ASIA AND THE PACIFIC
(INCLUDING ARAB STATES)

2016 Report – Multinational Enterprises, Development and Decent Work: the promotion and application of the Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy (MNE Declaration) in Asia and the Pacific

The ILO MNE Declaration recognizes the important role of MNEs in social and economic development and decent work for all. It seeks to encourage their positive contribution and minimize and resolve potential negative impacts.

The principles in this tripartite-agreed global instrument offer guidelines to MNEs, governments, and employers’ and workers’ organisations in the areas of employment, training, conditions of work and life, and industrial relations.

As part of the regional follow-up mechanism to the MNE Declaration, a QUESTIONNAIRE was sent to governments and employers’ and workers’ organizations in the region. It requested them to provide information on the way in which they have PROMOTED AND APPLIED THE PRINCIPLES of the MNE Declaration at the country level. The report synthesizes their responses and provides an overview of FDI and related decent work opportunities and challenges in the region.
AT A GLANCE: FDI AND DECENT WORK IN THE REGION

18 of the world’s TOP 100 NON-FINANCIAL MNEs are located in the region.

Highest recipients of FDI

Highest FDI investors

The region accounts for about **HALF** of the world’s economic growth.

HALF of the world’s poorest people reside in this region.

**CREATION OF JOBS**

More than **1.5 MILLION** jobs have been created through greenfield FDI in the region in 2016-17.

**DECENT WORK DEFICITS**

Inequality, unemployment, non-standard forms of work, informality, forced labour and concerns regarding freedom of association **REMAIN PREVALENT**.

**POLICIES AND FRAMEWORKS**

Some policies implemented in the region promote the **POSITIVE IMPACT OF FDI** by encouraging linkages between MNEs and domestic enterprises and by providing opportunities for skills development.

Additional data from the UNCTAD World Investment Report and fdimarkets.com was used to incorporate data that was published after the release of the report.
VIEWS FROM GOVERNMENTS, EMPLOYERS AND WORKERS FROM THE REGION, BASED ON INPUTS DIRECTLY RECEIVED FROM:
MAIN RECOMMENDATIONS OF GOVERNMENTS, EMPLOYERS’ AND WORKERS’ ORGANIZATIONS TO ENHANCE THE IMPACT OF THE MNE DECLARATION IN THE REGION

• Implement appropriate regulatory and policy frameworks to advance the application of the principles of the MNE Declaration
• Strengthen the capacity of governments, employers’ and workers’ organizations to effectively promote and apply the MNE Declaration
• Further research the impact of the MNE operations in host economies
• Increase knowledge sharing on best practices on the implementation of the MNE Declaration across the region

THE BALI DECLARATION
Adopted at the 16th Asia and the Pacific regional meeting

“During the period leading up to the 17th Asia and the Pacific Regional Meeting, policy priorities for member States in the region, to be implemented in consultation with the social partners, include: (…) maximizing the opportunities for decent work arising from investment, trade and the operation of multinational enterprises, through the promotion and application of the ILO Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy”

[Paragraph 10]

FURTHER RESOURCES

MNE Declaration
www.ilo.org/mnedeclaration

Multinational Enterprises and Enterprise Engagement Unit
www.ilo.org/multi

ILO Helpdesk for Business on International Labour Standards
www.ilo.org/business