



Organisasi Perburuhan Internasional - Jakarta  
*International Labour Organization – Jakarta*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **ILO-Polri Train Police Officers on Industrial Relations in Seven Provinces**

JAKARTA (ILO News): The International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Indonesian National Police (Polri) have since 2003 trained a total of 739 police officers on fundamental principles and rights at work and the role of police in handling workers' strikes/demonstrations and company lock outs. The training was organized in North Sumatra, Greater Jakarta area, Central Java, West Java, East Java, DI Yogyakarta, Riau Islands, South Sulawesi and East Kalimantan.

These trainings were organized under the ILO's Police Training Project, which aims to assist in enhancing the institutional understanding and capacity of Polri in handling industrial disputes and implementing the ILO fundamental principles and rights at work. This is part of the transformation process towards the new industrial relations system in Indonesia.

The main role of the police in handling strikes, lockouts and industrial relations disputes in general is limited to the maintenance of law and order. Thus, police officers may not interfere in the negotiations relating to industrial relations disputes or take a partisan position on the side of either the employer or the workers/union.

Established in 2003, the first phase of the Project will conclude in September 2005. The closing ceremony will be held on Friday, 30 September, at Ruang Rapat Utama (Ruppataka), the Police Headquarters, in Jakarta. The Ceremony will be attended by the Chief of the Indonesian National Police, Police General Sutanto, Minister of Manpower and Transmigration, H.E. Fahmi Idris, US Ambassador for Indonesia, H.E. B. Lynn Pascoe, and Country Director of the ILO in Indonesia, Alan Boulton.

The Project is a part of a broader technical cooperation programme between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of Indonesia. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the ILO Project was signed on 26 February 2003 by the US Ambassador for Indonesia and the Chief of the Indonesian National Police.

In the event, the National Police Chief will present awards to the best three Provincial Police (North Sumatra, South Sulawesi and East Java) for their commitment in maintaining law and order in industrial dispute situations in a professional manner. In addition, around 27 master

trainers will also be appointed. These trainers are expected to be able to develop and conduct in-service training on police functions in their respective areas.

In addition to the trainings, the Project has also assisted Polri with the development of Guidelines on the Conduct of Indonesian National Police in Handling Law and Order in Industrial Disputes; developed a Police Training Manual on Fundamental Principles and the Role of the Police in Industrial Disputes; produced information and promotional materials; and produced a training video on handling strikes and demonstrations. The next challenge will be to widely disseminate and socialise the Guidelines and good practices and to ensure their implementation and application in practice.