



**JOINING FORCES  
GLOBALLY TO END  
FORCED LABOUR,  
MODERN SLAVERY,  
HUMAN TRAFFICKING  
AND CHILD LABOUR**

# Report of the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Alliance 8.7 Global Coordinating Group

13 November 2017: 18:00-19:00, Buenos Aires, Argentina

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# Meeting Report

## In attendance

The following Global Coordinating Group members were in attendance. Apologies were received from OHCHR. The meeting was chaired by Ambassador Geoffrey Shaw of Australia.

Member seat	Name	State/Entity
Chair, Friends of Alliance 8.7	H.E. Geoffrey Shaw	Australia
Deputy Chair, Friends of Alliance 8.7	H.E. Marcelo Cima	Argentina
Chair, Alliance 8.7 member regional organization	Deputy Minister Francisco Eguiguren	Peru
Co-Chairs, AG, Conflict and Humanitarian Settings	Roberto Benes Mathieu Luciano Luciana Marchen	UNICEF* IOM* UNHCR*
Chair, AG, Supply Chains & Secretariat	Beate Andrees	ILO*
Chair, AG, Migration	Mathieu Luciano	IOM*
International/Regional Organisations	Ruth Pojman	OSCE*
International/Regional Organisations	Elisa Trossero	ICMPD*
International/Regional Organisations	Annalisa Pauciuillo	UNODC*
International/Regional Organisations	Paola Bohorquez	UNDP
International/Regional Organisations	James Cockayne	UNU
International/Regional Organisations	Bernd Seiffert	FAO
International/Regional Organisations	Philippe Lust-Bianchi	UN Women*
Worker Representative	Maria del Carmen Gonzalez	UOCRA, Argentina
Worker Representative	Silvana Cappuccio	CGIL Italy
Employer Representative	Victoria Giulietti	Coordinadora de Asuntos Jurídicos e Internacionales
Employer Representative	Matthew Rendal	SokSiphana&associates, member of ZICOLAW, Cambodia
Multinational enterprise	Matthias Thorns	Coca Cola
Global Union Federation	Jeroen Bernaert	ITUC
NGO representative	Tim Ryan	Global March
NGO representative	Maurice Middleberg	Free the Slaves



## Agenda

The meeting agenda was adopted as follows:

1. Introduction to Alliance 8.7 (Chair).
2. Update from partners and secretariat on consultations, Action Groups, the Knowledge Platform, and country coordination.
3. Operational Guidelines & membership.
4. Next steps: follow-up to the Buenos Aires Declaration on Child Labour, the Call to Action to end forced labour, modern slavery and human trafficking, and proposed High-Level Work Plan for 2018.

### 1. Introduction to Alliance 8.7

The Chair noted Alliance 8.7 was about joined up approaches and practical implementation activities that would help achieve SDG Target 8.7. It was a complement to UN processes like ICAT and the Global Compact on Migration. While barely a year since its launch, Alliance 8.7 had achieved several notable successes. The Global Estimates provided the international community with common numbers to measure progress and were critical to good public policy formulation. Progress with the Knowledge Platform was another example of the Alliance providing a much-needed international public good that addresses a major gap and accelerates eradication efforts. The Wilton Park Strategic Workshop had built on the global consultations, distilling outcomes down to practical next steps, including the establishment of six Action Groups.

The Secretariat had continued to provide logistical support including convening seven regional consultations that collectively brought together over 1,000 stakeholders around the world. From these consultations a vision document and Operational Guidelines were developed. The Operational Guidelines included provision for a Global Coordinating Group to facilitate activities across Alliance 8.7. Its role was not to direct work, but instead to provide an overarching framework. It was an informal forum to talk through issues and was intended to be light-touch.

### 2. Partner Updates

#### Secretariat

Seven regional consultations had been held across the world to inform the strategic vision of Alliance 8.7 and Operational Guidelines. These had included a broad cross-section of stakeholders. Outcome reports from the consultations were available on the Alliance 8.7 website: [www.alliance87.org](http://www.alliance87.org). The Secretariat, with the Freedom Fund, had also supported a major consultation with civil society organizations, particularly from the global South. Earlier in the year, the Secretariat had also supported the Wilton Park Strategic Workshop and the Action Groups that had formed as a result of that meeting.



A key focus for the year ahead would be development of a more comprehensive and professional website, that would allow Alliance 8.7 member communication and engagement. This would also link with the UN University Knowledge Platform to ensure a seamless user experience.

### **Workers**

Workers' organizations were very enthusiastic about Alliance 8.7. They had actively engaged and were happy with the overall set-up that had been agreed. The added value Alliance 8.7 could bring would be in driving coherence and consistency in the work that is already being done. Some areas required greater clarity, such as the way the Action Groups will operate. Modern slavery was a top priority for trade unions and there is a clear commitment to work on all issues covered by Target 8.7.

### **Employers**

Employers' organizations underlined the importance of eradicating child labour and forced labour. The final decision whether or not to join the GCG of Alliance 8.7 will be taken by IOE's Board after thorough review of the Alliance structure and working modalities and resources and time required.

### **Knowledge Platform (UN University)**

Funding from the UK and US governments has been secured to set up and operate the Knowledge Platform for the first two years. Rapid progress has been made consulting partners and a team has been hired. A beta version will be launched in mid-2018. An open invitation was extended to offer input into the Platform's design.

The Knowledge Platform is being run by UN University for Alliance 8.7. It was created to encourage the scientific study of forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking and child labour and will help policy-level actors understand the scientific evidence. It will:

- Be a one-stop-shop for policy-level actors to find information about progress towards Target 8.7.
- Be a data and evidence directory, directing users to the best available evidence and help them understand it.
- Build understanding of progress towards Target 8.7 and what is working to achieve it.

### **Action Groups**

#### ***Conflict and Humanitarian Settings (IOM, UNICEF and UNHCR)***

After forming in Wilton Park, the Action Group convened on 17-18 May 2017 in New York. An email group has been formed with regular exchanges along with terms of reference. A key priority identified by the group was to strengthen the evidence base to facilitate evidenced based policy making and programming. Another priority was to develop a research agenda and evidence base in support of UNGA Resolution 2331. The Group had also launched an initiative as a follow up to the Global Estimates on Modern Slavery: a collaborative project involving ILO, IOM and the Walk Free Foundation to measure the prevalence of modern slavery in migration. Fieldwork had started in IDP camps in three countries and results would be available in early 2018.



The Action Group had also identified challenges. One was the number of initiatives that had commenced recently as a result of the momentum that had been gathering on the topic of modern slavery in conflict. This required a cautious approach to ensure there was no duplication.

#### ***Migration (IOM)***

The Migration Action Group was still to hold its first convening, but an approach had been developed to guide future work. The first step would be to take stock of existing knowledge by mapping what has been done with a view to narrowing the focus area to where the group could add the greatest value. A working group meeting would then be held to validate that research and guide the development of a strategic work plan.

#### ***Supply Chains (ILO)***

The Supply Chain Action Group met on 21 June in Berlin, Germany shortly after the G20 employment ministers' declaration was released. In the declaration Ministers asked "International Organizations in cooperation with the Alliance 8.7 for a joint report containing proposals on how to accelerate action to eliminate the worst forms of child labour, forced labour and modern slavery in global supply chains including identifying high risk sectors, and how to support capacity building in the countries most affected". The Action Group was focussed on delivering on this request. The group was also looking to identify priority countries and had two business networks supporting its work: on child labour; and on forced labour and human trafficking. It was developing a tool to identify where the group could add most value and a compilation of good practice.

#### ***Rural Development (FAO)***

At Wilton Park it was hoped there would be a close relationship between the Rural Development Action Group and the International Partnership for Cooperation on Child Labour in Agriculture. Discussions had been had on this topic among partnership members, but despite a continued commitment of all members towards SDG 8.7, one member organization is, at least for the moment, not in favour of IPCCLA participating in the Alliance 8.7. An alignment on joining efforts had therefore not been reached.

#### ***Civil Society***

The Global March saw Alliance 8.7 as an opportunity to raise awareness about child labour and connections with other issues like forced labour, human trafficking and gender work issues. It was also a platform for connecting with other SDGs that would underpin achievement of Target 8.7, like SDG 4 on education. It could also be a platform for leveraging existing networks and people. Global March, for example, had formed the grouping Parliamentarians Without Borders. This grouping offered an opportunity to pursue work through legislatures going forward on child labour issues.

At the Alliance 8.7 civil society convening hosted by the Freedom Fund many of the CSOs had limited knowledge about how Alliance 8.7 was working and its future plans, showing the need for ongoing communication and outreach



from Alliance 8.7. Civil society also expressed the view there needed to be a mapping of who's doing what, where to improve coherence going forward.

Free the Slaves identified three priorities for Alliance 8.7:

1. Scaling: while there is much to learn, we've learnt a lot. There's been 15-20 years of work in this field. Alliance 8.7 members should build on what we've learned and bring it to scale.
2. Research: This should be focussed around indicators of accountability. We need to be able to measure progress being made and whether the various actors are meeting their goals.
3. Hearing civil society: hearing this voice is critical if progress is to be made, but it's welcomed to various degrees around the world.

### **Regional Organizations (OSCE)**

Regional approaches were very important and offered a range of avenues for supporting Alliance 8.7 objectives. The OSCE hosts the *Alliance* against Trafficking in Persons, a voluntary platform of over 30 international and regional organizations to exchange experiences and information, to forge synergies and avoid duplication. It convenes an annual high-level *Alliance* Conference and also hosts regular *Alliance* expert coordination team meetings (AECT). The OSCE Special Representative is a unique high-level mechanism who works at the regional and national levels, especially through country visits, connecting to the global level where the OSCE is an observer at the United Nations and is the first partner organization of ICAT. The OSCE continues to participate in Alliance 8.7 meetings and co-organized the Europe and Central Asia regional consultation in Budapest in June 2017.

### **3. Operational Guidelines and Membership**

Operational Guidelines that had been developed through several rounds of consultations were circulated prior to the meeting and opened for discussion. The Chair noted they struck a careful balance that aimed to provide a light-touch platform for all partners to engage and contribute.

During the discussion, there was a request for clearer articulation in the guidelines of how Alliance 8.7 will engage with other SDGs and partnerships, such as the partnership around SDG 5.2. There was also discussion of the utility of adding the option for organisations to engage with Alliance 8.7 as observers (rather than members). There was also a request to provide additional feedback on the Operational Guidelines.

Prior to the meeting details on the process for registering for Alliance 8.7 were circulated. There was agreement the Secretariat should proceed with registering members in the manner outlined. On the issue of introducing different types of membership (such as observer status) and clarifying some of the processes for selecting Global Coordinating Group members, the Chair asked the Secretariat to prepare an options paper for circulation.

### **4. Next Steps**



A discussion was had on next steps. It was agreed regular meetings of the Global Coordinating Group were needed, and that the next in-person meeting would be in July in New York in the margins of the UN High Level Political Forum. A virtual meeting would also be held in the interim, with GCG members able to communicate informally via an email group (pending the launch of the updated Alliance web portal).

The proposed High-Level Work Plan 2018 that had been circulated prior to the meeting was broadly endorsed.

The Alliance 8.7 Outcome Report was endorsed and the Secretariat agreed to provide a more detailed version for publication on the Alliance 8.7 website.

The meeting closed with a call from the Deputy Chair and host, Argentina, for Alliance 8.7 to play a role in supporting those who made pledges at the upcoming IV Global Conference to implement them.