

"ASEAN Youth Employment Forum"

13 May 2013, Semarang, Indonesia

Recommendations

Recognising the increased attention to the subject of youth employment worldwide including within the ASEAN Member States;

Considering the ILO Resolution 2012 "The youth employment crisis: A call for action";

Referring to the ASEAN Labour Ministers Work Programme for 2010-2015;

The ASEAN Forum on Youth Employment held in Semarang - Indonesia on 13 May 2013, concluded that the subject is relevant for advancing decent work towards caring and sharing communities of ASEAN Member States.

Realising youth employment is a major challenge in ASEAN, while considerable efforts already take place in the different Member States, regional cooperations in this field should be enhanced to complement the national programs.

In addition to various experiences in tackling youth unemployment, the Meeting concluded that there is a need for more specific collaborative programs concerning: transition from school to work, employment services including job matching system for new graduates, workforce migration, access to social protection floor and other country-specific activities.

As a follow-up to the Forum, the following recommendations are provided:

- Promote renewed integrated programs designed to create more and better jobs for young people in the ASEAN Member States;
- Initiate regular labour market signalling activity within and among ASEAN Member States that is aimed at generating responsive labour market information, particularly on youth employment including the

production of reliable statistics that help capture the transition of youth from school to work.

- Promote career guidance advocacy as an effective strategy to expose young people to the realities of the labour market that would enable them to have a more informed career decision.
- Encourage efforts to improve youth labour market information, including with reliable statistics that help capture the transition from school to work;
- Promote youth employability through the improved relevance and quality of training provision which is aligned with industry demands, including well-regulated and structured apprenticeship programmes that facilitate career development of young people;
- Foster entrepreneurship development in ASEAN Member States and to strengthen market linkages;
- Share countries' knowledge on successful policies and programmes for youth employment among ASEAN Member States;
- Increase young people's awareness of their rights at work, including the impact of labour migration in the region with particular focus on the protection of lower-skilled migrants.
- Continue sharing of information and exchange of views at the regional level to promote youth employment in ASEAN, possibly with the involvement of education and youth sectors
- Promote access for social protection floors in ASEAN Member States
- Initiate ASEAN youth employment index which will serve for corrective measure and policy to raise competition in the quality of employment policy between the ASEAN Member States.
