



International
Labour
Organization



Briefing Notes for Journalists

What:

National Tripartite Dialogue on Maternity Protection in Zambia

- This High-Level Conference – First-of-its kind in the SADC region - is gathering leaders, policymakers and experts from Zambia and beyond.
- The Interactive Sessions – organized in collaboration with the International Labour Organization (ILO) – will include key participants from the Key Line Ministries of Zambia, UN agencies, Development Partners, Diplomatic representations, trade unions, the private sector, NGOs working on maternity protection based in Zambia.
- The key objectives of this dialogue process are to strengthen consensus around the ratification of Convention 183 on Maternity Protection, foster commitment for the successful implementation of a Roadmap by all stakeholders.
- Testimonies and success stories, best practices and concrete projects implemented on the ground will be shared during roundtables and key panel sessions.

When:

- 27-28 March 2013
- The National Tripartite Dialogue on Maternity Protection will be followed by the 9th Ordinary Session of the Labour and Social Affairs Commission of the African Union in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 08 to 12 April 2013 under the theme: “Enhancing the capacity of Labour Market Institutions in Africa”.

Where:

- New Government Complex, Lusaka, Zambia. From 08:30 am to 05:30 pm. Sessions are open to Journalists and Correspondents including the registration/opening ceremony at 08:00 am on 27 March 2013.

Who:

- About 100 participants including the First Lady and Ministers of the Government of Zambia, High-Level Officials, Diplomats based in Lusaka, Directors, Senior Representatives of Workers' and Employers' Organizations, NGOs, etc.
- H.E. Dr. Christine Mwela Kaseba-Sata, First Lady of the Republic of Zambia
- VIPs – full list available upon request

Why:

- The rationale behind this innovative forum for policy debate is three-fold:
 1. To promote a strong national ownership of the process of ratification
 2. Ratification of Convention N 183 can help Zambia to take a decisive step toward protecting mothers and newborns
 3. To speed up women's social and economic empowerment
- To mobilize strategic partnership for inclusive and sustainable maternity protection and development processes: Towards ratification (and domestication) of Convention 183 in Zambia.

For further information, interview requests and photo ops, please contact:

Mr. Major Banda, ILO Country Office in Lusaka: banda@ilo.org

Tel: + 260 (1) 252 779 – www.ilo.org/lusaka

Mr. Guebray Berhane, ILO Regional Office for Africa: guebray@ilo.org

Tel: + 251/115-444415 or + 251/911-218115 – www.ilo.org/africa