

«Copie»

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**15th Asia and the Pacific Regional Meeting
Kyoto, Japan, 4-7 December 2011**

«Politesse»,

It is my pleasure to invite your country to be represented at the *15th Asia and the Pacific Regional Meeting* of the International Labour Organization which will be held from **Sunday, 4 to Wednesday, 7 December 2011** in Kyoto, Japan at the Kyoto International Conference Center (ICC Kyoto). As you will be aware, this Meeting was originally planned for April this year but was postponed following the devastating earthquake and tsunami that struck Japan.

My Report to the meeting entitled *Building a sustainable future with decent work in Asia and the Pacific*, copies of which were already transmitted before the postponement, will provide a basis for the discussions. It sets out the challenges of realizing decent work across Asia and the Pacific, mindful of the region's great diversity, the rapidly changing social, economic and political developments in the Middle East and the impact of natural disasters that have hit this region hard. It also reflects the pressing need to reinforce action to help realize the aspirations of young people for decent and productive employment. A central message is that decent work strategies embracing employment and social protection, fundamental principles and rights at work and social dialogue, must be integral elements of strategies for sustainable development and growth with social justice.

In view of the circumstances, a supplement to the report will be issued reflecting challenges that have emerged and milestones reached since the original publication. It will be placed on the Meeting Website well in advance of the Meeting. I encourage you to visit the Website at www.ilo.org/aprm2011. Copies of the supplementary report will also be available at the Meeting.

At this juncture, I wish to reiterate my earlier appeals to the Governments of member States, as well as to national organizations of employers and workers, to redouble their efforts to ensure that women comprise **30 per cent** of the delegation, while working towards the ultimate aim of parity.

--- I enclose the *Rules for Regional Meetings*, 2008, as well as a form for the submission of credentials, which should be duly completed and returned to the Office as early as possible.

Fuller details of the Meeting, including the provisional programme, practical and visa-related information and the list of hotels at which pre-bookings have been made, will be sent to you at a later date.

The ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific and the Regional Office for Arab States are at your disposal to provide any additional information you may need beyond that which is provided on the Meeting Website.

The *15th Asia and the Pacific Regional Meeting* has before it the crucial task of assessing the progress made in the implementation of the Asia Decent Work Decade 2006-2015 and giving form to the ILO's programme for the region in the years to come. The strong and active participation of our member States is indispensable to the success of this regional meeting.

I very much hope that I shall have the pleasure of welcoming you to this important Meeting in Kyoto.

Yours sincerely,

«Sig»

Juan Somavia
Director-General

ANNEXES
Form for credentials
Rules for Regional Meetings (2008)