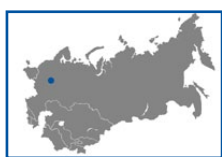


ILO Decent Work Technical Support Team and Country Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia

#4⁽⁵⁹⁾ December 2014

Youth employment in the CIS discussed in St Petersburg



Within the framework of the project “Partnerships for Youth Employment Project in the CIS”, a Peer Review Conference was conducted in St Petersburg

on October 13-17. The project is implemented by the ILO Moscow Office in partnership with Russian oil company LUKOIL. During the event representatives of the two countries that have successfully pioneered the Peer Review exercise – Armenia and Kyrgyzstan – analyzed each other's youth employment policies and identified best practices.

The CIS countries are facing similar youth employment challenges as a result of continuing economic hardship. ILO's Youth Employment Project aims to support the Governments and social partners in the subregion in their search for good practices and models promoting job creation and youth employment. The ILO Moscow Office is supporting Peer Reviews on youth employment in nine countries of Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

Yuriy Pikhtovnikov, LUKOIL:
“The youth is our future, and thanks to this project we are able to unite our efforts under a global umbrella to share practices that are of benefit for all participating countries”.

High-level experts from the Ministries of Labour as well as representatives of social partners from eight countries of the CIS, Georgia, and two Russian regions (Republic of Kalmykia and Perm Region) took part in the conference. The event was opened by Mr Yuriy Pikhtovnikov, Head of Corporate Structure Development and Career Management Department at LUKOIL, and Ms Dimitrina Dimitrova, Director of the ILO Decent Work Technical Support Team and Country Office for Eastern Europe and Central Asia.

“The youth is our future, and thanks to this project we are able to unite our efforts under a global umbrella to share practices that are of benefit for all participating countries”, said Mr

Pikhtovnikov. He was supported by Ms Dimitrova, who stressed crucial role of tripartite cooperation in ensuring decent employment for young people. The Peer Review mechanism was an innovative example of how this could be achieved, she said.

Technical sessions were led by ILO's senior employment specialists from Geneva and the ILO Moscow Office, as well as by representatives of the ILO Development for Partnership Department (PARDEV), and the ILO Training Centre in Turin.

Youth employment challenges are of global nature and experiences of rapidly growing emerging economies are particularly valuable for the subregion. Therefore, representatives of BRICS countries were invited to attend the meeting and present their policies and practices on youth employment. Mr Juan Hunt, Deputy Director of PARDEV, emphasized the BRICS cooperation as a major platform to boost dialogue on decent work, as ILO and BRICS have joint priorities and share common values.

The participants discussed Kyrgyzstan's valuable experience of youth employment, analyzed in depth by their peers from Armenia. During lively deliberations useful recommendations on how to strengthen youth employment policies were put forward. Some particularly interesting suggestions came from the BRICS representatives, giving the audience a new angle on the examined issues. Mr Flávio José da Silva Costa, representative from the Ministry of Labour and Employment in Brazil, said, “the conference has set the Peer Review



exercise into the global perspective, thus opening up new horizons”.

The Conference programme included visits to the LUKOIL site in Vysotsk, the terminal for oil transit from land to sea, to a unique gas station located both on land and water, and to LUKOIL Severozapadnefteprodukt. The participants were familiarized with the company's technologies allowing to conduct industrial activities at the highest level of environmental protection, and presented measures undertaken by the company to recruit, educate and keep young workers from the nearby districts.

Participants expressed appreciation to the ILO and LUKOIL for organizing the conference and for the opportunity to exchange experience on such an important issue as youth employment. The main findings of the conference will be used in the next round of the Peer Review planned for early 2015 and will encourage countries of the subregion to introduce innovative policy approaches. ■



Azerbaijan creating commission to promote tripartite social dialogue



"Azerbaijan is creating the Tripartite Commission on Social and Economic Issues," Minister of Labour and Social Protection of Population Salim Muslimov told a seminar entitled **"Tripartite social dialogue: establishment of institutional framework"** on November 11.

The seminar was organized by the ILO in coordination with the Ministry of Labour and social partners.

"Such structures actively support the development and successful implementation of socio-economic policy and ensure labour and social rights in their countries," Muslimov said.

The chairman of the Azerbaijan Trade Unions Confederation, Sattar Mehbolliev, stressed importance of strengthening social partnership relations to guarantee labour and social rights in the country, adding that the creation of such a commission was the best leverage for this.

The creation of the commission was a consensus decision made by the tripartite partners, Secretary-General of the National Confederation of Entrepreneurs (Employers) of Azerbaijan, Natavan Mammadova, said, expressing the hope that the Tripartite Commission would be set up before the end of the year.



Systematization of social partnership relations to regulate social and labour relations was a proven method in international practice, the Deputy Director of the ILO Governance Department, Kamran Fannizadeh, said, adding that the ILO had always supported the creation of institutional framework on tripartite social dialogue in Azerbaijan. ■

On October 23, representatives of social security institutions from 15 countries, of Europe, the CIS and Baltic states finished up their discussion of problems emerging with the enhancement of quality and scalability of e-Services in social security as well as with the development of e-government.

The two-day seminar entitled e-Services in social security: enhancing quality and scalability was organized by the State Social Protection

Fund and the International Social Security Association.

Currently, 70 percent of Azerbaijan's population use the Internet what makes citizens' access to social services easier, participants in the seminar say, adding that the government bodies that have already been working to enhance the list of e-Services provided to the population have to make further efforts.

Taking part in the seminar were representatives of the ILO, the World Bank and other international organizations, as well as Azerbaijan's government bodies.

The ILO HQ was represented by Fabio Duran-Valverde, Senior Social Protection Specialist, Social Protection Department. ■



Kazakhstan ratifies ILO Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention



On October 20, Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev signed the law to ratify the ILO Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention, 2006 (No. 187).

The law was passed by the Majilis, lower house of Kazakhstan's parliament on September 10, and by the Senate on October 9.

At present, the government is making efforts to switch from the compensation- and cost-based occupational safety and health management model to modern occupational risk management system that makes it possible to translate into reality preventive approaches saving workers' health and to reduce costs related to unfavourable working conditions.

Minister of Health and Social Development Tamara Duisenova said Kazakhstan had created necessary conditions and prerequisites for ratifying this convention as the level of occupational risks remained high in the republic. According to the Statistics Agency, at the beginning of 2014 the number of workers exposed to dangerous working conditions reached 76,000.

The Convention envisages adoption of institutional measures for comprehensive and regular improvement of occupational safety and health to prevent work-related accidents, diseases and deaths.

The Convention has already been ratified by 31 member-states of the ILO. Russia and Moldova are on the list of ratifying countries on the CIS space.

The ILO Conventions enter into force one year after the instrument of ratification is registered by the Director-General of the International Labour Organization. ■

Source: www.kazpravda.kz



Russia ratifies ILO Tripartite Consultation Convention



On October 6, Russian President Vladimir Putin signed the law to ratify the ILO Tripartite Consultation

(International Labour Standards) Convention, 1976 (No. 144).

The federal law was adopted by the State Duma, lower house of Russia's parliament, on September 24 and by the Federation Council – on October 1.

The Convention aims to continue efforts towards building and developing labour relations in Russia.

The Convention envisages tripartite consultations among government representatives, employers and workers on social and labour issues, on examination of the International Labour Organization's conventions and recommendations, and on issues related to reports that must be submitted to the ILO.

The Convention will enter into force in the Russian Federation one year after the instrument of ratification is registered by the Director-General of the International Labour Office. ■

December 1 – World AIDS Day

Closing the gap



People living with HIV experience, on average, unemployment rates three times higher than the national average.

Closing the gap - the theme of this World AIDS Day - is a strong reminder that despite significant progress, we have left behind some populations at heightened risk of infection.

We can only achieve our goal of ending AIDS by 2030 if we effectively address their needs, which include decent jobs, respect for their labour rights and social protection coverage.

HIV-related discrimination, gender based violence and inequalities remain major obstacles to the uptake of HIV services, including testing. As of 2013, 19 million out

of an estimated 35 million people living with HIV worldwide — more than half — were unaware of their HIV status.

Responding to this challenge, the ILO launched the VCT@Work Initiative, in collaboration with UNAIDS and a range of partners. To date, the initiative has reached over one million workers and mobilized close to 500,000 to

undertake the HIV test, 37 per cent of whom are women. ■

Extracts from Statement by ILO Director-General Guy Ryder on World AIDS Day 2014

VCT@WORK
5 million workers by 2015
Together we can make it happen!

“Trade unions cannot stay indifferent to spread of HIV“

Galina Yefanova, director of Samara's Trade Union Training Centre, answered Newsletter's questions



Where did the idea to implement the project on prevention of HIV/AIDS and of discrimination against workers living with HIV come from?

This theme attracted our attention soon after the seminar jointly organized by the Federation of Inde-

pendent Trade Unions of Russia (FNPR), the ILO and the Academy of Labour and Social Relations in late 2012. Although I worked in a trade union organization, I as well as many ordinary citizens knew a little about the HIV infection. Fearing persecution and discrimination workers have no intention

to disclose their diagnosis to the society, even if they need help from trade union lawyers and labour relations experts. Meanwhile, the Samara region ranks Russia's second in HIV-infected persons. Every year the region registers 4,000 new HIV cases, most of them – among people of employable age. The Federation of Trade Unions of the Samara region expresses deep concern over infection statistics.

What experience do you plan to tap and what materials to use in the project?

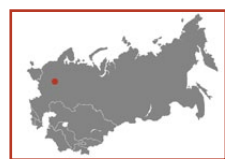
We have some experience. We had already conducted training workshops for trade union activists and could see they were really concerned over the problem of HIV. As for materials we actively use the ILO and FNPR guidelines. Moreover, our partners in the region

(AIDS centres, the Prosecutor's Office, the Ministry of Labour and the Ministry of Health) provide active support to us, as the HIV is our common problem.

How will this project be implemented?

The project includes several stages. At the first stage we had trained 25 trade union lawyers and technical inspectors as consultants and moderators. Today they can give constructive advice and recommendations to any worker who asks for help. We have undertaken an obligation to hold awareness raising seminars and training workshops in 200 organizations of the region next year. At last, the main and final stage is promotion of HIV/AIDS prevention policy at enterprises and inclusion of relevant provisions into collective bargaining agreements. ■

Workers of Kaluga, Sverdlovsk and Vologda regions' enterprises undertake voluntary and confidential HIV-testing



In the run-up to the World AIDS Day workers at enterprises of the Kaluga, Sverdlovsk and Vologda regions got an opportunity to undertake HIV counseling and testing at their workplaces. Thus, these two regions of Russia joined the ILO's global initiative *Voluntary and Confidential HIV Counselling and Testing (VCT@WORK)*.

In November HIV-testing sites were opened at the Obninsk research and production enterprise Tekhnologiya, the Sinarsky pipe plant in Kamensk-Uralsky and at the Vologda ball bearings plant in Vologda. Workers of these industrial enterprises could undertake voluntary and confidential HIV counselling and testing.

An awareness raising meeting was organized for 80 workers of one of Tekhnologiya's divisions. The interactive exhibition “Remember. Know. Live!” was opened at the Sinarsky pipe plant, while the Vologda ball bearings plant hosted the photo exhibition “In Positive Mood” that united Vologda's famous people who did not stay indifferent to HIV/AIDS-related problems.

“At all enterprises, where we hold events to promote HIV prevention, we also organize the interactive exhibition “Remember. Know. Live!” said Anzhelika Podymova, chief doctor at the Sverdlovsk region HIV/AIDS Centre. “Visitors of this exhibition go into a 40-minute story about the HIV-infection looking into its different aspects. They have an opportunity to ask questions, to realize their own risks and to take a well-balanced decision on the need of HIV-testing.”

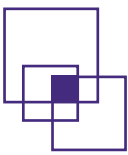
“The Kaluga, Sverdlovsk and Vologda regions expressed willingness to join this initiative,” said Ekaterina Ivanova, ILO Moscow Focal Point for HIV/AIDS and the World of Work for the Russian Federation. “At their workplaces adults can get and perceive basic information about the HIV-infection, think over possible risky situations and hereafter change their behavior. Every worker should realize that early disease identification allows to start treatment as early as possible and to reduce risks for everyone. Workers living with HIV should without hindrance implement their right to work.”



HIV-testing was organized at Sinarsky pipe plant

“We must support workers living with HIV, we must give a helping hand to them and provide active, good and real treatment, we must do our utmost to prevent discrimination against these people,” Tatyana Melnikova, chief doctor at the Vologda region HIV/AIDS centre, said, addressing participants in a roundtable meeting at the Vologda ball bearings plant. ■

Source: www.nashkamensk.ru, www.regnum.ru, www.severinfo.ru



In October countries of the region hosted several events within the framework of the ILO project “Applying the G20 Training Strategy” to upgrade vocational education and training systems.

The project implemented by the ILO in Armenia, Kyrgyzstan, Jordan and Vietnam is funded by the Russian Federation and aims to improve the vocational education and training in the target countries.

Tajikistan



Tajikistan's Ministry of Labour, Migration and Employment of Population hosted a round-table meeting to

discuss opportunities for upgrading training programmes and curricula in Tajikistan's vocational education system.



Taking part in the roundtable meeting were Project Chief Technical Adviser Jean Duronsoy and Project Coordinator Elena Kudriavtseva and experts of the Labour and Employment Agency at the Ministry of Labour, Migration and Employment of Population, Tajikistan's Adult Education Centre and the Republican Centre of Vocational Education.

Participants in the meeting stressed the need for carrying out large-scale express training

needs assessment in such key economic sectors as agriculture, energy and transport. ■

Kyrgyzstan



Bishkek's automotive college hosted a conference to disseminate best practices of tracer studies in 16 pilot vocational institu-

tions. Tracer studies were held to find out what occupations were in demand on Kyrgyzstan's labour market.

The event was organized by the European Training Foundation together and by the ILO in cooperation with Kyrgyzstan's Ministry of Education and Science, the Vocational Education and Training Agency, the ILO and the Forum for Educational Initiatives.

Vocational Education and Training providers, who participated in the development and piloting of the tracer study methodology shared experience with their colleagues and discussed future actions.

Moreover, participants in the conference had an opportunity to take part in interactive seminars, to review innovative concepts in teaching and learning and to visit a fair of innovative ideas.



The conference resulted in adopting a Recommendation on further actions to trace job placement of the TVET students. ■

Appointments



On 17 November Mr. John Blik joined the DWT/CO-Moscow in his capacity of the Enterprise Development Specialist. He graduated from the University of Nijmegen in the Netherlands where he studied Development Studies. Prior to this he graduated from the Business School of Zeeland (Netherlands), where he studied Marketing and Business Management.

In the period 2008-2014 he has gained vast international experience in supporting entrepreneurship and in providing technical advice on creating a business enabling environment for SMEs in 12 countries in three continents. This effort was realized in close coordination with entrepreneurial organizations and business associations of Belgium. In the same period John served as a member of the Board of Directors of the European Microfinance Platform.

Prior to that John Blik was an advisor on entrepreneurship and economic development in several Central American countries. During this period he, among other things, promoted social dialogue for the benefit of the entrepreneurial sector. He worked to strengthen the capacity of SMEs, cooperatives and business associations, also by providing policy advice on business enabling environment, business services and local economic development. He facilitated decent work opportunities through enterprise development.

His native language is Dutch. He is fluent in English and Spanish.

We welcome John in our team and wish him successful work! ■

Occupational safety and health in Russia: modernization of legislation



On December 10, Moscow hosted a practical conference entitled “Occupational safety and health (OSH) in Russia: main areas and practical results of legislation's modernization.”

At the conference that took place within the framework of the fourth All-Russian Construction Congress delegates – representatives of the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection, the State Duma, the Social Insurance Fund, the Association of Designers, Manufacturers And Suppliers of Personal Protective Equipment, etc. – discussed pressing issues of occupational safety and health, summed up the first results of the implementation of the law on special assessment of working conditions and exchanged opinions on how employers and workers should more effectively adjust to changes in the legislation.

The conference consisted of two sections focusing on Russia's OSH legislation, timely changes and trends and on employers and workers' rights, obligations and compliance with the OSH laws.



ILO Moscow Senior Labour Inspection and Occupational Safety and Health Specialist Valentin Mocanu was invited to the event to make a presentation on assessment and management of occupational hazards and ILO's perspective.

“I am confident that the tripartite debate regarding the development of new legislation in this field should offer the guarantee for effective implementation with positive results in creating better working conditions,” Valentin Mocanu said, adding that “occupational safety and health is one of the topics where the social dialogue is strongly promoted by ILO instruments.” ■

Georgian trade unions strengthen their education system



From October 30 to November 2 the Georgian Trade Unions Confederation hosted a workshop on the training of trade union

educators. Twenty-five representatives of the trade union education system participated in the workshop organized within the framework of technical cooperation with the ILO.

The workshop was targeted at fostering skills for organizing trade union trainings, in particular at developing and compiling teaching and learning aids for training trade unionists.

The president of the Georgian Trade Unions Confederation Irakli Petriashvili said Georgia's trade unions needed well-trained, motivated and devoted trade union educators.

Participants in the workshop demonstrated their guidance materials on such important for the



trade union movement topics as trade unions' role in strengthening social partnership and ensuring occupational safety and health, attraction of new members to trade unions, public relations and awareness raising work.

Ahead of the workshop trade unionists of Western Georgia gathered for a meeting to discuss new methods for encouraging trade union membership. The meeting was moderated by ILO Moscow Senior Specialist in Workers' Activities Sergeyus Glovackas and Director at

Moldova's Institute of Labour Vsevolod Barbaneagra.

On the last day of the workshop trainees showed presentations of their teaching tools developed in the course of the workshop and organized role playing games using methodical recommendations. All presentations were video-taped and then discussed.

Workshop trainees said sometimes they lacked experience of conducting team trainings and summarizing results of the activity. To hold a successful training they needed to have a good toolbox of methods for teaching adults, to constantly improve their teaching skills and to meet the demands of modern trade unions, they concluded.

Participants' skills made it possible to express confidence that most of them would be able on their own to organize and hold such trainings in their trade unions in the future, said Sergeyus Glovackas. ■

Seminar for women's network of Armenia's Confederation of Trade Unions



On September 23-25, the Pan-European Regional Council of the International Trade Union Confederation (PERC-ITUC) and the

International Labour Organization held in Armenia's resort Agveran a seminar focusing on the ILO's social conventions and collective bargaining for members of the women's network of the Confederation of Trade Unions of Armenia.



Deputy chair of the Confederation Boris Kharatyan briefed on the reforms carried out within the Confederation of Trade Unions of Armenia after its third congress.

ILO Moscow representative Ludmila Uskova placed a focus on the global problem of gender equality. At present, the notion 'gender equality' tops many discussions, she said, familiarizing participants in the seminar with gender equality related glossary.

PERC-ITUC adviser Olga Nicolae spoke about motivations of trade union membership, of women's role in trade unions and stressed the need for strengthening women's role in the society.

Head of the Confederation's law department Mikhael Piliposyan made a presentation about Armenia's Labour Code, focusing on the issues



of labour relations. Armenia has already ratified several international conventions and treaties containing provisions on gender equality.

Summing up the results of the seminar participants concluded that it was necessary to promote gender policy, enhance women's role at work and to encourage youth to join trade unions. ■

Fundamental principles and rights at work – seminar in Uzbekistan



On October 5, Uzbekistan's Samarkand Regional Association of Trade Union Organizations hosted a regional

seminar on fundamental principles and rights at work. The event was organized by the Council of the Federation of Trade Unions of Uzbekistan, the ILO and the Pan-European Regional Council of the International Trade Union Confederation (PERC-ITUC).

Participants in the seminar emphasized Uzbekistan's systematic efforts to implement the ILO child labour conventions and trade unions'

role in this process. PERC-ITUC adviser Anton Leppik and ILO officials Sergeyus Glovackas and Harry Taliga focused on internationally recognized rights of trade unionists, the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and mechanisms for its implementation and social dialogue.

"Participants' active involvement in discussions demonstrates they have sufficient knowledge and detailed information about the ILO conventions ratified by Uzbekistan," said Anton Leppik. "Work in this direction and its results deserve recognition."

ILO and PERC-ITUC experts also visited the Samarkand car manufacturer Samavto to get



acquainted with its occupational safety and health arrangements and working and leisure conditions, what was fixed in a collective agreement signed between the trade union organization and the employer. ■



Combating Child Labour in Central Asia. Commitment becomes Action



The ILO-IPEC Project “Combating Child Labour in Central Asia. Commitment becomes Action”

organized two sub-regional workshops for tripartite participants from Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkey and Uzbekistan. The main focus at the workshops was given to cooperation among governments, employers and trade unions in the elimination of child labour.

Yoshie Noguchi:
“It was a successful strategy to have an exchange of the good practices and to start building a sub-regional networking among the tripartite constituents interested in the elimination of child labour.”

The workshop on Good Practices held in Issykkul, Kyrgyzstan, on September 11-12 gave an opportunity to improve skills and knowledge and helped partners to exchange best practices for further possible replication. Participants could increase their awareness, knowledge and common understanding of child labour issues through the exposure to innovative good practices developed and applied in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkey. In this regard, presentation of Turkey's experience, a country with different context and background, was very useful. Participants explored the opportunity to create a regional knowledge network on the basis of the official website of the ILO DWT/CO Moscow Office.



The workshop on Reporting on Child Labour Conventions was organized in Baku, Azerbaijan, on October 6-7 and facilitated by experts from the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour under the Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work Branch of the ILO Governance and Tripartism Department – Ms. Snezhana Bedalli, Senior Desk Officer for Europe, Central Asia and Arab States and Ms. Yoshie Noguchi, Senior Legal Officer, Labour Law and Reform Unit.

The workshop opened with a presentation on the international labour standards' supervisory system, and the emphasis of other presentations was placed on the legal obligations under each article of the ILO Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) and their implications on practical measures and action.

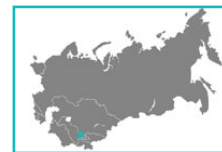
The requirements of the conventions were wider and deeper than a simple prohibition of child labour in the national labour legislation, and that reporting should be seen not as an administrative burden for government officials, but as a stock taking exercise involving social partners, participants said.

The linkage with other UN reporting (e.g. under the Convention on the Rights of the Child) was one of the practical questions on the agenda. Participants also discussed the newly adopted standards on forced labour, in particular the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No.29) and the Forced Labour (Supplementary Measures) Recommendation, 2014 (No. 203).

“It was a successful strategy to have an exchange of the good practices and to start building a sub-regional networking among the tripartite constituents interested in the elimination of child labour,” Ms. Yoshie Noguchi said, summing up the workshop results.

Within the framework of the ILO mission to Azerbaijan Snezhana Bedalli had meetings with the ILO constituents, representatives of the UN agencies and the Embassy of the United States in Baku. ■

Uzbekistan's trade unions learn how to work in modern conditions



From November 17 to November 27 twenty trade unionists from Uzbekistan undertook a training course “Trade unions in

modern conditions” at the Institute of Labour of the National Confederation of Trade Unions of Moldova.

The training was organized within the framework of cooperation among the ILO Moscow Office, the Institute of Labour of the National Confederation of Trade Unions of Moldova and the Federation of Trade Unions of Uzbekistan.



Trade union activists from Uzbekistan studied principles and areas of modern trade unions' activity and discussed with Moldovan trainers the role of social partnership and collective bargaining agreements, motivations for joining trade unions, awareness raising and trainings in trade unions as well as other burning issues.

At a special ceremony ILO Moscow Senior Specialist in Workers' Activities Sergeyus Glovackas handed out to trainees certificates confirming they had undergone the course. He called on trainees to be creative, enterprising and to contribute to promotion of social dialogue in Uzbekistan. Such educational events gave a big boost to consolidation of the international trade union movement. ■

Source: www.institutulmuncii.md



Experts from Europe, CIS and Baltic states discuss e-Services in social security



On October 23, representatives of social security institutions from 15 countries, of Europe, the CIS and Baltic states finished up their discussion of problems emerging with the enhancement of quality and scalability of e-Services in social security as well as with the development of e-government.

The two-day seminar entitled “e-Services in social security: enhancing quality and scal-



ability” was organized by the State Social Protection Fund and the International Social Security Association.

Currently, 70 percent of Azerbaijan’s population use the Internet what makes citizens’ access to social services easier, participants in the seminar say, adding that the government bodies that have already been working to enhance the list of e-Services provided to the population have to make further efforts.

Taking part in the seminar were representatives of the ILO, the World Bank and other international organizations, as well as Azerbaijan’s government bodies.

The ILO HQ was represented by Fabio Duran-Valverde, Senior Social Protection Specialist, Social Protection Department. ■

Source: www.trend.az

Tashkent hosts training workshop on occupational safety and health



On October 23, Uzbekistan’s capital Tashkent hosted a training workshop on occupational safety and health. It

was organized by the Council of the Federation of Trade Unions of Uzbekistan, the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Population and the ILO.



ILO experts Wiking Husberg and Haryy Taliga spoke at the event.

Uzbekistan had been making goal-oriented efforts to ensure employment, create decent working conditions and observe occupational safety and health standards, said Harry Taliga, adding that that country’s legislation envisaged benefits and guarantees surpassing international standards.

International experts also highlighted trade unions’ systematic work to stronger promote prevention of occupational accidents and diseases. They praised Uzbekistan’s introduction of a system of public control over occupational safety and health and encouragement of employers’ responsibility.

The workshop saw a presentation of a manual for farm chiefs on safety measures for farming households. ■

Source: www.trend.az

Tajikistan approves national programme to eliminate worst forms of child labour in 2015-2020



The ILO’s International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (ILO-IPEC) takes comprehensive efforts to stop child labour in the Republic of Tajikistan, involving all branches of power. These efforts yield significant results.

Thus, on October 31 Tajik President Emomali Rakhmon signed a document developed with the ILO-IPEC’s technical and financial support – a decree to implement the national programme on the elimination of the worst forms of child labour in the Republic of Tajikistan for 2015-2020.

According to the decree, Tajikistan’s Ministry of Labour, Migration and Employment of Population is empowered to coordinate actions towards the implementation of the national programme on the elimination of the worst forms of child labour. ■

According to the decree, Tajikistan’s Ministry of Labour, Migration and Employment of Population is empowered to coordinate actions towards the implementation of the national programme on the elimination of the worst forms of child labour. ■



Our publications

All publications can be found at our website www.ilo.ru



Working Conditions Law Report 2012: Global review *In Russian and English*

Based on recently updated legal information in the ILO Working Conditions Laws Database, the Working Conditions Law Report 2012 provides national information and a comparative global analysis of national working condition laws. It examines three key elements that impact working conditions: working time, minimum wages, and maternity protection. The report examines primary legislation in over 150 countries and identifies global and regional trends.

Building on previous editions, this updated report underlines actions taken by policymakers in addressing working conditions through legislation at national level. By raising awareness of the importance of legislation in improving working conditions the report aims to encourage continued consideration of law as a tool to improve working conditions for all.

News in BRIEF

Global Wage Report 2014/15

The latest ILO Global Wage Report warns of stalled wages in many countries and points to the labour market as a driver of inequality.

The report includes a detailed analysis of recent trends in household income inequality and the role played by wages in these trends.

Wages are a major source of household income in developed, emerging and developing countries.

Recent inequality trends have been mixed, but in a majority of countries where inequality has increased, such as in the United States or in Spain, changes in wages and employment have been the dominant force.

However where inequality has been reduced, as in Brazil, Argentina and the Russian Federation, wages and increased employment have been a driving force in reducing inequality.

The report also says coordinated strategies are also needed at the international level.

ILO to help Azerbaijan to conduct new labour force survey

Ms. Monica Castillo, Chief of the Standards and Methods Unit, ILO HQ Department of Statistics, visited Baku on a mission to take part in a meeting on October 23 to discuss with stakeholders the objectives of a new labour force survey in Azerbaijan. The mission was a response to a request from the State Statistics Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan to

provide support for conducting the survey and discuss the sampling design.

Kyrgyzstan to interview 6,000 households within national child labour survey

Kyrgyzstan's National Statistics Committee will hold a child labour survey within the framework of the ILO's International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (ILO-IPEC) in Central Asia, interviewing 6,000 households.

The survey's results will be used to monitor and evaluate child labour in the republic and will help Kyrgyzstan's government and international organizations to take further steps to draft programmes on the elimination of child labour.

Source: www.kg.akipress.org

ILO reveals substantial skills mismatch in Europe

Between 25 and 45 per cent of workers in Europe are either over- or under-qualified for their job, leading to a substantial mismatch between supply and demand in the labour market, a new ILO study says.

Covering 24 European countries, the study shows that mismatches between workers' competences and what is required by their job are widespread – with marked differences between countries.

In 2012, the percentage of workers that were over-qualified ranged from 10 to 20 per cent in most countries for which data are available, although there were large variations across countries. In countries like the Netherlands,

Poland, Portugal and Switzerland, less than 6 per cent of workers were overqualified, but their number exceeded 20 per cent in Cyprus and Russia.

According to the ILO expert, quality apprenticeship systems for youth, which link classroom and workplace training are part of the solution. Such systems require a well-functioning social dialogue between government and social partners, public-private cost-sharing arrangements, and efficient employment services.

New safety and health guidelines to protect seafarers

The Meeting of Experts on Maritime Occupational Safety and Health held in Geneva from October 13-17 agreed on guidelines to assist governments to implement occupational safety and health provisions previously set down in the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006 (MLC, 2006).

The OSH guidelines deal with the special maritime working environment. This includes demanding physical working conditions, potentially hazardous tasks, isolation, long hours of work, and high levels of stress and fatigue.

The meeting also addressed all areas of seafarers' occupational safety and health, including such areas as alcohol and drug abuse, violence and harassment, and infectious diseases.

The guidelines were discussed by a total of 102 delegates, including, six government, six ship-owner and six seafarer experts, observers and advisers from 42 other governments, and observers from intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations.

Igor Kovalchuk, First Deputy Chairman of the Seafarers' Union of Russia, took part in the meeting.

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