

# 90 Years

## Working for Social Justice

This year the ILO and its members celebrate the 90th anniversary of the Organization's formation in 1919. The ILO is the oldest specialized agency in the United Nations (which was formed in 1946) and the only surviving major creation of the 1919 Treaty of Versailles. In Asia and the Pacific, as in other regions, ILO's 90th anniversary (ILO 90) was marked by a wide range of high level activities held during the week of 21 April 2009.

In Indonesia, the ILO in collaboration with its tripartite constituents—governments, workers and employers—marked the anniversary with a nation-wide series of activities, organised under the slogan "90 years working for social justice". These activities included: a tripartite dialogue, a national youth employment conference, a national workshop on tackling the avian flu epidemic through workplace education, photo exhibitions, broadcast specialized-events, and a futsal tournament.



# Tripartite Dialogue



# on the Role and Contribution of the ILO



**H**eld on Wednesday, 22 April, this Tripartite Dialogue focused on the role and contribution of the ILO in assisting Indonesia to move forward with strengthened labour laws, improved industrial relations, employment, labour inspection, tripartism/social dialogue as well as labour statistics, research and training, to ensure proper and effective implementation of labour laws, regulations and policies. The dialogue also covered the work of the ILO's tripartite partners in promoting social justice and decent work in Indonesia.

"In the last 90 years the ILO has played a vital role in many workplace improvements that we now take for granted, including the 6 day week, the basic eight hour day, and the right to organize," said Alan Boulton, Country Director of the ILO in Indonesia. "ILO 90 comes during a global economic and employment crisis. It underscores the importance of promoting social justice and a fairer system of globalization, and shows that the work of the ILO is as relevant today as it has ever been".

In his opening remarks, the Minister of Manpower and Transmigration, Erman Suparno, highlighted the importance of the international labour standards and how the standards play an important role as the basis for the development of the national labour law at the country level. "The ILO has adopted many international labour standards that influenced labour laws and regulations in many countries. However, taking into consideration the current globalization, the ILO needs to reform its vision and mission so that the Organization can play a more important role at the international level to ensure the rights of workers."

The role of the ILO in Indonesia was further discussed by the tripartite panels which included: Myra Hanartani, Director General of Industrial Relations, Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration; Sofjan Wanandi, Chairman of the Indonesian Employers' Association (Apindo); and Thamrin Mosii, President of KSPSI. The tripartite constituents recognized the important role of the ILO in Indonesia in promoting social dialogue.

According to the panels, the ILO's support for freedom of association should remain a priority, considering the recent development of the global crisis and growing occurrence of contracted and outsourced workers. They also suggested that the ILO should play a more active role in the area of employment.

# Youth Employment





# Conference 2009



To tackle challenges of youth employment and facilitate more effective government planning, the ILO in collaboration with The Indonesia Youth Employment Network (IYEN) organized a two-day Youth Conference titled "Promoting Youth Employment: It is Everybody's Business", on Thursday - Friday, 23 - 24 April, in Jakarta. Targeted at policy makers and practitioners, the Conference highlighted the practical experiences stemming from good practices across Indonesia that help young people gain access to decent and productive work.

The Conference also covered various practical issues on youth employment, such as preparing youth for work through support to vocational training; job and education career counselling, apprenticeship programme, fostering youth entrepreneurship; and improving access to decent and productive employment opportunities for youth.

Achieving decent work for youth, said Dr. Komara Djaya, Coordinator of the Joint Secretariat of IYEN, is a challenge shared by all countries across the world but it is an especially big challenge for Indonesia. "This Conference played an important role in renewing commitments of stakeholders to tackling youth unemployment, in revitalizing the secretariat of IYEN, intensifying cooperation among relevant stakeholders, as well incorporating youth employment issues into the government's policies."

# PHOTO Exhibitions

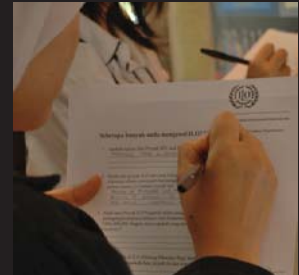
**T**wo photo exhibitions were conducted in conjunction with the celebration of the ILO 90. The exhibitions aimed to raise interest in and awareness of the public in regard to issues relating to the world of work. They were also meant to be a forum for silent social dialogue and reflection among all stakeholders in promoting and realizing decent work for all in Indonesia.



**A** joint photo exhibition was organized with the Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration, “The Portrait of the World of Work in Indonesia” in the main lobby of the Manpower Ministry for three days from 22 – 24 April. Consisting of around 80 photos, the exhibition portrayed main activities of the Manpower Ministry to ensure better employment conditions for Indonesians, and provided a general portrait of the world of work in Indonesia.

The photo exhibition was officially opened by the Minister of Manpower and Transmigration, Erman Suparno. “The photo exhibition reflected the ongoing developments in the world of work in Indonesia,” he said.

**T**he ILO photo exhibition, “My Work, My World: A Portrait of Child Labourers in Indonesia”, was organized from 20 – 24 April at Menara Thamrin Building, Jakarta. The photos illustrated stories about children who start working at too early an age, depriving them of a proper childhood and the opportunities offered by education. They captured the diverse and colourful realities of child labourers.



# A Series of Workshops on Occupational

## Preventing the Spread of Transmitted Diseases in Workplace

The ILO, through its Avian Influenza and the Workplace Project, in collaboration with the three union confederations, organized a one-day workshop titled “Implementing Unions’ Initiatives on Occupational Safety and Health to Prevent the Spread of Transmitted Diseases at the Workplace” on 28 April in Jakarta. It was organized in conjunction with the commemoration of the World Day for Safety and Health at Work

“The call to protect workers against sickness, disease and injury arising out of employment has been at the heart of the ILO’s agenda. OSH is a human right and an integral part of a people-centred agenda for development. A healthy workforce and safe as well as productive enterprises are part of successful and sustainable development strategies,” said Peter van Rooij, Deputy Director of the ILO in Indonesia, emphasizing the importance of OSH at the workplace in his opening remarks.



The workshop was aimed to strengthen the capacities of unions and to encourage workers to play a more active role in the occupational safety and health (OSH) committees in their companies. It was also aimed to extend the POSITIVE training with preventive measures at the workplace to prevent the spread of transmitted diseases like avian influenza by integrating the avian influenza training materials into the POSITIVE programme.

POSITIVE stands for Participation-Oriented Safety Improvement by Trade Union Initiative. This programme has been developed to

promote action-oriented training in OSH by trade unions and includes initiatives for unions to contribute to improved work conditions, especially at plant level.

The workshop concluded with recommendations for workers to promote the POSITIVE approach to improve OSH culture in workplaces and businesses and to increase the attention towards occupational health, especially concerning preparations for

possible influenza pandemic at the workplace and at home

President of National OSH Council, Dr Harjono, said that OSH should not be considered as extra expenses. “OSH is the main component that supports the improvement of the companies’ productivity and we have to continue promoting OSH as culture of work at the workplace.”



# Safety and Health at Workplace

## Workplace Preparedness for Pandemic Influenza

**W**orkplaces have a vital role to play in the wider response to the influenza pandemic. It is crucial to find efficient and cost-effective interventions that limit the spread of influenza pandemic, mitigate its impact and provide better protection to both workers and employers.

To promote effective preventive measures, the ILO under its Avian Influenza and the Workplace Project, in collaboration with the Directorate of Occupational Health of Ministry of Health, organized a two-day workshop in Jakarta, from 30 April – 1 May, to discuss workplace preparedness for an influenza pandemic. “The workshop is in line with initiatives taken by the government as they have strengthened their efforts to mitigate the impact of this imminent pandemic,” said M. Bey Sonata, the Project Manager of the ILO’s Avian Flu Project.

This workshop aimed to develop recommendations on pandemic preparedness at workplaces, especially related to labour and social security regulations and workplace surveillance as well as infection control. These recommendations were expected to provide additional references in developing the workplace preparedness plan for influenza pandemic.

Attended by around 60 participants from various organizations, the workshop provided a forum for exchanging experiences and for dialogue to point the way forward in terms of the development and the implementation of the pandemic preparedness and responses at the workplaces. The workshop concluded with a draft of practical guidance on workplace infection control and surveillance.



## Youth Entrepreneurship: Challenges and Opportunities for Young People



**T**his interactive talkshow was conducted on Thursday, 16 April 2009, in Surabaya, East Java. It presented Dra. Made Dewi Anggraeni, Msi (MDA) (Head of Provincial Small Enterprises Office in Malang), Samurai

(Chair of Surabaya Entrepreneur Club) and Rolly Damayanti (the ILO's Programme Coordinator).

The talkshow aimed to raise awareness about youth entrepreneurship as an employment option that can be chosen by young women and men to generate income and decent employment. It

also aimed to provide an interactive discussion for participants to share and discuss issues related to opportunities and challenges for young women and men to start a sustainable business.

## Tackling Child Trafficking in North Sumatera



**T**he reports of child trafficking are alarming. Many of the trafficked children, mostly girls, have ended up being trafficked for labour purposes and even sexual exploitation. To further discuss child trafficking in North Sumatera, the ILO organized an interactive talkshow titled "Tackling Child Trafficking" on Tuesday, 28 April in Medan, North Sumatera.

The talkshow presented Elisabeth J. Perangin-angin (Chair of Yayasan Pusaka Indonesia), Elmawati (Child Services Unit, North Sumatera Police), Enny Suryana Lubis (North Sumatera Women's Empowerment) and Edy Sunarwan (the ILO's Local

# Broadcast-Events



Coordinator on Child Labour Programme). The goal of the talkshow was to help the public at large, in particular children, to be more aware of the potential dangers of trafficking when entering the world of work, and how to ensure that if they choose to migrate, that they can do so safely.

## The Impact of Financial Crisis to Indonesian Migrant Workers in East Java

To further discuss the impact of the crisis on Indonesian migrant workers, the interactive talkshow titled “The Impact of the Financial Crisis to Indonesian Migrant Workers, in particular in East Java” was held on Wednesday, 22 April in Surabaya, East Java. It presented M. Cholily (Chairman of East Java Migrant Workers Union), Heri Pratono (Lecturer of University of Surabaya), and Albert Y. Bonasahat (the ILO’s Programme Coordinator on Migrant Workers).

The talkshow was designed to raise awareness about the impact of the financial crisis on Indonesia as the second largest exporter of labour after the Philippines. It also discussed the roles of national and local governments, non-governmental organizations and local communities in mitigating the impact of the crisis on the migrant communities (premature termination and deportation) in Indonesia, in particular in East Java, and highlighted ongoing programmes and good practices which were addressing the needs of affected migrant workers and their families.



“In times of economic crisis, migrant workers are often the group of workers most vulnerable to adverse impacts, as they tend to have the most insecure terms of employment. To mitigate the impact of the crisis, the interactive discussion concluded with the need for the government to implement an entrepreneurship programme, targeting returned migrant workers and their families,” explained Albert Y. Bonasahat of the ILO.



# ILO Futsal Tournament



**T**en teams participated in the ILO futsal tournament, including teams representing Indonesia's three union confederations, the Indonesian employers' organisation, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration, the Alliance of Indonesian Journalists and the ILO Jakarta. The official kick-off of the tournament was done by the President of the Confederation of All-Indonesian Trade Unions, Syukur Sarto, and the ILO Director for Indonesia, Alan Boulton, with about 200 people in attendance. The teams competed in the day-long tournament, competing with each other to be the best of the tri-partite stakeholders. After many hard-fought but always friendly matches the trophy was awarded to the Ministry of Manpower as they set the record by winning all their games against the other nine opponents.