

Examen d'accréditation d'interprètes de langue française 2021 – Anglais (SERIE 2)

Anglais / discours 1

Réunion : Singapore Conference on the Future of Work 2019

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Durée : 11:46

Orateur : Guy Ryder

Difficulté : niveau 1

Introduction : Intervention du Directeur Général de l'Organisation internationale du Travail prononcée à l'occasion du centenaire de l'OIT à Singapour.

Éléments à fournir (vocabulaire) :

ILO – International Labour Organization	OIT – Organisation internationale du Travail
ASEAN	ASEAN – Association des nations de l'Asie du Sud-Est
Skills Future	Il s'agit d'une initiative en matière d'emploi à Singapour – à laisser en anglais : Skills Future
Care industry	Secteur des soins

Ladies and gentlemen, dear friends,

The centenary celebrations of the ILO provide us with a real opportunity, of course, to look back at one hundred years of achievements, in pursuing our social justice mandate. And in doing so we, of course, recognize the progress that has been made in keeping with development, anchored in the principal of decent work for all.

But at the same time, I think it's more important. We have the opportunity to look to the future and to see how we are going to shape a future of work that truly leaves nobody behind. The future of work is not decided for us, it's not predestined. We have the power to work together, to determine the direction that future will take. And I believe that we have a shared responsibility to do just that.

And that's an important message. I would say it's *the* central message of the ILO's Global Commission on the Future of Work, which published its report in January of this year. Now the content of that report will be presented to you shortly, so I am not going to spend much time on it right now, except to share one of its messages, which is that we have the potential to work together to drive a human-centered agenda for the future of work. What does that mean? It means placing women and men, and the work that they do at the very center of economic and social policy.

We are all aware that new forces are transforming the world of work. New technologies, demographic pressures, climate change. And today, there is also uncertainty about the future path of globalization. And we know that all of these factors are changing how people work and where they work. Enterprises and business models are changing, as are labor market institutions and the services that they provide.

I think we all know that change is inevitable and it is welcome. But there is one thing that does not change and that is our moral imperative to protect the most vulnerable from any negative consequences of these transformative forces, and for this we need to make sure that we have strong institutions in place to keep the future of work moving in a positive direction.

I have no doubt that our social justice mandate is as relevant today as it was when the ILO was founded in 1919. And I have no doubt either that our standard setting work conducted through our unique tripartite structure is needed as much as ever it was - possibly even more so today than ever before - as the world of work undergoes these transformative changes, at unprecedented scale and speed.

And if we look at the ASEAN region in this context, let me say that there is certainly a lot to celebrate here, good reason to look to the future with both optimism and confidence, in a region that continues to outperform all others in terms of economic growth. As we've heard, the average growth rate of 5% between 2007 and 2017 was well above the average global rate and some of the fastest growing economies in the world are represented in this room today, with almost all ASEAN countries still above 5% annual growth.

In the 20th century, millions of Asians moved to Europe or to North America to pursue their dreams of building a good life. Today the flows are reversing. Entrepreneurial Europeans and Americans are flocking to Asia, attracted by your region's dynamism.

Asia has become the heart of the digital innovation and there is that sense of optimism here. And so, there is a great deal to be excited about and a lot of interesting policies here that are to be applauded. I think particularly of the Skills Future initiative of our host country as a case in point. And I suspect that we will all benefit from hearing about their Smart Nation Singapore and also about a future manufacturing initiative that is creating the economic dynamism needed to lead in this 4th Industrial Revolution.

But let's keep in mind as well that innovation of and by itself does not necessarily create decent work or inclusive growth for all. And in fact, despite the region's success and economic growth, let's remember that there are still far too many workers living in poverty or near to poverty. In 2018, nearly 1 in 2 workers in the ASEAN region was toiling in vulnerable employment, either self-employed or in unpaid family work, and 2 out of 3 were in informal employment, and 1 in 5 workers lived below the poverty line.

I think we can all accept that we must aim to do better than this. Technological advances are bringing extraordinary opportunities to boost economies and the standard of living. And that is

why most of the countries represented in the Hall today are moving forward in their Industry 4.0 strategies. But we still need to ask ourselves: how the big push to embrace technology will bring about improvements in the quality of working lives for everybody in the region? How are we going to make that happen? I think this is the big question on the table for today and for tomorrow. And of course, I will be very interested to hear the views expressed.

In addition, in this room today, are representatives from the world's most aged countries as well as the most rapidly aging countries. Five countries, Australia, Japan, Korea, New Zealand, and Singapore have more than 14 percent of their populations aged above 65 years. And I think in Japan that figure is now 22 percent. China, Thailand and Vietnam will turn that corner within just a few years. With aging, which is itself a reflection of social success, come challenges in recruiting and retaining suitably skilled care workers, in filling labor demand in general and in keeping productivity levels up. The research that the ILO has done shows that we can generate as many as 296 million jobs in the care economy around the world if investments in education, in health and in social work were doubled by 2030. Now there are a lot of interesting initiatives already happening in the ASEAN region to promote active ageing, including through the use of technology.

And so again I look forward to hearing more from you on this today and tomorrow.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Climate change and environmental degradation equally present major challenges around the globe. And the ASEAN region is absolutely no exception. And here again there can be absolutely no doubt about the urgency of action.

At the ILO, we now have a consensus between governments, workers and employers that economic growth can no longer come at the expense of the environment and indeed that there is no inevitable trade-off between the two. That consensus was cemented in the Paris Climate Change Agreement of 2015. And the outcome is that policymaking in the future of work must now incorporate the element of environmental sustainability. The very future of our planet, not just of our work, depends upon it.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda enjoins us to “Leave nobody behind”. So, the great feeling of optimism for the future of work in the ASEAN region should not lead us to forget that there are many people who still feel a sense of instability, of anxiety, even fear about their futures. Millions do not know whether they will have an income next year, let alone benefit from a pension in their retirement. Growth is slowing down in most countries and workers are losing their jobs, sometimes even in the most leading high-tech enterprises.