegation at 112th Session of ILO Conference

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The Minister of Labour and Social Security, Hon Pearnel Charles Jr. departs the island on today to represent Jamaica at the 112th Conference of the International Labour Organization (ILO) in Geneva, Switzerland. Minister Charles Jr. will join the other members of the delegation from the Ministry and other members of the tripartite representatives from the Jamaica Confederation of Trade Union and Jamaica Employers Federation. The Conference takes place from 3 June to 14 June 2024.

The International Labour Conference (ILC) is the highest decision-making body of the International Labour Organization (ILO). This year's Conference will feature several key agenda items, including:

- Report of the Director-General: Towards a Renewed Social Contract - focusing on the foundation of just societies upon which we build the opportunities and institutions for decent work
- Protection against biological hazards in the working environment, standard-setting and addressing the need for ILO instruments to address these hazards in the workplace.

- A recurrent discussion on fundamental principles and rights at work - assessing the progress and challenges in advancing these rights.
- General Discussion on Decent work and the care economy - highlighting the importance of care work and the need for decent working conditions in the care economy.

The ILC is a significant event on the international labour calendar, bringing together governments, employers, worker representatives and other interested parties from around the world to discuss and shape the future of work.

Minister Charles Jr believes "The ILO conference provides a vital platform for global dialogue and cooperation on labour issues and our participation reflects our commitment to upholding international labour standards and advancing the well-being of our citizens."

The Minister's visit aims to:

- Strengthen global labour standards and promote fair labour practices
- Address pressing labour issues, future of work, productivity and sustainable development, growth and equality
- Enhance cooperation with international partners to advance the decent work agenda
- Share Jamaica's best practices in labour market development and social protection These objectives are in alignment with Goal 8 of the Sustainable Development Goals, that of the promotion of sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all.

World Day Against Child Labour will be acknowledged on June 12 during the Conference through the lunchtime event, the annual usual practice.

This year's theme, "**Let's Act On Our Commitments: End Child Labour**" provide an opportunity for the tripartite constituents to discuss gains and challenges in relation to the elimination of child labour. It will celebrate the 25 years since the adoption of Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182).

During the Conference, Minister Charles is expected to engage with global leaders, international organizations, and stakeholders, CARICOM Ministerial Caucus and Meeting with the ILO Director General and participate in other Bilateral meetings to further the

agenda of decent work, shape the future of work and productivity and promoting sustained, inclusive and sustainable development and growth.

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