

National Dialogue on the Elimination of Violence and Harassment in the World of Work in Nepal

Friday, 25 June, 2021, 10:00-12:00, Kathmandu (UTC/GMT+5.45 hours)



1. Background

Violence and harassment, particularly gender-based violence remains a huge problem affecting women disproportionately and it has negative impacts in the world of work. Violence and harassment are unacceptable and should not be tolerated anywhere and at any time including in times of crisis. Violence and harassment need to be eliminated for realizing sustainable development and decent work for all.

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, increased cases of violence and harassment have been reported. As we work towards realizing a better normal post COVID-19 pandemic, action against the COVID-19 infection and violence and harassment must go hand in hand.

The ILO Convention on Violence and Harassment, No. 190 (2019) adopted at the International Labour Conference in 2019 will enter into force on 25 June 2021. Recognizing this important milestone, a webinar to promote awareness on Convention No. 190 will be organized on 25 June 2021. The webinar will be hosted by the ILO Kathmandu and the C190 Action Group, which has members from the government, employers' and workers' organizations with the support from ILO/Japan Fund for Building Social Safety Nets in Asia and the Pacific.

2. Objectives

The webinar will have a particular focus on violence and harassment in the world of work in the health sector, which has been overburdened by the COVID-19 crisis. Realizing a world of work free from violence and harassment for those engaged in the health sector is critical. The webinar will feature key speakers from the health sector and present findings of a study on violence and harassment in the health sector in Nepal which was completed before the start of the pandemic.

The webinar will elicit a call for a renewed commitment and ambitious actions to accelerating progress to prevent, address and end violence and harassment in the world of work for all.

Time	Programme Agenda	
10:00-10:05	Opening Remarks	Mr. Richard Howard, Director, ILO
Session 1: How C190 guides us towards a world of work free from violence and harassment?		
10:05-10:15	Relevance of C190 to free world of work from violence and harassment, especially in COVID-19 context	Ms Aya Matsuura, ILO Gender Specialist, ILO Decent Work Team/Delhi
10:15- 10:20	National context (policies and political commitment)	Hon. Ms. Binda Pandey, Former Member of Parliament, House of Representative
Session 2: Violence and harassment in the world of work in Nepal with focus on the health sector		
10:20-10:35	Sharing of the findings of a survey on understanding incidences of violence and harassment in the health sectors in Bagmati Province	Dr. Rabita Shrestha Mulmi, Nepal Development Research Institute (NDRI)
10:35-10:40	Key problems faced by workers in health sector during COVID-19	Ms. Sharmila Thapa, GEFONT and C190 Action Group member
10:40-10:45	How workers' organizations can collaborate to address violence and harassment in the world of work?	Mr. Jagat Simkhada, President, Joint Trade Union Coordination Center (JTUCC)
10:45-10:50	Challenges and possible solutions to eliminate harassment and violence at workplaces.	Mr. Shekhar Golchha, President, Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FNCCI)
10:50-10:55	Comments by the Ministry of Health and Population (MoHP)	Ms. Roshani Devi Karki, Under Secretary, Section Chief: GESI in Ministry of Health and Population
Session 3: Forging partnerships towards C190 ratification and beyond		
10:55-11:00	How the work of the International Development Partner (IDPG)/Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) group can be expanded to address violence and harassment in the world of work.	Ms. Eloisa ASTUDILLO FERNANDEZ, Deputy Head of Cooperation, the European Union Delegation to Nepal and Co-Chair of IDPG GESI group
11:00 -11:05	Strengthening National Coalition to ratify C190 in Nepal	Mr. Sabin Shrestha, Executive Director, Forum for Women, Law and Development (FWLD)
11:05-11:10	Outcome of the Policy Workshop on C190 organized by CARE International and Homenet	Mr. Om Thapaliya, Executive Director, Home-net Network,
11:10-11:20	Sharing of its on-going and future work	C190 Action Group representative
11:20 -11:50	Call for Actions on Free World of Work from Violence and Harassment	C190 Action Group member
11:50-11:55	Comments by Ministry of Labour, Employment & Social Security	Mr. Purushottam Adhikari, Under Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Employment & Social Security
11:55 -12:00	Next steps and closing	Ms. Bina Kunwar Thapa, Senior Programme Officer, ILO