



**2-3 DECEMBER, 2015 |**

**Sofia, Bulgaria**

**9<sup>TH</sup> ASIA EUROPE LABOUR  
FORUM (AELF9)**

**PROMOTING SUSTAINABLE  
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT IN ASIA  
AND EUROPE**

***Taking action on supply chains,  
migration and youth***

# Promoting Sustainable Social Development in Asia and Europe

*Taking action on supply chains, migration and youth*

**9<sup>th</sup> Asia Europe Labour Forum  
AELF9**

**Sofia, Bulgaria, 2-3 December, 2015**

## **CONTACT PERSONS FOR THIS PROGRAMME**

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## VENUES

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### **Accommodation of international participants**

#### **Hotel Central**

52, Hristo Botev blvd, Sofia 1000, Bulgaria

Phone: (+359 2) 434 1 166, Fax: (+359 2) 434 1 221

<http://central-hotel.com/en/>

### **AELF Conference venue on 2 December, 08:30-18:00**

#### **Hotel Central**

Meeting room: Conference Hall Serdika

52, Hristo Botev blvd, Sofia 1000, Bulgaria

Phone: (+359 2) 434 1 166, Fax: (+359 2) 434 1 221

<http://central-hotel.com/en/>

### **Social Partners Forum venue on 3 December, 9:00-12:00**

#### **Hotel Marinela Sofia**

Meeting room: TBA

James Bourchier Boulevard 100

1407 Sofia, Bulgaria

<http://hotel-marinela.com/j/index.php/en/>

### **AELF Conference venue on 3 December, 13:30-17:45**

#### **Rila Hotel**

Meeting room: Adakta/Hall "SIX" (3<sup>rd</sup> floor)

Kaloyan Str. 6

Sofia 1414

<http://hotelrila.bg/>

**PROGRAMME**

<b>DAY 0</b> <b>TUE, 1ST DECEMBER 2015</b>		
	<p><b>Arrival of International Participants</b></p> <p><b>Hotel Central</b> 52, Hristo Botev blvd, Sofia 1000, Bulgaria Phone: (+359 2) 434 1 166, Fax: (+359 2) 434 1 221 <a href="http://central-hotel.com/en/">http://central-hotel.com/en/</a></p> <p><i>FES sponsored participants may get complementary lunch / dinner at the Hotel based on their itineraries</i></p>	
<b>DAY 1</b> <b>WED, 2ND DECEMBER 2015</b> <b>Meeting room: Hotel Central, Conference Hall Serdika</b>		
08:30-08:45	<b>Registration</b>	
08:45-09:30	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>WELCOME REMARKS</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Lukas Bauer, Programme Manager</b> <i>Friedrich Ebert-Stiftung (FES) Office for Regional Cooperation in Asia</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Rudi Delarue</b> <i>Deputy Head of Unit, DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Zornitsa Rusinova</b> <i>Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Policy, Bulgaria</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Józef Niemiec, Special Adviser to the General Secretary</b> <i>European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC)</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Plamen Dimitrov, President</b> <i>Confederation of Independent Trade Unions in Bulgaria (CITUB)</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Dimitar Manolov, President</b> <i>Confederation of Labour Podkrepa (PODKREPA)</i></p>	
09:30-10:15	<p><b>ORIENTATION SESSION</b></p> <p>Introduced by <b>Lukas Bauer</b>, Programme Manager, <i>Friedrich Ebert-Stiftung (FES) Office for Regional Cooperation in Asia</i></p> <p><b>Yorgos Altintzis</b>, AELF Coordinator, <i>International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)</i></p>	<p><b>Objective:</b></p> <p>Newcomers in AELF will receive an introduction to AELF, its history, goals and practical outcomes.</p>

	<i>Followed by discussion</i>	
10:15-10:30	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
10:30-12:00	<p><b>THE AELF IN ASEM – PRIORITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS</b></p> <p><u>Introduced by</u>  <b>Józef Niemiec</b>, Special Adviser to the General Secretary, <i>European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC), EU</i></p> <p><b>Yorgos Altintzis</b>, AELF Coordinator, <i>International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)</i></p> <p><i>Followed by discussion</i></p>	<p><b>Objective:</b>  This session will reflect on the achievements of the AELF and its contributions to the ASEM process. A discussion will be held on the political priorities and the endorsed AELF Statement to LEMC5 will be formally adopted.</p>
12:00-13:30	<b>Lunch</b>	
13:30-15:30	<p><b>DEALING WITH A PERSISTING YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM</b></p> <p><u>Panellists (7 minutes)</u>  <b>Paolo Trichilo</b>, Minister Plenipotentiary, <i>Ministry of Labour and Social Policy, Italy</i></p> <p><b>Angelo Pagliara</b>, UIL Federation of youth and atypical workers, <i>Italian Labour Union (UIL), Italy</i></p> <p><b>Xuemei Wang</b>, Director of Division International Liaison Department, <i>All-China Federation of Trade Unions (ACFTU), China</i></p> <p><b>Tom Vrijens</b>, Youth Committee Member, <i>European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC), EU</i></p> <p><u>Invited interventions from the floor (5 minutes):</u></p> <p><b>Keiko Uchida</b>, Section Chief of International Division, <i>Japanese Trade Union Confederation (JTUC-RENGO), Japan</i></p> <p><b>Edwin Bustillos</b>, Secretary General, <i>Alliance of Progressive Labour (APL) SENTRO, Philippines</i></p> <p><u>Moderation</u>  <b>Ilze Ansule</b>, Youth Committee, <i>Free Trade Union Confederation of Latvia (LBAS), Latvia</i></p>	<p><b>Objective:</b>  According to ILO, almost 43 per cent of the global youth labour force is still either unemployed or working yet living in poverty.</p> <p>This session aims at an exchange and lessons learned on strategies to promote youth employment from both European and Asian perspectives.</p>
15:30-15:45	<b>Coffee Break</b>	

15:45-17:30	<p><b>SUPPLY CHAINS AND PRECARIOUS WORK</b></p> <p><u>Panellists (7 minutes)</u>  <b>Sabine Baun</b>, Director, <i>International Employment and Social Policy, Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, Germany</i></p> <p><b>Thampan Thomas</b>, Secretary, <i>Workers Assembly of India (HMS), India</i></p> <p><b>Nasrin Akter Dina</b>, General Secretary of Women’s Committee, <i>Bangladeshi Trade Union Organization (BJSD), Bangladesh</i></p> <p><u>Invited interventions from the floor (5 minutes):</u></p> <p><b>Dang Ngoc Tung</b>, President, <i>Vietnamese General Confederation of Labour (VGCL), Vietnam</i></p> <p><b>Alain Sutour</b>, International Secretary of the CGT Transport Workers’ Union, <i>General Confederation of Labour (CGT), France</i></p> <p><u>Moderation</u>  <b>Manuel Bonmati</b>, International Secretary, <i>General Union of Workers, (UGT), Spain</i></p>	<p><b>Discussion points:</b></p> <p>How the rise of precarious jobs within increasingly globalised supply chains can be addressed within the ASEM framework (as one of the main topics of 5th LEMC)?</p> <p>How could ASEM follow-up Germany’s leadership in G7 on supply chains?</p> <p>What lessons for the ILC2016 discussion?</p>
18:00	<p><i>Organisers to guide conference participants from Central Hotel to “Hadjidraganovite izbi”: Bulgarian Restaurant (15 min walk through the center of Sofia); special transport for those in need can be arranged upon request, kindly approach the organisers.</i></p> <p>Restaurant Hadjidraganovite izbi  Hristo Belchev Str. 18  <a href="http://www.izbite.com/en">http://www.izbite.com/en</a></p>	
~21:00	Walk back to Hotel Central / special transport upon request	
<p><b>DAY 2</b>  <b>THU, 3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER 2015</b>  <b>AELF: SPF (morning): Hotel Marinela Sofia / AELF (afternoon): Rila Hotel</b></p>		
08:15	<p><b>Transfer to Hotel Marinela</b> (for delegates to the 4<sup>th</sup> ASEM Social Partners’ Forum, ASEM SPF4)</p> <p><i>Meeting in the Hotel lobby at 08:15, the bus will depart 08:30 sharp</i></p> <p>Hotel Marinela Sofia  Address: James Bourchier Boulevard 100  1407 Sofia, Bulgaria</p>	
<p><b>THE 4<sup>TH</sup> SOCIAL PARTNERS’ FORUM</b></p>		

09:30-11:00	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ASEM Employers and Workers Forum</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Only with trade union and employers representatives</p>	<p><b>Main topics of ASEM SPF4</b> (proposed by labour – to be confirmed with business):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. measures for youth employment</li> <li>2. decent work for sustainability in global supply chains</li> <li>3. social protection and health and safety at work</li> <li>4. decent work in the sustainable development agenda</li> <li>5. migrant workers' rights</li> </ol>
11:00-11:15	<b>Coffee</b>	
11:15-12:00	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>ASEM Employers and Workers Forum</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Discussion with Ministers</p>	Keynote speeches from Ministers and discussion
12:00-13:00	<b>Lunch will be provided for participants in the 4th Social Partner's Forum at Hotel Marinela and FES sponsored participants that do not take part in the 4th Social Partner's Forum lunch at Hotel Central</b>	
13:00-13:30	<p><b>Transfer from Hotel Marinela to Rila Hotel - AELF9 to continue at meeting room: Adakta/Hall "SIX" (3rd floor)</b>  <i>AELF participants that do not take part in the 4<sup>th</sup> Social Partner's Forum will be guided by the organisers from Central Hotel to Rila Hotel (600 meter walking from Central Hotel). Alternatively you may find your own way to Rila Hotel.</i></p> <p><b>Patrick Itschert</b> (ETUC) stays to convey messages to Ministers (13:00-14:00)</p>	
13:30-15:00	<p><b>AN EVALUATION OF THE 4TH SOCIAL PARTNER'S FORUM</b></p> <p><u>Panellists</u>  <b>Dimitar Manolov</b>, President, <i>Confederation of Labour Podkrepa (PODKREPA), Bulgaria</i></p> <p><b>Plamen Dimitrov</b>, President, <i>Confederation of Independent Trade Unions in Bulgaria (CITUB), Bulgaria</i></p> <p><b>Phyo Sandar Soe</b>, <i>Confederation of Trade Unions in Myanmar (CTUM), Myanmar</i></p> <p><u>Moderation</u>  <b>Józef Niemiec</b>, Special Adviser to the General Secretary, <i>European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC), EU</i></p> <p><b>Patrick Itschert</b>, Special Adviser the General Secretary, <i>European</i></p>	<p><b>Objective:</b></p> <p>Evaluation of the ASEM SPF4 and discussion on next steps</p>

	<i>Trade Union Confederation (ETUC), EU</i>	
15:00-15:15	<b>Coffee</b>	
15:15-17:15	<p><b>MIGRANTS' RIGHTS IN AN UNSTABLE WORLD</b></p> <p><u>Panellists (7 minutes)</u>  <b>August Gächter</b>, Project Manager, <i>Centre for Social Innovation, Vienna, Austria</i></p> <p><b>Salvatore Marra</b>, ETUC Youth President, <i>European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC), EU and CGIL International, Italy</i></p> <p><b>Sulistri Afrileston</b>, Deputy President of Programme, <i>Confederation of Indonesian Prosperous Trade Unions (KSBSI), Indonesia</i></p> <p><b>Imelda M. Nicolas</b>, Secretary, <i>Commission on Filipinos Overseas (CFO), Philippines</i></p> <p><u>Invited interventions from the floor (5 minutes):</u></p> <p><b>Mohammed Zahoor Awan</b>, General Secretary, <i>Pakistan Workers Federation (PWF), Pakistan</i></p> <p><b>Humayun Mohammad Shakir</b>, General Secretary, <i>All Pakistan Trade Union Congress (APTUC), Pakistan</i></p> <p><b>Christian Vancoppenolle</b>, Coordinator in International Department, <i>General Federation of Belgian Labour (FGTB), Belgium</i></p> <p><u>Moderation</u>  <b>Ratna MATHAI-LUKE</b>, Project Manager, Political &amp; Economic Department, <i>Asia-Europe Foundation, Singapore</i></p>	<p><b>Discussion points:</b>  How can we improve the protection of migrant workers in the private sector? Has self-regulation been effective?</p> <p>What role can social partners and other organisations play when policies and laws to protect migrant workers do not work?</p> <p>What pertinent cooperation is required to support a fair, safe and equitable migration system in the current context of trafficking?</p> <p><b>Reference Document:</b>  Manolo Abella; August Gächter; Juliet Tschank, <i>A Triple Win in Migration: Ensuring Migrant Workers' Rights to Protect All Workers</i>, Asia-Europe Foundation and Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (2014).</p>
17:15-17:45	<p><b>CLOSING COMMENTS</b></p> <p><b>Khayankhyarvaa Amgalabbaatar</b>, President, <i>Confederation of Mongolian Trade Unions (CMTU), Mongolia</i></p> <p><b>Lukas Bauer</b>, Programme Manager, <i>FES Office for Regional Cooperation in Asia, Singapore</i></p> <p><b>Yorgos Altintzis</b>, Coordinator of AELF, <i>ITUC</i></p>	<p><b>Objective:</b>  Evaluation and feedback on the topics and format of the 9<sup>th</sup> AELF. Steps towards AELF10.</p>
17:45	Walk back to Hotel Central / special transport upon request	

**END OF THE PROGRAMME**