

Uzbekistan: FTUU state of affairs regarding ITUC recommendations

ITUC recommendations	FTUU actions	Outcome / other elements of progress
Progress made on the ratification by Uzbekistan of ILO Convention 87	<p>Analysis of the law, submission request for Co. 87 ratification, work with the Parliament.</p> <p>Analysis of the legal acts regulating activities of NNOs and the development of proposals to be submitted to the Ministry of Justice on reviewing the <i>Terms of Reference on State Registration of Non-Governmental Non-Commercial Organisations (NNOs)</i> approved by a Regulation of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan are being carried out with the view of restoring the procedure of registration by notification for trade unions.</p> <p>Proposal to the National Human Rights Centre of Uzbekistan concerning the arrangements for the visit of the UN Special Rapporteur on the rights of peaceful assembly and association by June 2018 or the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights is developed.</p>	<p>Convention 87 Ratified in 2016 and changes to the law on trade unions introduced. Decent Work Country Programme includes a set of regional conferences for trade unions on Freedom of Association, which foresee ITUC involvement.</p> <p>The curricula of the FTUU Education and Training Centre now include activities on the ILO Conventions ratified by Republic of Uzbekistan and the practice of their implementation by trade union organisations, which explains the provisions of the relevant ILO Conventions, including Convention No 87. During the 9 months of 2017 the TU Education and Training Centre organised the training of 600 shop stewards, chairs of district and municipal councils of sector-based trade unions.</p> <p>The ITUC call to boycott ILO European Regional meeting due to FoA violations in Turkey was respected.</p>
Progress made on the ratification of forced labour protocol by Uzbekistan	FTUU includes ratification of the Protocol in its proposal for the ILO standards ratification by the country.	At the suggestion of the social partners, the Resolution No ПП-3001 of the President of Republic of Uzbekistan dated 24.05.2017 “On Measures to Organise the Activities of the Ministry of Employment and Labour Relations of the Republic of Uzbekistan” now includes studying the transposition in the national legislation of the following ILO Conventions: No 17 on workmen’s compensations (Accidents); No 81 on labour inspection in industry and trade; No 97 on migrant workers (revised); No 129 on labour inspection in agriculture; No 132 on holidays with pay (revised in 1970); No 144 on tripartite consultations (International Labour Standards); No 156 on equal treatment and equal opportunities for working men and women (workers with family responsibilities); No 177 on home work; No 183 on revision of 1952 Maternity Protection Convention; No 187 on promotional framework for occupational safety and health; the supplementary protocol of 2014 to the Convention No 29 on forced labour. The Decent Work Country Program action plan includes work on ratification of the above mentioned norms.

<p>Efforts to convince the government about negative effects of quotas</p>	<p>FTUU representatives are included in the working group under government that is charged with developing recommendations to manage the cotton-picking season in an orderly manner, ensuring workers' safety and creating decent working conditions for cotton-pickers.</p>	<p>The Cabinet of Minister's Regulation No 723 of 14.09.2017 approved pay rates for harvesting raw cotton in 2017. During the first stage, they paid UZS 450 for 1 kg of manually picked raw cotton, during the second stage, from October 1 on, they paid UZS 500. Starting from 17.10.2017 the payment to cotton-pickers for 1 kg of manually picked raw cotton was raised to UZS 700. Cotton-pickers from the Tashkent Region, as well as from the Mirishkorsky, Nishonsky, Kosonsky Kasbinsky Districts of the Kashkadarya Region benefitted from a specially established surplus payment of UZS 100 for every harvested kilo of raw cotton. The same surplus payments were used for cotton-pickers in the Jizzakh and Syrdarya Regions. Quota discussion is not taboo anymore and while it is still used, there is more flexible approach following general decrease of cotton production and agriculture diversification by the state.</p>
<p>Legislation and normative acts / monitoring seasonal work</p>	<p>Representatives of the FTUU Council have been included in the working group established under the auspices of the Ministry of Justice.</p> <p>Developing and submitting to the Government proposals to monitor child and forced labour and implement measures ensuring complete coverage of seasonal agricultural workers with individual labour contracts, the raising of remuneration rates for picked cotton, and the public monitoring of free-will hiring of cotton pickers.</p> <p>FTUU developed typical labour contract developed for farmers hiring seasonal workers and submitted to the government.</p> <p>FTUU participates in harvest monitoring (national monitoring that complements ILO monitoring process).</p> <p>Training of trade union officials on labour standards was implemented.</p> <p>Legal clinics work to address labour rights violations.</p> <p>Raising awareness among farmers and population through mass media, sms, visual materials.</p>	<p>With the involvement of trade unions, a model employment contract for a farmstead worker has been developed. The contract regulates cotton field work through the whole chain of agro processes, including thinning, weeding, topping, harvesting, stalk uprooting, etc. The contract cover issues of OHS, working time, remuneration (in cash and in kind), allocations to the Pension Fund. This model agreement was approved by Deputy Prime Minister Z. Mirzayev and instruction has been given to use it throughout the country.</p> <p>On August 8, 2017, the Cabinet of Ministers took a Protocol Decision which categorically bans involvement of students of Universities, Colleges and Lyceums, and working education and healthcare personnel in cotton harvesting. Taking into account trade unions' proposals, this Protocol also approves the Temporary Procedure for managing the cotton-picking season in an orderly manner, ensuring workers' safety and creating decent working conditions for cotton-pickers during the 2017 harvesting season.</p> <p>On August 21, 2017, the Ministry of employment and labour relations and the Trade Union Federation sent a joint letter (01-10/3845, KP-05/1309) to the Chair of the Council of Ministers of the Karakalpakstan Republic recommending to place everywhere banners, posters, billboards and run audio and video clips on the ban on child and forced labour, as well as free-will hiring of cotton-pickers.</p> <p>In compliance with the agreements among the Republic of Uzbekistan, the International Labour Organisation, and the World Bank, September 19, 2017, saw the beginning of Third Party Monitoring (TPM) of child and forced labour at the cotton harvesting in Republic of Uzbekistan. As of mid-October, the monitoring groups had studied the functioning of 422 institutions and organisations (regional and district authorities, farms, higher education institutions, VET colleges, general</p>

		<p>secondary schools, pre-school institutions, makhalya assemblies of citizens and catering facilities) and interviewed over 1,000 people.</p> <p>Alongside the TPM activities, National monitoring of child and forced labour in cotton-growing was carried out in all the country's regions; it began on September 22 of this year. As of mid-October, 238 visits had been made to districts and towns, the monitors visited 54 regional khokimiyats (administrations), 1 higher educational institution, 169 farmsteads, 91 vocational colleges, 3 academic lyceums, 244 secondary schools, 77 entrepreneurial entities, 110 healthcare institutions, 43 village and makhalya citizens' assemblies. All in all, 2340 interviews were taken, 33,790 kilometers covered.</p> <p>In may 2017, national experts ran training activities on the ILO Conventions for national authorities' employees, Chairpersons of Committees of Women, Youth Unions, branches of the "Makhalla" Foundation, deputy heads of all regional, district and municipal Departments of Interior in the country.</p> <p>During the period of July 18 to August 22, 2017, 11 ILO experts assisted by trade union and Labour Inspectorate specialists held capacity building workshops for national authorities' officials, NNOs and farmers from all districts and towns of the country on prevention of child and forced labour.</p> <p>These activities involved around 6,300 representatives of khokimiyats (local administrations), trade unions, labour authorities, departments of interior, finance, agri- and aquaculture, healthcare, public education, the Chamber of Commerce and Industry, farmers' councils, the Youth Union, the Committee of Women, the "Makhalla" Foundation, general schools, VET institutions, etc.</p>
<p>Insist on international society to monitor the implementation of the international standards</p>	<p>Work with the ILO, WB, local organisations Legal clinic work involves registered human rights defenders, while the national monitoring also investigates issues reported by non-registered ones.</p>	<p>Decent Work Country Program continuation signed. ILO monitoring is implemented for the 3rd year.</p> <p>ITUC mission had an access to human rights defenders.</p> <p>Visit of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights took place in 2017. Several long-term political prisoners were released. Human Rights Watch visited the country and the ILO facilitated dialog of human rights defenders with the government.</p> <p>In the course of the Third Party Monitoring activities during the 2017cotton harvesting season the following human rights defenders who are registered with the Ministry of Justice of Uzbekistan and its local bodies were involved in joint activities: Kh. Boltayeva (Andijan Regional Branch of Civil Initiative support Centre), G. Razhabova (Bukhara Office of the International Non-Governmental Charity Foundation "Sog'lom Avlod Uchun"), G. Mamatkulov (Fergana Regional Branch of the Consumer Protection Society), N. Kutlimuradova (Health</p>

		Improvement Centre for Women and Children “Khamdarad”), G. Khajiniyazova (RO Coordinator of the National Association of NNOs of Uzbekistan), and N. Tugalova (Jizzakh Regional Branch of the Business Women Association “Tadbirkor Ayol”.
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On September 5, 2017, a Cooperation Agreement between the FNPR and the Trade Union Federation of Uzbekistan for 2017-2021 was signed to develop mutually beneficial cooperation in the following areas: **protection of Uzbek migrant workers’ labour rights**; strengthening ties between related sector-based trade unions of Uzbekistan and Russia, as well as between territorial trade union associations; establishment of the Tashkent branch of the FNPR Academy of Labour and Social Relations, restoration of the **practice of Uzbek trade union activists’ skills development in the Academy of Labour and Social Relations**. Preparatory work is under way to establish ties between the Tashkent Municipal Trade Union Association and the Moscow Trade Union Federation.

IndustryAll and ITF have affiliates in the country. On April 26, 2017, the Education, Research, and Culture Workers’ Union of Uzbekistan became affiliated to the Education International (EI). The National Council of the Healthcare Workers’ Union submitted the affiliation application to the EPSU.