



International Commission on Occupational Health - ICOH  
Commission Internationale de la Santé au Travail - CIST

Founded in 1906 as Permanent Commission



## **World Day for Safety and Health at Work: 28 April 2014**

*The International Commission on Occupational Health (ICOH) calls for joint actions for preventing occupational and work-related diseases and injuries by meeting the changing needs at the workplace around the world*

Reinforced international collaboration is urgent to meet the changing needs at the workplace in increasingly globalizing economy. We fully support the international collaboration addressing emerging trends in the field of occupational safety and health. It is timely that the World Day for Safety and Health at Work in 2014 focuses on safety and health in the use of chemicals at work as the theme for strengthened international collaboration in this field.

The magnitude of work-related injuries, diseases and fatalities worldwide draws international attention. As detection and prevention of many occupational diseases is often difficult, collaborative effort is strongly needed to enhance awareness and strengthen coherent policies and their implementation. In international collaboration, it is particularly important to emphasize the development of proactive risk assessment and control and the extension of effective and basic occupational health services with the active support of legislation and action-oriented programmes.

It is encouraging that action-oriented programmes for applying proactive measures are spreading in various sectors and in developing regions with the collaboration of international partner organizations. Practical toolkits for workplace improvements in these various sectors are gaining importance as effective means of preventing work-related injuries and diseases of workers exposed to a variety of occupational hazards particularly in dealing with new technologies and chemicals. We need to further promote international networking for the development and use of locally adjusted toolkits as practical means of achieving a culture of prevention at the workplace.

ICOH expresses warm congratulations on the 95th Anniversary of the ILO and its leadership role in the improvement of safety and health at work throughout the world. We extend our sincere gratitude for our continued collaborative relations. We reiterate the call for sustained joint effort in developing effective means of preventing work-related injuries and diseases.

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President of the International Commission on  
Occupational Health (ICOH)