



Organisasi Perburuhan Internasional - Jakarta
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PRESS RELEASE

Combating Child Labour and Improving Occupational Safety and Health for Young Workers

JAKARTA (ILO News): Many small workshops have problems of low productivity, poor product quality, and marketing and finance barriers. The problems that limit business success often result from the same difficulties that make work hazardous for young people. All businesses can make positive changes that can easily lead to better product quality, improved working conditions, and a more competitive workshop.

Safer workplaces are more productive workplaces, with lower production costs and more positive atmospheres as well as fewer accidents and injuries. To further advance this issue, the ILO, in collaboration with the Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration and the National Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Council, is conducting a workshop on OSH in the informal sector titled “*Strengthening OSH Principles in Eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labour and in Protecting Young Workers in Indonesia*”, on Monday, 30 April 2007, at Acacia Hotel, Jakarta.

The workshop aims to build commitment and to reach a common understanding among all parties concerned with improving the OSH culture, particularly in the informal sector, and with combating child labour, particularly its worst forms. It also aims to develop new activities and programmes, particularly the formulation of technical guidance to ensure implementation of the 2003 Manpower Ministerial Decree on Jobs that Endanger the Safety, Health and Morals of Children.

In the workshop, the ILO is also introducing the booklet entitled “*Tips for Workshops with Young Workers: Smart Ways to Protect the Safety and Health of Young Workers*”. This booklet – which has been adapted to local conditions in Indonesia – provides tips on how to make simple, low-cost and practical improvements that are beneficial to all workers and will lead to business success.

The workshop is being held in conjunction with the commemoration of the World Day for Safety and Health at Work on 28th April.

This year's World Day has the theme, "Safe and healthy workplaces – making decent work a reality." It draws attention to the fact that it's not only having enough work that is important, the quality of work is also an issue.

It is estimated that about 2.2 million people worldwide die every year from work-related accidents and diseases. Annually, 270 million others suffer serious injuries and 160 million endure short or long term illness related to their work. The ILO began marking the World Day in 2001 as a way of bringing tripartite focus and awareness-raising to accident and ill-health prevention at work.