Tripartite knowledge sharing workshop on assessing and addressing the effects of trade on employment, 8-12 August 2010, Dhaka

ILO- Dhaka, Ministry of Labour and Employment and ITC-ILO Jointly organized a five day knowledge sharing workshop from 8-12 August 2010 at Pan Pacific Sonargaon in Dhaka. The workshop intended to enhance the capacity of the government officials, trade unions and employers on understanding the issues related to trade and employment. The workshop was organized through the ILO project “Assessing and Addressing the Effects of Trade on Employment (ETE)” funded by the European Union.

The Honorable Minister for Ministry of Labour and Employment and Expatriates’ Welfare and Overseas Employment was present as the Chief Guest of the inaugural ceremony, while H.E Ambassador, European Union Delegation to Bangladesh, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Secretary General, Bangladesh Employers Federation and Chairman, NCCWE were present as the special guests. ILO Director
a.i. delivered the welcome speech whilst Chief Technical Advisor of ETE project made a brief presentation of the project. The inaugural session was chaired by Secretary, Ministry of Labour and Employment.

The opening ceremony was followed by a high level tripartite panel presentation on Trade Liberalization and Labour Market: Opportunities and Challenges for Bangladesh. A panel of experts comprised of Mr. Md. Ghulam Hussain, Secretary, Ministry of Commerce, Mr. Syed Manzoor Elahi, Chairman, Apex group and Mr. Roy Ramesh Chandra, representative, NCCWE presented key notes in the session which was followed by open discussion.

Issues like trade theory and evidences, trade policies and labour market policies of Bangladesh, impact assessment of trade on employment, trade and growth nexus – were discussed in different technical sessions. Thirty four participants from various agencies such as Ministry of Labour and Employment, Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Commerce, Economic Relations Division, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, Bangladesh Foreign Trade Institute, Export Promotion Bureau, Bangladesh Employers Federation as well as trade unions participated in the training.