In pursuit of the SDGs, MGA advocates:

A rights-based approach,
    through justice and development
        for all People and the Earth

Image: pixabay.com

To Achieve Goal 8 MGA will:

i. Support and work in partnership with NGOs, businesses and academics to end inequalities in the labour force.
ii. Lobby national governments to ensure they have signed up to all international agreements regarding labour rights.
iii. Sign petitions to raise awareness on injustices in the labour force.

MGA is committed to:

(a) **Work** to implement the SDGs, to ensure 'no-one is left behind'.
(b) **Model** a rights-based and person-centred approach, in all our Mercy ministries.
(c) **Promote** standards and fundamental principles and rights at work.

MGA will continue to

✓ **Address** the root causes underpinning modern slavery whilst supporting survivors and working to eliminate modern slavery in all its forms.
✓ **Promote** equality and fairness in the workplace at both national and international levels.
✓ **Take action** by taking personal responsibility on the services and goods we use. Ensure no child labour is used.

> *Decent work is not just a goal – it is a driver of sustainable development.*

Links: UN SDGS: https://**un**.org/**sdgs**
Mercy World: www.mercyworld.org
Pixabay: www.pixabay.com
https://www.globalslaveryindex.org/https://www.walkfreefoundation.org/

Prepared by MIA-Global Action, July 2018

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MERCY INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION GLOBAL ACTION

GOAL 8
Promote sustained economic growth and decent work for all.

Image: pixabay.com

"Work is a necessity, part of the meaning of life on this earth, a path to growth, human development and personal fulfilment."
Pope Francis Laudato Si 128

WHAT ARE THE SDGS?

The UN 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), supported by all countries, came into force 1st January 2016, to run through to 2030.

The SDGs address inequality, poverty, sustainable development, protection of ecosystems and climate change. MIA Global Action (MGA) is producing a series of pamphlets to inform and encourage members, to monitor the progress of the SDGs in their countries

SDG 8 is the focus of this pamphlet - "Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all".

Goal 8 aims to separate economic growth from environmental degradation through global resource efficiency.   It also aims to eradicate forced labour, modern slavery, the use of child labour and child soldiers. Sustainable tourism is encouraged as it creates jobs and promotes pride in local culture and artefacts.

GLOBAL FACTS

o   Labour exploitation has now overtaken sexual exploitation as the main form of human trafficking in Europe. (Greta 2017)
o   Children account for one-third of human trafficking victims, mostly for sexual exploitation. (Ecpat)
o   In 2016, 40.3 million people were in modern slavery.
o   24.9 million people are in forced labour and 15.4 million in forced marriage.
o   It is estimated that 300,000 child soldiers are being recruited and forced into war today.
o   340 million workers are currently living with their families on less than US$1.90 per person per day.

Image: www.walkfreefoundation.org

COLLECTIVE ACTION

✓ **Support** groups such as **Child Soldiers International** and **The Red Hand Campaign,** who are working for a world without child soldiers.
✓ **Connect** with other groups and organisations, keeping up to date on new techniques used to report issues of modern slavery.
✓ **Advocate** for an end to all forms of exploitation in the labour force.

PERSONAL ACTION

✓ **Shop** ethically and ensure that there is no exploitation of workers in the production of the goods we purchase.
✓ **Support community-based tourism** where possible, thereby empowering local people to share the benefits of tourism
✓ **When travelling,** use accommodation and restaurants / cafes where the work force is treated fairly.
✓ **Advocate** and take action if you observe unjust work practices**.**