

ILO 90 events in Moldova, Ukraine and Bosnia

Moldova marked the ILO's 90th anniversary by a national conference entitled "Towards decent work through sound social dialogue" on 29 April in Chisinau. The Deputy Minister of Economy and Trade Mr. Sergiu Sainciuc and representatives of trade unions and employers evaluated the cooperation with the ILO in the framework of the Decent Work Country Programme of Moldova. Participants said that social dialogue is a pertinent tool to achieve social justice, and it is crucial to mitigate the worst effects of the global crisis in Moldova. Shortcomings of the social partnership were mentioned while the constituents' reinforced their commitments to overcome the pitfalls. The ILO expertise to promote social dialogue was considered very valuable to strengthen social partnership in Moldova. The event has been attended by representatives of government, social partners, civil society, academic media and international organizations.

ILO National Coordinator Ms Ala Lipciu and social partners spoke in the national and local media on how the ILO's work improved people's lives.

In Ukraine, the national campaign on the ILO's 90th anniversary started with a presentation of the ILO publications in the National Library of Ukraine and National Parliamentarian Library on 14 and 16 April, 2009. The ILO Conventions and Recommendations 1919-2007 in Ukrainian were published on CD to make them accessible for the government officials, social partners, scientists, lawyers, students and the general public.

The ILO press club in Ukraine on 21 April was also dedicated to the 90th anniversary where social partners and government officials spoke about the ILO's policies and achievements in Ukraine to journalists coming from various media.

On the 28th and 29th April round-tables and conferences on the occasion of the ILO's 90th Anniversary and 55th Anniversary of Ukraine's membership in the ILO were conducted in many regions of Ukraine, particularly in Luhansk, Donetsk, Cherkassy and Dnipropetrovs'k oblasts (regions). On the 29th April a Tripartite round-table was organized in Chernigov region by social partners: the Main Department of Labour and Social Protection for the Population of Chernigov regional state administration, Federation of Trade Union organizations of Chernigov Oblast as well as Regional Federation of Employers (affiliated to the Federation of Employers of Ukraine). Around 40 participants attended this tripartite round-table. The ILO National Coordinator in Ukraine, Vasyl Kostyrytsya read the message of Juan Somavia Director-General of the ILO on the occasion of the ILO's 90th anniversary and talked about the history of the organization, its principles of work and implementation of Decent Work Country Programme in Ukraine. The Head of the Department of International Relations of the Federation of Trade Unions of Ukraine, Vasyl Shilov also participated in this tripartite round-table. Information on this round-table was covered by two regional (oblast) newspapers as well as on Oblast TV Channel and radio.

Kiev also held an All-Ukrainian Tripartite Conference on 28 April on the occasion of the ILO's 90th Anniversary and 55th Anniversary of Ukraine's membership in the ILO. Viktor Ivankevych, Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Policy of Ukraine, talked about the cooperation of Ukraine and ILO as the strategy for decent work in Ukraine. The social partners evaluated the ILO's role in the introduction and development of social dialogue in Ukraine and how social dialogue can become a key to wellbeing and prosperity. Up to 100 participants included ILO constituents, members of Parliament of Ukraine, Ambassadors of foreign countries in Ukraine, EC Delegation to Ukraine, etc.

In Bosnia and Herzegovina, the National Tripartite Conference on 28 April highlighted the ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalization and the ILO's role to achieve progress and social justice in the context of globalization. The meeting was opened by Mr. Sredoje Novic, Minister of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Ms. Christine McNab, UN Resident Coordinator.