

Committee on Inequalities 109th session ILC, part 2, 25.11.-11.12.21

Statement of KOLPING INTERNATIONAL by Dr Hildegard Hagemann

Thank you, Mdm Chair and Vice Chairs for giving me the opportunity to speak to the committee.

Dear Delegates,

In the 19th century, Adolph Kolping, the founder of our movement of worldwide around 400.000 members, wrote: "Those who show courage will encourage others!"

In times of ecological challenges like pandemics and climate change, addressing inequality in economic and social aspects is an act of courage because it is the first step for transformation towards social peace and protecting the natural resources. We need courageous people to move forward because more and more people are left behind and will be worst hit by any crisis.

The outcome document of this general discussion should witness courage not only by calling for enforcement of the existing standards. It should call for widening of **social dialogue and law enforcement as silver bullets to overcome inequality.**

Good examples on the improvement of working conditions for migrants in Qatar achieved by Transnational Governance Networks give an insight into the potential of an **inclusive dialogue** to improve the situation of workers.

Labour inspection and complaint mechanisms on national level help to fight exploitative informality as was shown in the meat processing sector in context with the Corona Pandemic in Germany.

However, regarding the transnational activities of companies, the mobility of workers and the interconnectivity of formal and informal labour, structures of global governance are necessary. We need an independent institution to bring labour law violations to justice. The idea of an **International Labour Court** should be discussed in the coming days.

KOLPING INTERNATIONAL appreciates the document provided by the ILO office with its precise analysis and wide encompassing compilation of good practices. Rest assured that KOLPING INTERNATIONAL is ready to contribute actively to the discussion and to co-operate to its best capacity to promote and implement the hopefully courageous outcome document.

Thank you