

Newsflash

Trade Union Alliance to Combat Forced Labour and Trafficking



Dear friends,

This is a newsletter of the Global Trade Union Alliance to Combat Forced Labour and Trafficking. It is addressed to all interested and wants to inform you about trade union activities to fight forced labour and human trafficking around the world. The Alliance is led by the International Trade Union Confederation and financially supported by the Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour of the International Labour Organisation. It promotes decent work for all and more specifically geographical and institutional commitment and cooperation to eradicate forced labour and human trafficking as its very antithesis.

This newsletter will be issued in English, French, Spanish and German. The language of underlying documents and links will be indicated if not available in all these languages.

- **ITUC Core Labour Standards Reports on:**
 - Madagascar (<http://www.ituc-si.org/spip.php?article1953>)
 - Mexico (<http://www.ituc-csi.org/spip.php?article1804>)
 - Ghana (<http://www.ituc-csi.org/spip.php?article1772>)
 - Pakistan (<http://www.ituc-csi.org/spip.php?article1732>)
 - Mauritius (<http://www.ituc-csi.org/spip.php?article1991>)
- **ITUC welcomes step towards an ILO international convention on Domestic Workers** (<http://www.ituc-csi.org/spip.php?article1933>)
- **ITUC called on US and Indian Governments to take action on behalf of nearly a hundred Indian workers who on 10 March protested the trafficking practices they suffered when they were recruited in India only to be exploited on a shipyard in Pascagoula, Mississippi.** (<http://www.ituc-csi.org/spip.php?article1923>)
- **ITUC and ITGLWF denounce violent repression of Vietnamese workers' strike in Jordan:** "Where migrants are working in conditions of forced labour, their recruitment agency becomes a business in human trafficking." (ITUC: <http://www.ituc-csi.org/spip.php?article1917> ; ITGLWF: <http://www.itglwf.org/DisplayDocument.aspx?idarticle=15503&langue=2>)



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- ITUC and ETUC have welcomed the entry into force of the **Council of Europe** Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings. (<http://www.ituc-csi.org/spip.php?article1782>)
- “Paying back in sweat and tear”, New consolidated report by **GEFONT** in cooperation with Anti-Slavery International on Kamaiya Liberation, Brick Kiln Workers and Domestic Labour in Nepal. (http://www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/pdf/nepal_paying_back_in_sweat_and_tear.pdf ; <http://www.gefont.org/summary.asp?flag=77&cid=473>)
- **ITUC** 20-page report on the violations of migrant workers’ rights in the Middle East region, with interviews and articles focusing on Jordan, where the textile union is providing practical help to Asian migrants. (Also an accompanying new video entitled “Migrants in Jordan: How the unions plan to protect and organise them” (6 minutes) (<http://www.ituc-csi.org/spip.php?article1686>)
- Trade unions to be integrated in anti-trafficking network in Romania. ITUC, **Cartel Alfa** and **CNSLR-Fratia** represented at European seminar. (<http://www.ccme.be/secretary/NEWS/PRrelBucharest080331FINAL.pdf>)
- **ITGLWF** says forced labour and trafficking on the rise in the global garment industry. (<http://www.itglwf.org/DisplayDocument.aspx?idarticle=15482&langue=2>)
- International framework agreement between Inditex S.A. and **ITGLWF** on the implementation of international labour standards throughout the Inditex supply chain. (<http://www.itglwf.org/DisplayDocument.aspx?idarticle=15382&langue=2>)
- **ICEM, IMF** Sign Global Accord with Umicore. The agreement contains language establishing a joint committee to review and monitor the agreement. (<http://www.icem.org/en/69-Global-Framework-Agreements/2409-ICEM-IMF-Sign-Global-Accord-with-Umicore>)
- **ILO/BWI** regional technical cooperation agreement for Latin America signed in order to fight against forced labour. The agreement was



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welcomed by the other GUFs. (

<http://www.bwint.org/default.asp?index=1291&Language=EN>)

- The latest issue (December 2007) of *International Union Rights* focused on forced labour and union action to protect the world's most marginalised workers. A copy can be obtained via their website. (www.ictur.org)
- Spotlight interview with Thwel Zin Toe and Khin San Htwe (Burma - **Burmese Women's Union**) « Exploitation, prostitution... they know the risks, but they can't survive in Burma » (<http://www.ituc-csi.org/spip.php?article1816>)
- Burma's "Saffron Revolution" is not over - an **IFHR/ITUC** report (December 2007) http://www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/pdf/Birmanian_FIDH_ITUC_101107.pdf

If you know other people interested in the issue please forward this newsletter and invite them to subscribe by emailing lyris@forum.ituc-csi.org and write "subscribe forcedlabour" in the message body. You are kindly invited to send any relevant information to be included in the next issue.

For more information please contact forcedlabour@ituc-csi.org

