



South Asia Labour Conference

Summary of Recommendations



Working Group No. 1

“Harmonizing Labour Laws”





Recommendations

Legal comparative **analysis** of labour legislation in selected areas with focus on effective harmonization, best practices and implementation

Bring **ratification** level of ILO conventions increasingly at par

Introduce **SAARC Labour Charter**



Working Group No. 2

Working Condition, Productivity & Competitiveness





Recommendations

Improve **compliance**, effectiveness and **implementation** of labour laws through consensus.

Strengthen institutional arrangements, **tripartite dialogue** and representation of industry and workers

Ensure **consistency** between international agreements (e.g. GSP+, FTA, BTIs) and implementation domestically

Address **barriers** to donor support for SAARC to engage at the regional level to promote working conditions, productivity and competitiveness

Increase **awareness** of labour laws



Working Group No. 3

“Labour Market Information for Evidence Based Policies & Laws”





Recommendations

National governments in South Asia should request that SAARC accord greater priority to labour and employment issues including **LMI** and strengthening of LMIs in the region.

Each SAARC country should identify a **focal department** / organization to have responsibility for developing and strengthening each national LMIS.

National LMIS focal agency should **develop national action plans** that include priorities for LMIS development including capacity building needs.



Working Group No. 4

“Labour Migration”





Recommendations

Labour Migration should be on the SAARC **agenda** with more frequent labor migration meetings for the workers.

Training, regularization and annual grading of recruitment agencies

Research on labour market/migration issues

Joint mechanism should be evolved to facilitate and create awareness of **employment opportunities** abroad for youth.



Working Group No. 5

“Occupational Safety & Health”





Recommendations

Speedy enactment of separate, unified **fire and OSH legislation**, covering all workers in both formal and informal sectors.

Promotion of **cooperation** and **sharing** of OSH knowledge and good practices amongst SAARC region and other countries.

Development and implementation of OSH **policies & management systems** at both national and enterprise level in line with ILO conventions & guidelines.

Development and standardization of OSH **curricula**



Working Group No. 6

“Social Protection”





Recommendations

Promote the agenda for national **floors** of social protection (ILO R 202), ensuring universal access to **essential health care** and **basic income security**.

Countries should call on the relevant SAARC bodies to formulate a mechanism to support **knowledge generation**

Set-up a **working group** under the SAARC mechanism



Working Group No. 7

“Protection of Vulnerable Workers (CL, BL, Women)”





Recommendations

Consistent and inclusive **terminology**, definitions related to children, women and the third gender

South Asian **advocacy** campaigns

Establish an inter-governmental Working Group/ **Apex Body** on the Promotion of Decent Work in South Asia



SALC recommendations in...





Key words

- ✓ Knowledge creation and sharing
- ✓ Ratification and implementation of ILS
- ✓ Harmonization and coherence of definitions
- ✓ Social dialogue
- ✓ Capacity Building
- ✓ Identify good models with a view of replication
- ✓ Governance and E-Governance
- ✓ Efficiency in resource allocation
- ✓ Role of SAARC



*Thank
You*