

Workers' Rights, Toxic Threats: Accelerating State Action on Toxic Workplaces

6 March 2017
at CCV (Centre de Conférences Varembe), Geneva
<http://www.cicg.ch/fr/le-ccv/>

One worker dies every minute due to the use of hazardous substances in the workplace. The international human rights framework including a vast number of standards set by the International Labour Organization aim to protect workers' from toxic threats. However, workers' often lack the right to information on hazardous substances and wastes which is central to the enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms. Governments seem to pay little or at least not enough attention to protect workers' from toxic threats. This subject which has a long tradition in the trade union's movement need to be put higher on today's political agenda. How to achieve this by joining forces is one of the aims of this interactive meeting.

Monday, 6 March 2017

Venue: CCV, room Nyon

9:15-9:30	Welcome coffee and registration
9:30-9:45	Opening remarks and round of introduction Yvonne Theemann, Senior Program Officer, Trade and Development, Employment and Social Policy, FES Geneva
9:45-10:15	The status quo - presentation of recent reports Hilal Elver, Special Rapporteur on Right to Food Baskut Tuncak, Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes

10:15-11:15	<p>The challenge today</p> <p>This session will be an open discussion around the following aspects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scale of the impacts • Vulnerable groups • Priority regions • Key sectors/activities/substances • Key actors (ILO, Unions, Gov't, Businesses) and challenges they face <p>Moderator: Yvonne Theemann, Senior Program Officer, Trade and Development, Employment and Social Policy, FES Geneva</p>
11:15-11:30	Coffee Break
11:30-13:30	<p>Opportunities for intervention...</p> <p>...will be discussed in this interactive session alongside the following questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What issues have the greatest upside if addressed? The most co-benefits? • To raise the profile of the issue globally? • To increase engagement of ILO? Unions? Other relevant actors? • To enhance accountability? <p>Moderator: Yvonne Theemann, Senior Program Officer, Trade and Development, Employment and Social Policy, FES Geneva</p> <p>There will be the opportunity to protect your right to food. A light lunch will be provided around 12:30.</p>
13:30-14:00	<p>Wrap up, identification of next steps</p> <p>Hilal Elver, Special Rapporteur on Right to Food</p> <p>Baskut Tuncak, Special Rapporteur on the implications for human rights of the environmentally sound management and disposal of hazardous substances and wastes</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">↻ Closure of workshop ↻</p>