

WORLD AIDS DAY 2008

'LEAD, EMPOWER, DELIVER'



International
Labour
Office

Geneva

GLOBAL ROUND-UP OF ACTIVITIES IN THE WORLD OF WORK 1 DECEMBER 2008

Regional: The theme for the International Conference on AIDS and STIs in Africa (ICASA), Dakar 3-7 December 2008, is “Africa’s Response: Face the facts.” The ILO - with a tripartite delegation - is organizing a range of activities to demonstrate the effectiveness of workplace responses. These include seven satellite sessions, most in partnership, on key themes such as migration, public and private sector workplace programmes, responses in the mining sector, women in business, and the proposed new labour standard on HIV/AIDS. In addition the ILO is offering four skills-building workshops, holding a special media event, and organizing an exhibition of posters depicting HIV/AIDS leadership by constituents across the continent.

Country by country:

Brazil: The world of work is supporting the new national prevention campaign, being launched on World AIDS Day, **targeting the over-50s:** the employers’ organization SESI and a number of workplaces will take part in the campaign.

Cameroon: The ILO Cooperatives and HIV/AIDS project in Cameroon is running education sessions on 28 and 29 November focusing on HIV prevention and treatment, and how to tackle discrimination and stigmatization in **cooperatives.** This will be followed by a voluntary counselling and testing event among cooperators and their families. On 1 December the UN is holding a joint exhibition at the Conference Hall in Yaoundé, with education materials and condoms for public distribution.

China: The ILO and the State Council AIDS Committee Office will jointly launch, on 25 November in Beijing, China’s first HIV/AIDS prevention campaign targeting **migrant workers.** The multi-media campaign aims at reducing stigma and discrimination, improving working conditions, and encouraging HIV prevention among mobile male migrant labourers, particularly those working in construction, natural resources, and transportation. On 1 December, in Yunnan Province, the ILO will invite the media to come and meet migrant workers at an employment agency for migrants (where HIV/AIDS information is provided) and selected mining sites.

Ethiopia: The UN system-wide Workplace World AIDS Day Commemoration is being led by the Learning Strategy Team, chaired by the ILO. The theme is **Universal Access through UN Cares.** Activities are being held in the compound of the Economic Commission for Africa with a town hall meeting also planned. The UN Health Care Centre in Addis will have a wellness campaign offering a range of tests from weight/ body mass index to HIV. The UN is also involved in events across the country organized by the National HIV/AIDS Office.

Germany: The ILO is holding a major conference on **decent work** in Berlin, which will take the opportunity to highlight the ways that good AIDS policies in the workplace make an important contribution to achieving decent work.

Kenya: The government has accelerated HIV testing and counselling through a countrywide effort. A key strategy has been the **Workplace Testing and Counselling Campaign** launched on 14 October and culminating on World AIDS Day. At the launch 51 CEOs were tested, many of them with family members. To support the campaign, workplace testing and counselling services have been made available at companies around the country.

Moldova: The ILO/GTZ project team in Moldova is organizing a concert for young trade unionists dedicated to “**Youth and World AIDS Day**” on 28 November. They will also hold a roundtable for young leaders in the trade unions. The concert and round table will bring together young representatives of 32 trade union branches with the specific aim of calling for leadership in their trade unions to take action against HIV/AIDS.

Nigeria: the Federal Ministry of Labour is working with the social partners and the ILO to organize a tripartite forum, ‘**Workplace HIV/AIDS responses: Leadership, Empowerment & Delivery (Employers and Workers)**’, During the event 25 ministries, parastatals and private companies will present their new HIV/AIDS personnel policies, and a mass distribution is being arranged of the National Workplace Policy on HIV/AIDS and related IEC materials. On 28 November, the UN Learning Team – led by the ILO - is holding a day of HIV/AIDS activities for the UN workplace, including a sponsored walk and condom promotion by peer educators.

Papua New Guinea: The Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS, BAHA, is running a **Please Wear RED campaign,** and encouraging workplaces to introduce a policy on HIV/AIDS or review their existing one.

Peru: The ILO-OPEC HIV/AIDS team in Peru is supporting the national AIDS programme in its activities, and making a special effort to **bring together the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Labour** to jointly lead the opening ceremony.

Senegal: The country will host the 15th International Conference on AIDS and STIs in Africa (**ICASA**) in Dakar from 3-7 December 2008 (see above).

Sri Lanka: The Ministry of Labour is organizing an awareness-raising programme for workers from different sectors and holding an exhibition. The Employers’ Federation and Sri Lankan Airlines will launch their **workplace programmes,** and several of the trade unions will also conduct activities.

Tanzania: The **UN Cares Minimum Standards on HIV/AIDS** package for UN staff will be launched in Tanzania on 1 December. The Minimum Standards were developed with inputs from the ILO and in the framework of the ILO Code of Practice on HIV/AIDS and the world of work. The UN Cares programme seeks to protect the rights and health of UN staff, and equip them to deal more effectively with HIV/AIDS in their ongoing work.

Trinidad & Tobago: A workshop is being held to share the data gathered, good practice developed and lessons learnt by the ILO-US Department of Labor project for **workplace HIV education.** Representatives of a number of ministries, including education, health, labour, tourism and youth, together with employers and workers, UN agencies and NGOs, are gathering to learn more about the achievements of workplace programmes in the country in helping reduce the spread of HIV and mitigate its impact.

Uganda: The ILO is supporting the national activities which this year focus on the ‘**One Million HIV Tests World AIDS Day Campaign**’, with marches through Kampala and other cities and a day’s programme of events with a wide range of partners at the Lugogo Indoor Stadium in the presence of the Vice-President.

Ukraine: The ILO/GTZ project team in Ukraine is organizing a **concert in Kiev** on 5 December dedicated to World AIDS Day and a press conference. The concert will feature a performance by a famous Belgian quartet and will be attended by the Ambassador of Belgium along with the Federation of Trade Unions of Ukraine, the ILO and GTZ.