



TUDCN Asia-Pacific Debriefing, Bangkok, 8 April 2016

Present: Haridasan Parayarikkal (ITUC-AP), Rekson Silaban (KSBSI), Julius Cainglet (FFW), Rajeshwar Singh (FTUC), Athit Kong (CLC Cambodia), Bishnu Prasad (GEFONT), Sharan KC (APHEDA), Teruhiko Tekiguchi & Hitoshi Suzuki (JILAF), Siti Binti (MTUC), Jiheon Lee (FKTU), and Pong-Sul Ahn (ILO/ACTRAV).

TUDCN Secretariat: Paola Simonetti, Matt Simonds, Diego López, Joan Lanfranco, Theo Morrissey.

Summary of Issues discussed

- Participants exchanged feedbacks on the TUDCN GM contents and processes discussed during the previous days, highlighting the need to get engaged on the 2030 Agenda monitoring and follow up in the AP region.
- The capacity of trade unions to engage social dialogue with national governments was a major challenge highlighted. This is particularly so, in countries where the existence of trade unions is threatened.
- The role of ILO/ACTRAV was highlighted in providing support to national organisations to gather useful data for the A2030 monitoring process and also to provide support for engagement in a dialogue with country governments (<http://www.ituc-csi.org/TUDCN-AP-caucus-2016>)
- It was recognised that regional CSOs platforms exist on which trade unions should increase their engagement (e.g. RCEM). Civil society partners can provide support and trade unions must engage with them. Building up alliances with CSOs networks will be crucial to target and engage within regional organisations related to the A2030 implementation (<http://www.ituc-csi.org/TUDCN-AP-caucus-2016>)
- At national level trade unions will need to determine shared country strategies linked to Decent Work Country Programs and their link with A2030 goals, namely Goal 8 (http://www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/pdf/tudcn_ap_2016_caucus_presentation_web.pdf)
- The need for an active TUDCN in the Asia-Pacific was reaffirmed (following ITUC-AP GC decision). Reinforcing regional cooperation among trade unions was seen as essential to establishing and safeguarding their role as 'development actors' at national level. Increased engagement on a policy level was requested.
- The need for further harmonisation between the TUDCN regional and global priorities was also highlighted.
- There was a recognition, particularly among newer members, of a language barrier. First-time participants need tools to get up to speed on TUDCN topics, beyond just meeting documents.

Conclusions and Next steps

- ITUC-AP will send a second round of calls for nominations to AP affiliates to take part into the AP Development Network.
- The final list of representatives will be circulated by the ITUC –AP secretariat by the end of April.
- The TUDCN global secretariat will look into possible dates in June for the next official meeting of the regional development network.
- The present organisations agreed to undertake a first mapping exercise to assess how their national governments are following up the implementation of the A2030 goals. The TUDCN global secretariat will provide a survey questionnaire to support the organisations in carrying out the mapping.
- The results of the mapping will be presented at the next official meeting of the regional development network by the present organisations, steering a wider engagement of the AP’s network members.
- The mapping exercise should be also carried out at regional level (focusing on relevant regional institutions) by the ITUC-AP secretariat.
- To facilitate coordination and follow up, a mailing list will be created in order to share relevant information and get ready for the next regional meeting.
