

PROGRAMME

Responding to the Economic Crisis – Coherent Policies for Growth, Employment and Decent Work in Asia and the Pacific

**InterContinental Hotel Manila, Philippines
18-20 February 2009**

High-level Regional Forum convened by the ILO, with support from the Government of Norway, in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank and the Department of Labor and Employment of the Philippines

Wednesday, 18 February 2009 (Bahia Room, 14th floor)

08:30-09:00 **Registration**

09:00-09:30 **Opening remarks**

Emcee: Ms Linda Wirth, Director, ILO Subregional Office, Manila

- Hon. Marianito D. Roque, Labor Secretary, Department of Labor and Employment of the Philippines
- His Excellency Stale Torstein Risa, Ambassador of Royal Norwegian Embassy to the Philippines
- Sharad S. Patil, Secretary General, The Employers' Federation of India
- Noriyuki Suzuki, General Secretary, ITUC-AP

09:30-10:30 **Setting the scene**

Emcee: Ms Linda Wirth, Director, ILO Subregional Office, Manila

Coherent Policies for Inclusive Growth and Decent Work -- Challenges of the Global Economic Slowdown in Asia

Ursula Schaefer-Preuss, Vice-President for Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development, Asian Development Bank

The global financial crisis, employment challenges, and reform priorities

Jomo Kwame Sundaram, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General on Economic Development and Member of the Commission of Experts on Reforms of the International Monetary and Financial System

The fallout in Asia: Assessing labour market impacts and national policy responses to the global financial crisis

Sachiko Yamamoto, Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific, ILO

10:30-11:00 **Coffee Break**

ILO Press Briefing (Dasmariñas room, 2nd floor)

11:00-12:30 **Roundtable discussion: The impact of the global financial crisis on the economy and society in Asia and the Pacific**

Chairperson: Stephen Pursey, Director, Policy Integration and Statistics Department and Senior Advisor to the Director-General, ILO

- Hon. Khandker Mosharraf Hossain, Minister of Labour and Employment, Bangladesh
- Tang Min, Deputy Secretary General, China Development Research Foundation
- Gil Beltran, Undersecretary, Department of Finance, Philippines
- Taro Muraki, Assistant Minister for International Affairs, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare, Japan
- Qazi Sajid Ali, Managing Director, BASF Pakistan (Private) Limited
- Yoo, Jung – Yup, Director, Policy Bureau, Federation of Korean Trade Unions
- Nieves Confesor, OIC-Associate Dean of the Center for Development Management, Asian Institute of Management, Manila

Discussion

12:30-14:00 **Lunch**

14:00-15:00 **Country perspectives on macroeconomic policy, fiscal stimulus and employment: The challenge for large developing economies**

Chairperson: To be confirmed

- Komara Djaja, Secretary, Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs, Indonesia
- Dic Lo, University of China, Beijing, and School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London, and Wang Yadong, Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security, China

Discussion

15:00-16:00 **Policy trade-offs and the need to balance economic and social concerns**

Chairperson: Felix Mark Anthony, National Secretary, Fiji Trade Union Congress

- Josef T. Yap, President, Philippines Institute for Development Studies
- Nguyen Thi Lan Huong, Director-General, Institute of Labour Science and Social Affairs, Viet Nam
- Jaweed Akhter, Additional Secretary, Planning and Development Division, Ministry of Planning and Development, Pakistan

Discussion

16:15-16:45 **Coffee Break**

16:45-18:00 **The lessons from the previous crisis**

Chairperson: Teh Sing, Vice President, Cambodian Federation of Employers and Business Associations

- Ammar Siamwalla, Distinguished Scholar, Thailand Development Research Institute



Wednesday, 18 February 2009 (Bahia Room, 14th floor)

- Jomo Kwame Sundaram, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General on Economic Development and Member of the Commission of Experts on Reforms of the International Monetary and Financial System
- Wee Chong Hui, University Teknologi Mara Sarawak, Malaysia

Discussion

18:00 **Group Photo**

18:00-20:00 **Reception (Ballroom)**

Thursday, 19 February 2009 (Bahia Room, 14th floor)

09 :00-10 :00 **Panel discussion I – Building an effective social floor**

Chairperson: Somboon Subsarn, Deputy General Secretary, State Enterprise Workers' Relation Confederation of Thailand

- Tang Min, Deputy Secretary General, China Development Research Foundation
- Reetika Khera, Delhi School of Economics, India
- Amelita King Dejardin, Policy Integration and Statistics Department, ILO

Discussion

10:00-10:30 **Coffee Break**

10:30-12:00 **Panel discussion II – Sectoral policies**

Chairperson: M. A. Baset, Member of the Committee, Bangladesh Employers Federation

- Rana Hasan, Economics and Research Department, ADB
- Kim Phalla, Deputy Director, Economic and Public Finance Policy Department of Cambodia
- Pang Chau Leong, Deputy Director General, Department of Skills, Ministry of Human Resources, Malaysia

Discussion

12:00-13:30 **Lunch**



- 13:30-14:30 **Panel discussion III – Mechanisms to strengthen policy coherence**
- Chairperson:* Malik Asif Hayat, Secretary, Ministry of Labour, Manpower and Overseas of Pakistan
- Debapriya Bhattacharya, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Bangladesh in Geneva and President of UNCTAD’s Trade and Development Board
 - Jehan Arulpragasam, Human Development Coordinator, World Bank, Philippines
 - Peter Bakvis, Director, ITUC/ Global Unions
- Discussion
- 14:30-14:45 **Breakout groups – Focusing on the policy areas discussed in the previous sessions**
- Introduction to the parallel breakout groups
- 14:45-15:15 **Coffee Break**
- 15:15-17:30 **Breakout groups**
- Key topics**
- Priorities for coherent national policies
 - Priorities for regional action
 - The role of social dialogue
 - The role of multilateral institutions

Friday, 20 February 2009 (Bahia Room, 14th floor)

- 09:00-09:45 **Reporting back of breakout groups**
- Moderator:* Nieves Confesor, OIC-Associate Dean of the Center for Development Management, Asian Institute of Management, Manila
- 09:45-11:00 **Tripartite panel discussion – Critical policy responses**
- Moderator:* Nieves Confesor, OIC-Associate Dean of the Center for Development Management, Asian Institute of Management, Manila
- Komara Djaja, Senior Advisor for Legal and Institutional Affairs, Coordinating Ministry of Economic Affairs Office, Indonesia
 - M.A. Baset, Member of the Committee, Bangladesh Employers Federation
 - Nazrul Islam Khan, President, Bangladesh Jatyatabadi Sramik Dal



11:00-11:30

Closing session

Emcee: Ms Linda Wirth, Director, ILO Subregional Office, Manila

- Ursula Schaefer-Preuss, Vice-President for Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development, ADB
- Sachiko Yamamoto, Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific, ILO
- Stephen Pursey, Director, Policy Integration and Statistics Department and Senior Advisor to the Director-General, ILO
- Hon. Luzviminda Padilla, Undersecretary, Department of Labor and Employment of the Philippines

