



Nominees for IDWF Executive Committee from Asia

Total 6 nominees

Web link for full nomination forms:

http://bit.ly/Asia_exco_nominee

- Novelita V. Palisoc (Novy), UNITED, Philippines;
- Gyanu Maya Kshatri, HUN, Nepal;
- Murshida Akter, NDWWU, Bangladesh
- Sarasagopal Sathyawani (Sathya), Domestic Workers Union, Sri Lanka
- Uttra Biswas, SEWA, India
- Parichat Jaroennon, FADWU, Hong Kong

Novelita V. Palisoc

- Philippines: United Domestic Workers of the Philippines (UNITED)
- **Position:** National President
- **Experience:** a domestic worker for 19 years, migrant worker (2 years) in Doha, Teacher (~5 years), educator and volunteer at labour organization, 4 years in domestic workers organizing and leadership
- **Responsibility in union:** Preside in union's meetings, implement programs, report to the union, sign and attest documents and financial operation of UNITED, represent workers and the union, designate representative and fulfil necessary responsibility.



Novelita V. Palisoc

- Focus of work if elected as IDWF exco:

- a. Promote the activities of the IDWF and uphold the constitution.
- b. Monitor and facilitate the implementation of resolutions, action plans and policies. Ensure the proper functioning of the staff and Secretariat.
- c. Approve financial reports and budgets. Consider proposals submitted by affiliates, and decide on urgent problems and issues that concern the IDWF
- d. Organize congresses. Delegate tasks to the staff members and sub-committees.

UNITED no. of membership (2017): 1,911, 22% dues paying. All local nationals, 1 returnee migrant.



“I believe I am suitable of the said position because of my experience as a domestic worker and a national president of my union. My ability to educate and organize domestic workers may help me being an IDWF ExCo if my brothers and sisters could give me a chance to be elected.”

“This is a big responsibility and a challenge task to be part of ExCo member but I know I can help and have flexible time to do what my tasks would be if I am elected. I am new in this union but based on my experience as a leader I have the capacity to be an ExCo member.”



Uttra Biswas

- India: Self Employed Women's Association (SEWA)
- **Position:** Vice-president
- **Experience:** a domestic worker, 8 years in organizing and representing domestic workers (6 years as elected leader)
- **Responsibility in union:** Organizing, conduct awareness meetings in the community, advocacy campaigns.



Uttra Biswas

- Focus of work if elected as IDWF exco:
She will be a quick learner. She would like to work on the Comprehensive legislation for domestic workers in India, the ratification of the Convention 189 and see that the Local Complaints Committee – which is statutory in the Harassment at the Workplace Act – gets implemented within the coming two years.



SEWA no. of membership (2016): 82,076.

Uttra ben came in as a member of the Union, who had inbuilt leadership quality and always strived for the betterment of the people around her, slowly from member she grew as a community leader who did not even look at day and night to jump into the concerns of her fellow colleague, she has always shown immense courage and dedication towards the rights and benefits of the people.

She has always posed as a strong leader at various forums with a clear and detailed understanding of the Domestic Workers issues

and concerns. The humility and the compassion make her the true leader. And being in the Ex Committee, she will duly represent the voices from the grass root in its spirit and will contribute to the best of her capacity in the Executive Committee.



Murshida Akter

- Bangladesh: National Domestic Women Workers Union (NDWWU)
- **Position:** General Secretary
- **Experience:** 13 years in organizing work
- **Responsibility in union:** Organizing, management, capacity and resource development



Murshida Akter

- Focus of work if elected as IDWF exco:
“IDWF would be a leading global organization to lead all type of informal and unorganized workers in the world.”
- To gathering & sharing experience, and develop IDWF



NDWWU no. of membership (2017): 20,000. Mainly local nationals., 50 migrants.

“IDWF would be a leading global organization to lead all type of informal and unorganized workers in the world.”



Sarasagopal Sathyawani

- Sri Lanka: Domestic Workers Union (DWU)
- **Position:** President
- **Experience:** 17 years as a domestic worker, 5 years in organizing domestic workers
- **Responsibility in union:** 1) Mobilize and mobilize local workers 2) Work for the progress of the union as the President of the union. Work should be done in a very honest way.



Sarasagopal Sathyawani

- Focus of work if elected as IDWF exco:

Collective leadership decision-making duties, and joining other societies to make workers better leaders.



DWU no. of membership (2017): 3,081, ~50% dues paying. All local nationals.

“My qualification to represent in the Idwaf Executive Committee is that (if I work as a worker at the same time, I work hard to get the rights of my class



and my experience is the best leadership qualities of my qualifications.”

Jaroennon Parichat

- Hong Kong Federation of Domestic Workers Unions (FADWU)
- **Position:** Executive committee member of FADWU
- **Experience:** A migrant domestic worker and a leader for 17 years
- **Responsibility in union:** Making plans, reach out and organize workers, facilitate meetings, provide trainings to workers to aware them of their rights as women and as workers, case-handling, administrative work etc.



Jaroennon Parichat

- Focus of work if elected as IDWF exco:
To present domestic workers situation in Asia and to work together with other regions to protect domestic workers rights all around the world.



FADWU no. of membership (2017): 861, 100% dues paying. Half migrant domestic workers (Filipinos, Thais, Nepalese) and half locals (Chinese).

“I have a lot of experiences in unions. I have been involved in unions for more than 17 years. I am familiar with the operation of the union and organizing domestic workers to join us.”



“Moreover, I understand the situation of domestic workers in Asia and the policies specified for the Asia. As an exco member of my union federation, the FADWU, I have years of experience to represent Asian domestic workers in Hong Kong, and communicate with different governments and consulates. I believe I am suitable to represent the region in the IDWF ExCo.”

Gyanu Maya Kshatri

- Nepal: Home Workers Trade Union of Nepal (HUN)
- **Position:** General Secretary
- **Experience:** 7 years in organizing work (5 years on domestic workers)
- **Responsibility in union:** organizing and training, counsellor and facilitator, union administrative work



Gyanu Maya Kshatri

- Focus of work if elected as IDWF exco:
“Organizing, advocacy, facilitator, look after issues of domestic workers and migrant domestic workers”



HUN no. of membership (2017): 3,800 domestic workers. All locals, 19 returnee migrants.

HUN is the founding member of the IDWF. There is a huge potential for organizing domestic workers and migrant domestic workers in South Asia.



HUN plays an active role in organizing domestic workers and development of the leadership.