



ESC - SI response to the crisis relating to covid-19 in the socio-economic and labor sectors through social dialogue

SURVEY

This questionnaire is structured in 5 sections (for national institutions), with examples of the points to be taken into account in their responses, if relevant.

A) Measures with regard to workers in the formal and informal economy

Some Members of the China Economic and Social Council (CESC) suggest that reform on disease prevention and control system and medical insurance system should be further promoted in an effort to improve the public health situation. Subsidies for low-income group should be provided to mitigate the pandemic impacts on them. Targeted measures should be adopted to promote work resumption and to help realize the national poverty alleviation plan by the end of the year.

B) Measures with regard to companies, in particular as the engine of employment

Within our council, some members believe that an all-out supply-side reform should be advanced in terms of making post-covid-19 outbreak economic policies. The government should be focused on promoting work and production resumption in an orderly manner and stabilizing employment as much as possible this year which could be included as major indicators for performance of local governments. Proactive fiscal policy and prudent monetary policy should be adopted. The construction of new-type infrastructure like data center need speeding up. The measures of covid-19 response and economic policies should be better coordinated in the international level.

For the micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, steps should be taken to prevent and counteract the structural impacts on their operation. A sound legal environment for their development should be improved. More targeted policies to mitigate the impacts should be taken like cutting more tax and fees for SMEs, providing more financial underpinning, helping establish information-sharing platform for the companies, stimulating domestic demand and consumption potential, and well implementing the preferential policies already launched for the companies, ect.

C) Measures with regard to the economy to mitigate the bad impacts on employment

As our country has entered the phase of work resumption, some of the members suggest that all local governments should promote the process in an orderly manner on the premise of protecting people's health and safety, with a balance between realizing enterprise income and containing the outbreak. Economic activities need going back to normal while we should also be cautious about the outbreak rebound. That said strict prevention and control measures should not last for too long because of a small probability of regional rebound of the outbreak. Moreover, in the face of a large scale of work resumption, the government should be well prepared to take steps to support them while ensuring health of workers of the enterprises.

D) Advocacy for the optimal use of social dialogue in response to the Covid-19 crisis: transparency, share information and data, inclusion, consultation, mutual trust

Our members refute in various ways the racist and discriminatory remarks and behaviors that appeared in certain countries and regions during the outbreak and advocate that the battle with the virus requires cooperation of all countries as we are already living in a community with a shared future for mankind. The council calls on all members to make contributions for the fight against the outbreak and provide suggestions on Covid-19 prevention and control by proposing motions or actions to strengthen confidence and form synergy. By now, many members have called for donations in their sectors and enterprises, or engaged in frontline work such as developing antiviral products. We submitted briefings written by members to the leadership, including *Extending the Spring Festival Holiday of 2020 for the Containment of the Spread of the Virus* and *Suggestions on Helping Medium-sized, Small and Micro Enterprises during the Covid-19 Outbreak*.

E) Ensure the continuity of the work of the ESC-SIs: planning and implementation of internal activities (health, safety at work, working conditions, IT services, teleworking, job protection, etc.) to covid-19 and its consequences.

Teleworking and IT services have been used by the CESC Secretariat in connecting with members and collecting members' suggestions and proposals. Recently, the council has been also trying to develop on-line discussions with other countries' ESC-SIs to exchange and learn from each other's experiences in the fight against the covid-19 and counteracting its consequences. A series of measures are adopted to protect the health of our employees including providing masks and necessary disinfecting products.