



## IDWF e-Newsletter #9 - November 2015



### **IDWF NEWS:**

IDWF President, Myrtle Witbooi, received the Global Fairness Award 2015, Washington, DC, USA. [Read more >>>](#)



### **IDWF NEWS:**

In September, IDWF together with the ILO and ITUC held a regional domestic worker workshop in Bangkok, Thailand. 56 domestic workers and trade union leaders shared models of campaigns and organizing, particularly regarding migrant domestic workers and recruitment agencies. [Read more >>>](#)



### **AFRICA/Kenya:**

KUDHEIHA launched a National Domestic Workers Council with elected representatives from 7 counties. Ruth Kakame, a 26 years old domestic workers was elected the Chairperson of the Council. In her position, she will serve on the Executive Committee of KUDHEIHA. [Read more >>>](#)



### **AFRICA/Senegal:**

ITUC African Women Unionist Academy, November 18-21. Asmaou Bah, Executive Committee member of IDWF together with other 78 women unionists from the ITUC affiliates in Africa participated in discussion on the measures, policies and programs of the ITUC. She made presentation on protection of domestic workers. [Read more \(in French\) >>>](#)



### **ASIA/Thailand:**

An Ethiopian domestic worker who suffered terrible abuse won compensation through legal reconciliation. Dr. Yonas Tegegn, World Health Organization Thailand Senior Staffer Agrees to Pay Money to His former Ethiopian domestic worker. The Domestic Workers Networks now turns to fighting for better domestic worker law. [Read more >>>](#)



### **ASIA/Philippines:**

IDWF joined the Migrant Forum Asia and SENTRO trade union national centre in the Philippines as founding partner of the MCG (Migrants Coordinating Group - Western Visayas) in Iloilo in November. The MCG-WV attempts to bring together migrant workers, both the potential and returning ones, their families and people in the community to address some of the issues faced by the migrant workers. [Read more >>>](#)



### **EUROPE/Ireland:**

In October, a full-time au pair got her wages back in an historic legal victory for au pairs, as the court ruled that she was entitled to receive wages as a domestic worker. The Migrant Rights Centre in Ireland has handled 29 cases of Au Pairs this year. [Read more >>>](#)



### **EUROPE/United Kingdom:**

Justice for domestic workers, Kalayaan and UNITE the union held a public event on the Modern Slavery Act in the House of Parliament in London, December 1. [Read more >>>](#)



Domestic workers unions engage in wage negotiations with the Employment Ministry. (Photo via UIRACP)

### **LATIN AMERICA/Argentina:**

Collective bargaining agreement for domestic workers signed. [Read more >>>](#)



### **NORTH AMERICA/USA:**

NDWA launched the [Good Work Code](#), an invitation to online companies to align with eight values to make work in the online economy good work for domestic workers and all workers. Twelve companies have officially committed to implementing the values of the Good Work Code, including some of the biggest online marketplaces for domestic workers like Care.com and Carelinx! The Good Work Code has been gaining public momentum since [President Obama discussed it briefly with Ai-jen Poo](#) in October at the White House Workers Voice Summit.



### RESOURCES/Video & Infographic:

"Domestic Workers: Debunking the Myths" by Euro News - An 8 minutes video clip featuring the activities of two IDWF affiliates - FILCAMS, Italy and FADWU, Hong Kong in organizing and supporting migrant domestic workers in their countries. [Find out more >>>](#)



### RESOURCES/Film:

The Second Mother, a Brazilian movie about a domestic worker of a wealthy family in Sao Paulo. According to Carli Maria dos Santos, President of the Domestic Workers Union in Rio de Janeiro, the film reflects very well on the conditions of domestic workers. [Read more >>>](#)



### RESOURCES/Grant:

[The United Nations Democracy Fund \(UNDEF\) grant opportunity >>>](#)

- **Deadline - December 31**

The Fund supports projects that strengthen the voice of civil society, promote human rights, and encourage the participation of all groups in democratic processes. The large majority of UNDEF funds go to local civil society organizations — both in the transition and consolidation phases of democratization. Proposals can be submitted in the areas of community activism, rule of law and human rights, tools for knowledge, women's empowerment, youth engagement, media and freedom of information and strengthening interaction with Government.

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