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STUDIES ON
GROWTH WITH EQUITY



**PRODUCTIVE
JOBS
FOR GREECE**

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INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANIZATION
RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

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FOREWORD

In order to achieve a sustainable recovery, macroeconomic and employment goals need to be pursued in parallel. This was highlighted by 51 European governments, employers' and workers' representatives in the Oslo Declaration adopted by the ILO's 9th European Regional Conference in April 2013, which stated that "structural reform and competitiveness, on the one hand, and stimulus packages, investment in the real economy, quality jobs, increased credit for enterprises, on the other, should not be competing paradigms. It is in our common interest to elaborate sustainable approaches in order to promote jobs, growth and social justice". To that end, the ILO has been analysing the situation in a number of crisis-hit European countries, including Greece, with a view to presenting evidence-based policy options for growth with quality jobs.

The ILO report *Productive Jobs for Greece* analyses the challenges faced by Greece in the prolonged crisis situation. The report notes the first signs of economic recovery in some areas, while drawing attention to the underlying causes of the crisis and the magnitude of its social consequences. Indeed, the structural challenges of the Greek economy still remain and need to be addressed through more profound initiatives than hitherto taken. The overarching goal is to fight high unemployment, while addressing the needs of the most vulnerable. The report finds that pursuing this goal through well-designed policies and institutions, as well as social dialogue, will contribute to boost economic growth and facilitate the achievement of macroeconomic stability in the medium term. These issues go to the very centre of the conditions needed to achieve a sustainable European currency.

I hope the report, its findings and the discussions and debate it stimulates will provide useful inputs to the national and European debate on employment and social issues.

Guy Ryder
ILO Director-General

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This report has been prepared by Santo Milasi, Clemente Pignatti and Johanna Silvander of the ILO Research Department. The authors are grateful for excellent research assistance provided by Christina Andreou-Kalofouti and Yi Qu.

The study has been coordinated by Steven Tobin under the supervision of the Deputy Director of the ILO Research Department, Duncan Campbell, and the Director of the ILO Research Department, Raymond Torres, with guidance from James Howard, Senior Adviser to the ILO Director-General.

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A preliminary version of the report was shared with the Ministry of Labour, Social Security and Welfare of Greece as well as the Greek Employers' and Workers' organizations, namely the Greek General Confederation of Labour (GSEE), the Hellenic Federation of Enterprises (SEV), the Hellenic

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