September, 2014

Dear Microcredit Summit Campaign and fellow partners in the global movement to help 100 million families lift themselves out of extreme poverty,

The International Labour Organisation (ILO) is the specialised UN agency concerned with the world of work. In face of massive unemployment worldwide, widespread informality and violation of basic rights, the ILO is striving toward achieving social justice through creating jobs, guaranteeing rights at work, extending social protection and promoting social dialogue with the goal of fostering social and economic progress. As part of this decent work agenda, ILO considers inclusive access to a broad range of financial and related non-financial services that respond to the needs of the employed, self-employed as well as un- and underemployed as an essential condition to succeed. This is why the organisation, through its Social Finance Programme, has developed technical expertise in socially inclusive and sustainable finance and is developing and testing social finance innovations to promote better and more employment and to reduce vulnerability of the working poor since the early 1990s.

With this letter, ILO states its commitment to take specific, measurable, and time-bound action to contribute to the Microcredit Summit’s goal of helping 100 million families lift themselves out of poverty – and therewith make a major step forward in ending extreme poverty.

We know that this bold goal will require global partnerships that enable organisations to work together in new and innovative ways across a broad range of financial and non-financial sectors to reach goals and benchmarks that could not be obtained working apart. We are eager to support this global movement to demonstrate with others the power of partnerships against poverty and also to inspire new collaborations with those committed to supporting the movement of millions out of extreme poverty.

In support of reaching social justice through decent work for all, ILO is pleased to announce the following Campaign Commitments:

ILO’s Microinsurance Innovation Facility pushes the frontier of microinsurance around the world. With our partners we investigate better ways to protect the lives and enhance the livelihoods of low-income people directly and indirectly reducing the vulnerability of more than 100 million low-income persons by 2019.

1) ILO commits to publish 6 studies on how innovative insurance creates value for low-income households and how insurance companies can expand outreach to cover excluded populations in a cost-efficient manner by 2017.
2) **ILO commits to expand its agricultural insurance activities into 5 new countries by 2017.**

3) **ILO commits to hold three microinsurance-related webinars by end 2015.**

ILO is promoting policies and providing assistance to countries to supply adequate levels of social protection to all members of society. ILO’s Social Finance Programme is leveraging this agenda with policy-level research and country-level activities.

4) **ILO commits to publish an analysis on how Social Protection Floors and the financial inclusion agenda can be mutually beneficial to lifting people out of poverty by end of 2015.**

ILO is promoting more and better jobs, including through improved access to finance via activities of the ILO Social Finance Programme. With our partners we innovate in product design and measure changes on the livelihoods of microfinance clients.

5) **ILO commits to publish one paper summarising recent ILO research on how microfinance can contribute to job creation by end 2015.**

We look forward to presenting the progress we have made to reach these benchmarks at the next Microcredit Summit and to then renewing our commitment with new benchmarks for specific, measurable, and time-bound actions to help 100 million families lift themselves out of extreme poverty.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Jose Manuel Salazar-Xicay
Assistant Director-General for Policy
International Labour Office