



International Commission on Occupational Health - ICOH  
Commission Internationale de la Santé au Travail - CIST

Founded in 1906 as Permanent Commission



## World Day for Safety and Health at Work: 28 April 2010

*The International Commission on Occupational Health (ICOH) calls for reinforced actions for developing occupational health and safety programmes meeting the changing needs at the workplace in globalizing economy*

The world of work is changing rapidly. The globalizing economy brings new challenges to health and safety at work. Renewed international cooperation is urgent to meet the changing needs at the workplace for protecting workers' health and safety. Coherent and comprehensive occupational health and safety programmes should be developed to address both traditional and emerging risks at work in increasingly diversifying working situations.

In addition to the introduction of new technologies and chemicals, increasing time pressures at work and the need for continuous competence building, the diversifying working situations including many non-regular employment and small-scale and informal workplaces pose new challenges for us all. The emphasis of occupational health and safety is increasingly placed on proactive risk assessment and control and active participation of employers and workers in the implementation of concrete changes in working conditions and improvements in workers' health. Meeting the challenges will surely contribute to effective mobilization of competent and healthy workforces and to quick recovery from economic crisis.

ICOH calls for all stakeholders and relevant professionals to join efforts for continuously upgrading occupational health and safety programmes and promoting workers' health in order to meet the changing needs at the workplace in the globalizing economy.

ICOH is pleased to join with all the partners in commemorating the workers who have lost their lives from occupational accidents and diseases in the past. As occupational safety and health is needed today more than ever, we want to encourage decision-makers to strengthen research and service programmes on occupational health as well as other social and educational programmes and infrastructures.

ICOH warmly congratulates the ILO on its 91st Anniversary and its leadership role in the improvement of conditions of work and social justice throughout the world. We extend our sincere gratitude for excellent collaboration during these 91 years and call upon further collaboration for strengthening occupational health and safety programmes to adequately meet the changing needs at the workplace worldwide.

Dr. Kazutaka Kogi

President of the International Commission on Occupational Health (ICOH)