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INTERNATIONAL DOMESTIC WORKERS' NETWORK

Issue Highlights:



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4. Domestic Workers Law Passed in the Philippines

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1. Domestic Workers in Action



1.1 Benin

On February 13, 2013 the General Secretary of the 1,800-strong SYNEHM domestic workers union of Benin was received by the President of Parliament, Mr. Maturin Koffi Nago. At the meeting the General Secretary called for the ratification of C189 and reminded the President that already in 1998 Benin had adopted the Ministerial Decree No. 026 of April 14, 1998 which fixed the salaries of domestic workers per category. In reply, Mr. Nago said that the Parliament of Benin is ready to ratify the Convention. SYNEHM is planning another meeting with Ministry and Director General of Labour in order to keep up the pressure on Government to ratify C189.

Audiences à l'Assemblée nationale

Les employés d'hôtels et de maisons chez Mathurin Nago



Ph. B. KOFFI

Les membres de la délégation du Syndicat national des employés d'hôtels et de maisons échangeant avec le président Mathurin Nago

Le président de l'Assemblée nationale, Mathurin Nago a reçu hier mercredi 13 février, deux délégations au nombre desquelles le Syndicat national des employés d'hôtels et de maisons du Bénin.

Par Thibaud C. NAGNONHOU

Le Syndicat national des employés d'hôtels et de maisons du Bénin a été la première délégation reçue hier mercredi 13 février par le président de l'Assemblée nationale, Mathurin Nago. Au sortir de l'audience, Raimi Fataou, secrétaire général dudit Syndicat, a indiqué qu'il est allé plaider avec ses collègues, pour la ratification de cette convention internationale du travail(OIT). Selon lui, ladite convention vise la promotion du travail décent pour tous, par la réalisation des objectifs de la déclaration de l'OIT relative aux principes et droits fondamentaux au travail et de la déclaration de l'OIT sur la justice sociale pour une mondialisation équitable. La ratification de cette convention permettra de couvrir aussi bien les employeurs que les employés d'hôtels et de maisons en ce qui concerne les droits et obligations de chacun d'eux. C'est en raison de ce qui précède que le professeur Mathurin Coffi Nago a promis d'œuvrer inlassablement pour la ratification effective et rapide de cette convention dès que la Représentation nationale en sera saisie. A la suite des membres du Syndicat des employés d'hôtels et de maisons du Bénin, le président de l'Assemblée nationale a reçu à son cabinet, une délégation du bureau régional du Mouvement « Espace dynamique politique et développement Agonin » conduite par son président Alain Sessou Comlan. Mais, rien n'a filtré de leurs échanges.

LA NATION N°5679 /Jeudi 14 Fév

1.2 Indonesia

Hundreds of domestic workers marched in seven cities in Indonesia on the Domestic Workers Day, February 15, 2013. In Jakarta, the rally was led by two coalitions: KAPPRT and BM which included the domestic workers national network, Jala PRT, and trade union national centres, KSBSI and KSPI. The key demand in all seven cities was the adoption of the draft law on domestic workers. Two days prior to this, Sayuti, a domestic worker and leader of the Tunas Mulia Domestic Workers Union in Yogyakarta, said at a television interview that the draft law would give rights to domestic workers, including those below 18 years of age, on health, education and minimum wage. Currently the IUF is supporting Tunas Mulia in organizing and organization building. [To Read the News on "House Urged to Pass Law to Protect Domestic Workers" >>](#)



1.3 Ireland

On February 18, 2013 the Domestic Workers Action Group organized a domestic workers workshop titled "Building Our Power". The IDWN and FNV-Bondgenotten were represented by Karin Pape and Rebeca Pabon.

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2. March 8, 2013 – International Women’s Day: Our Next Mobilization Day

Domestic workers in South Africa, Trinidad & Tobago, Cambodia, Hong Kong and Jamaica, are mobilizing and planning action on that day. Share your action with us by posting at [IDWN Facebook Page](#) or emailing: info@idwn.info or [12 by 12 Facebook Group](#).

ITUC webpage: <http://www.ituc-csi.org/domestic-workers-12-by-12>

3. Knowing Domestic Workers in the world

3.1 ILO released its first global report on domestic workers in January

"Domestic Workers Across the World: Global and regional statistics and the extent of legal protection":
http://www.ilo.org/travail/Whatsnew/WCMS_173363/lang--en/index.htm

For a special page on the IDWN:

http://www.ilo.org/global/about-the-ilo/newsroom/features/WCMS_201117/lang--en/index.htm

3.2 The Humanitarian Organization for Migration Economics (HOME), an NGO responding to the needs of migrant communities in Singapore, released its report on the trafficking of foreign domestic workers (FDWs) into domestic servitude in Singapore, on December 18, 2012. The report found that 99% (149 out of 151) of the cases of FDWs interviewed by HOME between March and July 2012 demonstrated indicators of all three required elements of the international definition of human trafficking. [To Read the Report >>](#)

4. Domestic Workers Law Passed in the Philippines

Following the ratification of C189 last year, the Philippines passed the Domestic Workers Act (Batas Kasambahay) in January this year to give effect of the Convention. [For a Full Version of the Act >>](#)

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