



5TH GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON ELIMINATION OF CHILDLABOUR



Ms Mugo at the conference; the BUSINESSAfrica secretariat participating in the #raiseyourhandforkidschallenge

'The shocking new figures from the International Labour Organization (ILO) and UNICEF released last year show that in the first four years of the SDGs, child labour increased by 8 million. Since then, the international response to COVID-19 has provided little support for the world's poorest families, leading to the anticipated further increase of at least 9 million more child labourers by the end of this year and, if adequate social protection measures are not in place, a possible further increase of 46 million child labourers. The international community agreed a deadline of 2025 for the elimination of all forms of child labour and instead it is rising - the world is failing at its promise to leave no one behind.' – ILO

Over 4000 participants joined the 5th Global Conference on the elimination of Child Labour, in Durban, South Africa. The Programme of the conference included forums, panel discussions and brainstorming sessions where prominent speakers, representatives and participants shared their experiences and discussed critical issues while giving solutions on ending Child Labour.

During the opening session, the President of South Africa, H.E Cyril Ramaphosa noted that child labour perpetuates the cycle of poverty thus denying young people the education they need to improve their circumstances. A couple of speakers echoed the impacts of child labour and how it enhances poverty. The General Secretary of COSATU, Mr Bheki said the inability to absorb economic shocks is a big contributor to rendering households vulnerable to child labour.

Whereas most people associate child labour with underaged children working in factory plants and farms, domestic child labour was often ignored. When young children are forced to take care of their ageing or ailing family members, when they are forced to work in the family farms, when they are forced to take care of their younger siblings, they are denied their rights to be children and coarsed to mature above their ages.

Throughout the 6-day conference, great ideas and solutions were shared. The European Union (EU) guaranteed to invest 10 million euros to target child labour in value chains. They are working with the ILO and other international organizations to share knowledge and data and implement relevant projects." The evidence that we have, and the rich experience of the past decade means that we know what needs to be done, we know what works against child labour" said the ILO Director General, Mr Guy Ryder.

The Vice President for Africa, International Organization of Employers (IOE) and Secretary-General of Business Africa Employers' Confederation (BUSINESSAfrica), Ms. Mugo, who wore her couple of hats as the employers' representative, urged all to redouble their efforts and work better together as they seek to address the root causes of child labour. "Collective action is key if we want to succeed!"

After the six-day conference, the participants agreed on what was dubbed the Durban Call to Action to end Child Labour by the year 2025. The following are some of the call to action points:

- Accelerate multi-stakeholder efforts to prevent and eliminate child labour, with priority given to the worst forms of child labour, by making decent work a reality for adults and youth above the minimum age for work.
- End child labour in agriculture.
- Strengthen the prevention and elimination of child labour, including its worst forms, forced labour, modern slavery and trafficking in persons, and the protection of survivors through data driven and survivor-informed policy and programmatic responses.
- Realize children's right to education and ensure universal access to free, compulsory, quality, equitable and inclusive education and training.
- Achieve universal access to social protection.
- Increase financing and international cooperation for the elimination of child labour and forced labour.

To get more information on the conference recaps and the Durban Call to Action, visit the [official website](#).

INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION REVIEW FORUM 2022

The International Migration Review Forum (IMRF) took place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York City from May 17th to May 20th. The aim of the forum was to discuss and share progress on the implementation of all aspects of the Global Compact for Migration (GCM) objectives. You can find more information and videos from the event [here](#).

'Everywhere in the world, businesses face talent shortages. By 2030, the shortage of around 85 million people could cost trillions of dollars in lost economic opportunity. Nearly 7 in 10 (69%) of companies surveyed by ManpowerGroup report skills shortages and difficulty hiring. Global skills mobility can be part of the solution, provided that the legal frameworks for migration are adapted to today's economic, political and social realities.' -IOE

Stakeholders from all corners of the world attended this highly interactive event. On the sidelines the International Organization of Employers (IOE) hosted an Oracle Business Flagship that brought employer and migration specialists together. In conjunction with the Business Advisory Group on Migration, IOE launched the [African Employers' Position on Migration](#) paper among other publications that gave the private sector perspectives on migration and the impact of the GCM.

The position paper covered three areas:

1. Current context for Employers in Africa; the report showed statistics of various contexts (covid-19 impact, economic context, skills gaps, and policy frameworks) and their linkages to migration.
2. African Employers' priorities that are linked to GCM objectives and actions 5,6 & 18.
3. Call to collaboration to African governments.

[Click here](#) to access the entire position paper and other relevant reports.



MEMBERS' SPOT

This is the last week of data collection. Have a say in this substantial study by taking part in filling this [5-minute survey!](#)

SEVEN OUT OF TEN businesses that thrived in Kenya, Nigeria and South Africa shut down at the height of the pandemic with just 17% of the businesses that were forcibly closed resuming normal operations? (Geopoll and Africa 118 Study of MSMEs in Africa) This was just a representation of what was happening all around the continent.

In collaboration with the International Labour Organization, BUSINESSAfrica has commissioned a study on the impact of COVID-19 on EBMOS for the past two months.

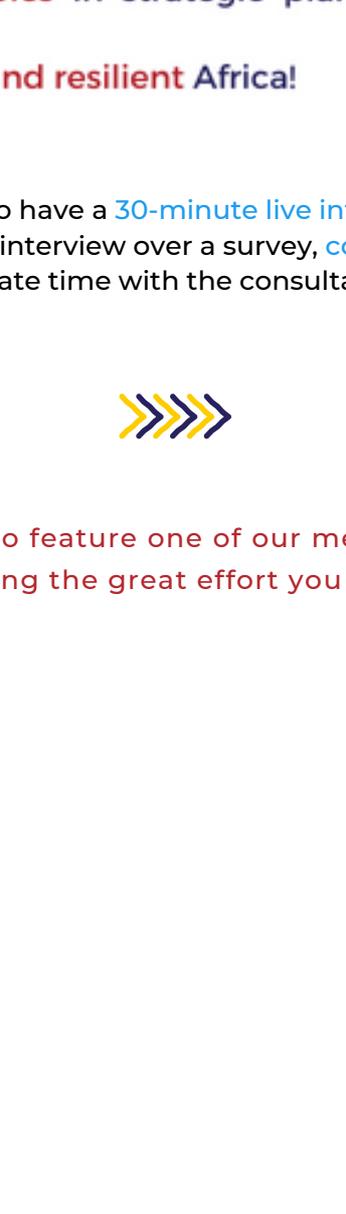
A STUDY ON AFRICA;

THE IMPACT OF COVID 19 ON EBMOS

The outcomes of this study will aid to:

1. **Develop strategic measures** that will enable EBMOS to recover and improve their financial positions.
2. **Identify loopholes** in strategic plans and **make them future proof.**
3. **Build a better and resilient Africa!**

[CLICK HERE TO COMPLETE THE SURVEY](#)



There is also a chance to have a [30-minute live interview](#) on the same. In the case that you are more comfortable with a live interview over a survey, [contact us](mailto:info@businessafrica-emp.org) through info@businessafrica-emp.org and we will arrange for an appropriate time with the consultant.



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

ACTIVITIES/EVENTS FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE

JUNE 2022

MONTHLY PLANNER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

▶ 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](#).

▶ June 8th 2022: BUSINESSAfrica Annual General Assembly at 6:00pm EST at Geneva

▶ June 10th 2022: World of Work Summit: Tackling Multiple Global Crises, promoting human-centred recovery and resilience. It will take place in Geneva from 10:00-11:30 am EST. The in-person event will attract the representatives of Governments, Employers and Workers attending the International Labour Conference (ILC).

Find more information [here](#).

▶ The [12th World Trade Organisation Ministerial Conference](#) will take place in Geneva, Switzerland during the week of June 13th, 2022.

▶ June 13th 2022: 345th Session of the Governing Body in Geneva. Find the agenda of the session [here](#).



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