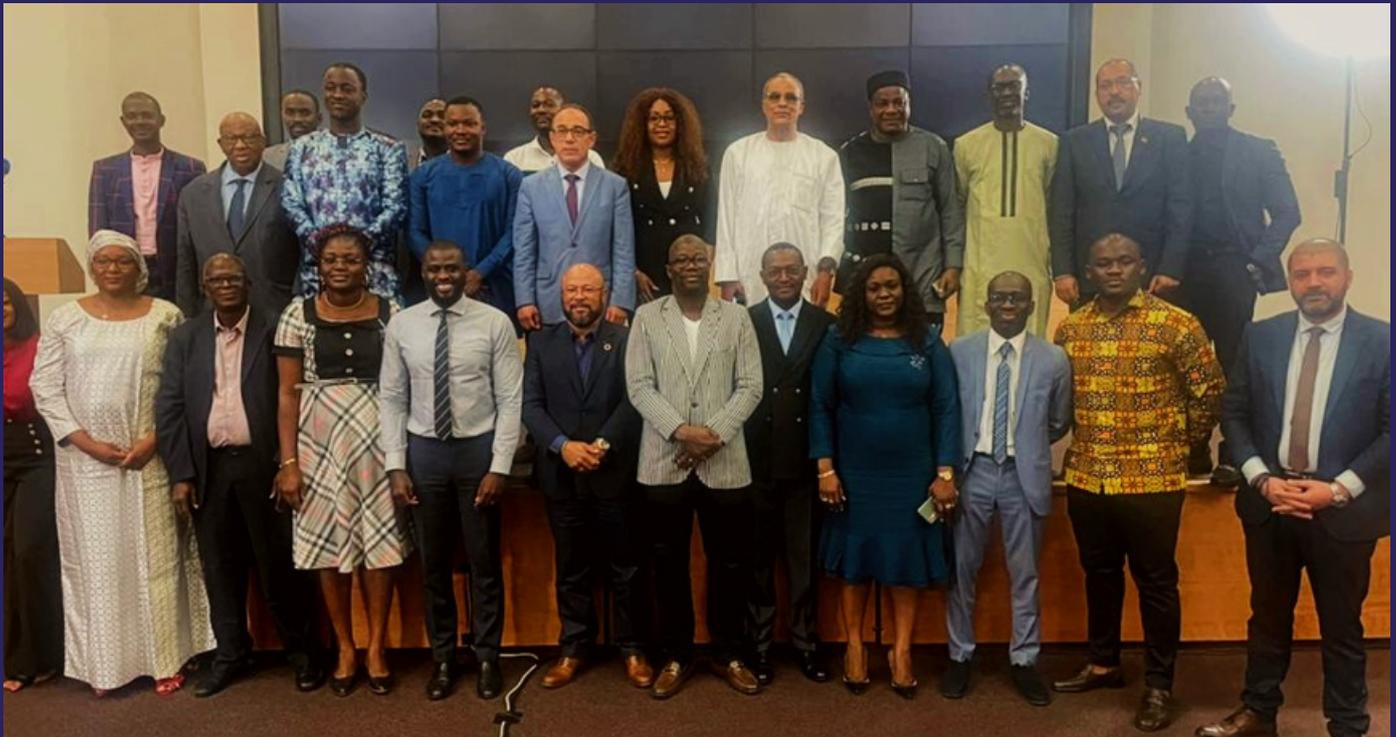




**WEST AND NORTH AFRICAN WORKSHOP ON BUSINESS
PERSPECTIVES ON SKILLS MOBILITY**



Employers and governments representatives group photo

“Labour migration is a complex issue which requires the involvement of all stakeholders. It is therefore important to engage regularly as we adapt to the current challenges and seek solutions to improve the current economic situation.” IOE Advisor for Africa, Amadou Sako

The International Organization of Employers (IOE) in collaboration with the International Organization of Migration (IOM) is hosting a series of workshops across the continent to gather the business perspective on skills mobility from employers and governments as well. The second workshop for the Western Africa and Maghreb region took place on the 29th and 30th of March 2022, in Abidjan, Cote d’Ivoire and virtually. Representatives from BUSINESSAfrica and Employer & Business Member Organisations (EBMOs) across West and North Africa were represented all through the two-day workshop. The following countries were represented, Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroun, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Nigeria, Togo, Niger, Senegal, and Tunisia.

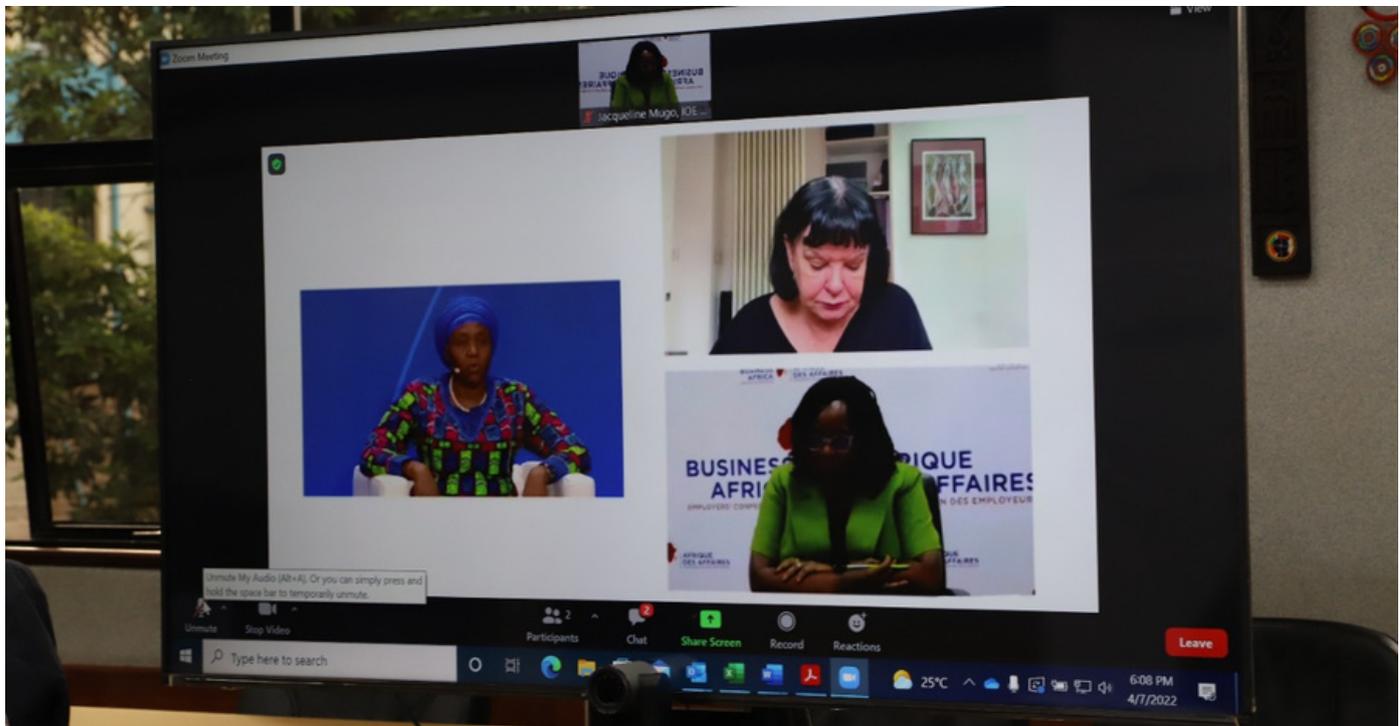
Discussions revolved around:

- Policy, legal frameworks, and institutional consultation mechanisms
- Championing responsible recruitment, fostering social protection, and contributing to labour market integration
- Fostering labour migration governance in Africa: Frameworks for skills mobility
- Addressing skills shortages and skills development

Some key issues and recommendations arising from the workshop: -

- Ensure that foreign workers transfer their skills and knowledge to local workers, as it would be easier to attract multinationals which would create jobs if we had a skilled workforce already present in the country
- Bilateral agreements between countries on labour migration
- Create a system that recognizes academic certificates from other countries.

SPOTLIGHT ON GENDER EQUALITY AND THE CARE SECTOR IN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION



Panelists at the G7 Forum

Who cares? We do, we care. We women, men, children, and the society all together. If not us, then who? Achieving gender equality requires the engagement of women and men, girls and boys. It is everyone's responsibility.

The **Federal Republic of Germany**, in its role as the **G7 president**, joined the **UN Women** and the **International Labour Organization (ILO)** on 7th April 2022 at a high-level conference focusing on care work in international development cooperation. Speakers from all around the world shared their diverse yet connected stories and experiences as women in their different niches. The forum on a holistic approach to *Recognize, Reduce and Redistribute* unpaid care work, and to increase the *Reward and Representation* of paid care workers (*the "5Rs of care"*).

The IOE Regional Vice President for Africa- Jacqueline Mugo participated in the panel discussions alongside, the Minister of Community Development, Gender, Women, and Special Groups, Tanzania- Dorothy Gwajima; the General Secretary, ITUC- Sharan Burrow and the Global Lead for Early Childhood Development, World Bank- Amanda E. Devercelli.

"Efforts have been ongoing in bringing gender equality and equity in the establishment of ministries responsible for gender both in Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar. Considering the existing challenges, the government intends to double its efforts to achieve the vision of gender equality as laid out in the Tanzania Development Vision 2025. The United Republic of Tanzania (URT) realizes that gender equality and equity is of paramount importance in bringing about meaningful, inclusive and sustainable development, " stated Hon. Dorothy Gwajima, Tanzanian Minister for Community Development, Gender, Women & Special Groups

There is a lot of potential to improve and contribute to transforming the care economy. All stakeholders need to come together to work on policies that address the rising need for care work and tackle the huge disparity between women's and men's care responsibilities. The society and policy makers can expand the capabilities and choices of women and men. This will reduce the gender gaps more so in the labour and economic sectors. To achieve such a society, it is important that we constantly create awareness and sensitize on the value of social and economic contributions of caregiving.

Read more [here](#).

BUILDING BETTER WELLBEING AND LIVING STANDARDS IN AFRICA.

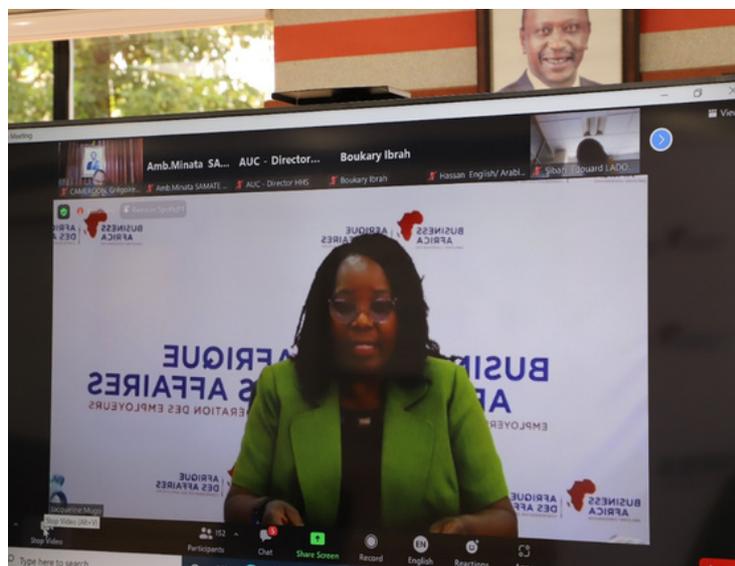
The African Union (AU) had the 4th Ordinary Session of the Specialized Technical Committee on Social Development, Labour and Employment on 7th April 2022. Building forward better well-being and living standards in Africa guided the tripartite meeting inviting Government, Employers' and Workers' representatives. The end goal of the meeting was to have the outcomes and recommendations aligned to the AU Agenda 2063.

"Africa is a young continent, with proper mobilization of the youth in education, enterprise, skills development we will be able to achieve the reality of AU Agenda 2063," noted the Commissioner for Health Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development of the African Union, H.E. Minata Cessouma Samate. She urged governments, employers, workers, leaders and all stakeholders ought to invest in youths' Education, Entrepreneurship, Employment and Engagement so that the AU Agenda 2063 will benefit the African youth and the coming generations.

The following are among issues that were discussed:

1. Progress of the AU Campaign to End Child Marriage
2. AU Report on Female Genital Mutilation
3. AU Saleema Initiative on the Elimination of Female Genital Mutilation.
4. Policy Orientation on the Development of the AU Social and Solidarity Economy Strategy

To read more on these issues, kindly visit the [publications sector](#) where you will find the ministers' report.



Ms. Jacqueline amongst other participants



ILO Assistant Director-General and Regional Director for Africa,
Mrs. Cynthia Olonjuwon

The ILO Assistant Director-General and Regional Director for Africa, Mrs. Cynthia Olonjuwon assured the participants that the ILO will continue to contribute fully to foster the transformation journey in decent work. She said they will continue to strengthen the relationships between the AU and ILO in order to see Africa achieve her dreams.

You can read the full article on our [website](#).

MEMBERS' SPOT

The International Labour Organisation is one of our key partners who support us in developing the private sector in Africa. In April, BUSINESSAfrica kick-started three major projects for 2022 whereby we attributed three contracts to consultants to develop two reports and one strategic workplan.

In the coming days and weeks, your support will be required to answer to some interviews via online platforms. You should have received an email with a link toward a questionnaire to help our consultant to prepare a five-year strategic workplan, please take some time to answer to it.

If you haven't received an email regarding the above, kindly let us know by writing to us at info@businessafrica-emp.org.



You will be contacted by Mr. Mwenda and his team who will conduct interviews to write a report on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on EBMOs in Africa.

The third report will be on the role and opportunities for employers' organisations in the advancement of the AfCFTA. Mercy Kyande will conduct interviews to better understand what is ongoing in your countries and your expectations regarding the free trade area.

We would be happy to feature one of our member's success or share one of your best practices next month considering the great effort you put to better your services to your members.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- ▶ ILO 5th Global Conference on the Elimination of Child Labour, which will take place physically in Durban, South Africa and virtually from May 15th to 20th, 2022. We encourage you to register through this [link](#). More information about the event including the agenda can be found [here](#).
- ▶ May 17th to 20th: 1st International Migration Review Forum, New York, USA. The first two days will be composed of roundtables and a policy debate. The plenary session will take place on days 3 and 4. The African Employers' declaration resulting from the three regional IOE workshop, which took place earlier this year, will be presented during the IMRF Summit. More information about the Summit can be found [here](#).
- ▶ May 27th to June 11th 2022: 110th Session of the International Labour Conference, Geneva, Switzerland. The agenda and reports for the Session can be found [here](#).
- ▶ The 12th World Trade Organisation Ministerial Conference will take place in Geneva, Switzerland during the week of June 13th, 2022.

UPCOMING EVENTS



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



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