



International Labour Organization

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**NATIONAL EVENTS TO MARK WORLD DAY FOR SAFETY AND HEALTH AT WORK  
28 APRIL 2005**

BEIJING (ILO news) – Workers, employers, government and non-governmental organizations in more than 100 countries will mark the World Day for Safety and Health at Work on 28 April.

This year's World Day will focus on two issues: the construction industry, where 17 percent of all fatal accidents occur, and where younger and older workers fall victim to a high rate of industrial accidents. Globally, the ILO estimates that accidents and illnesses cause some 2.2 million deaths per year and reduce the world's gross domestic product by an estimated 4 percent.

The ILO has commemorated the World Day for Safety and Health at Work since 2001 as a means of bringing a global, tripartite focus to Workers' Memorial Day, which has been observed by the worldwide trade union movement for nearly a decade.

Observance of the World Day highlights the importance of reducing occupational accidents and diseases worldwide through the promotion of a preventive safety and health culture and a strong focus on prevention.

The ILO, the State Administration of Work Safety and the Ministry of Construction will jointly organize a high level seminar - "Build a Harmonious Society: Pay attention to Construction Safety"- in the morning of 28 April, 2005 in Beijing. In the afternoon, the ILO and its Chinese counterparts will launch a World Day campaign to bring safety to Olympics construction workers. Safety outfits and booklets will be distributed among construction workers at one of the Olympics construction sites in Beijing.

According to the ILO, industrialized countries have seen a marked decrease in serious work-related injuries over the past century thanks to safer workplaces, due largely to long-term policies encouraging active involvement by governments, workers and employers, as well as effective health and safety legislation backed by strong labour inspection. The ILO says the developing world could also benefit from the experience of industrialized countries through raised awareness of health and safety issues at the workplace, as well as an emphasis on the importance of prevention.

With regard to this year's areas of focus for World Day, the ILO noted that the construction industry is a major generator of employment in many parts of the world. However, it is also associated with proportionately much higher levels of work-related injury

and disease than most other sectors. According to a report<sup>1</sup> prepared by the ILO for the 2005 World Day, about 17 per cent of all fatal workplace accidents occur in the construction industry. This adds up to 60,000 deaths per year, or one death every 10 minutes. Construction workers also face serious health risks, such as those from exposure to asbestos, silica and hazardous chemicals. The report stresses the need for better planning and coordination in addressing safety and health issues on construction sites, as well as a stronger focus on prevention of work-related ill health and disease.

The same ILO report notes that two groups – younger workers aged 15-24 and older workers aged 55 and older – are statistically more likely to suffer certain types of work-related injuries than workers in other age groups.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/protection/safework/worldday/products05/report05.htm>



## 国际劳工组织

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北京（国际劳工组织新闻）- 4月28日为世界工作安全与健康日，一百多个国家的工人、雇主与政府和非政府机构一道共同举行庆祝活动。今年世界日有两个主题：建筑业的安全和预防；关注年青和老年工人工作中高事故发生率。据国际劳工组织估计，全球每年有220万人死于工伤事故和疾病，造成国民生产总值损失大约4%。

世界工作安全与健康日，前身为工人纪念日，已被全球工会运动广为倡导近十年。国际劳工组织于2001年确定这一世界日。纪念该世界日是要强调，通过促进预防为主的安全和健康文化，来减少职业事故和疾病。

为纪念今年的世界工作安全与健康日，4月28日上午，国际劳工组织北京局、国家安全生产监督管理局和建设部，联合召开“建设和谐社会，关注建筑施工安全”高层研讨会。当天下午，为配合世界日宣传，还将开展“世界工作安全与健康日-为首都建设者送安全”活动，届时在一个北京奥运场馆施工工地，向建筑工人赠送安全生产防护用品和图书资料。

国际劳工组织认为，由于长期采取鼓励政府、工人和雇主参与的政策，以及以劳动监察为后盾的、有效的健康和安全立法，工业化国家有了更加安全的工作场所，因而上世纪与工作相关的伤害事故大为减少。发展中国家可以借鉴发达国家的经验，提高工作场所健康和安全隐患的意识，注重预防。

国际劳工组织认识到，在世界上很多国家和地区，建筑业可以创造大量就业机会。但是，和其它行业相比，工作事故和疾病的发生率也居高不下。国际劳工组织为今年世界日准备的报告<sup>1</sup>称，有17%的因工死亡事故发生在建筑业。每年有6万人因工死亡，平均10分钟一例死亡。建筑工人还面临着严重的健康危害，有些人暴露于石棉、硅石和有害化学品的工作环境之下。报告强调，应对建筑工地安全健康问题给出更好的解决方案，同时着重预防因工健康不良和疾病的发生。

该报告还称，工作人群中15至24岁的年青工人和55岁以上的老工人，比其它年龄段的工人更容易受到因工伤害。

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/protection/safework/worldday/products05/report05.htm>