

DIALOGUE MEETING

Improving labour standards in global supply chains through collaboration with local and international trade unions

Date: 20th June 2012

Time: 4.00 pm – 5.30 pm

Location: Danish Ethical Trading Initiative, Bredgade 26, (entrance through brown gate from St. Annæ Plads no. 1)

Agenda

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- 4:00 pm Welcome and introduction by DIEH
- 4:10 pm Presentation of IndustriAll Global Union by representative from ITGLWF/IndustriALL
- Discussion:
- How can multi-stakeholder initiatives and their corporate members collaborate with IndustriALL to improve labour standards in global supply chains?
- 4:40 pm Presentation of local trade unions, how they work and try to engage in social dialogue in their country by representatives from trade unions in Bangladesh, India and Turkey
- Discussion:
- How can multi-stakeholder initiatives and their corporate members collaborate with local trade unions (or trade union federations) to improve labour standards in sourcing countries?
- 5:10 pm General discussion and comments from participants
- 5:30 pm Closing remarks

The meeting is open for DIEH members and invited guests. Registration before 13th June to MKL@dieh.dk

Members of the Danish Ethical Trading Initiative (DIEH) have an exclusive opportunity to learn more about a new global union federation to be established at a founding Congress in Copenhagen on June 18-20, 2012 to represent workers in manufacturing, energy, mining, and textile sectors at the global level. The new organisation IndustriAll will bring together affiliates of the International Federation of Chemical, Energy, Mine and General Workers' Unions (ICEM), the International Textile, Garment and Leather Workers' Federation (ITGLWF), and the International Metalworkers' Federation (IMF).

IndustriALL will unite 50 million manufacturing, energy and mineworkers throughout strategic supply chains worldwide. The merger is intended to build a strong counterpart to multinational companies that works for a new economic and social model that puts people first.

Furthermore, members will have the opportunity to meet with some of the relevant local trade union representatives, affiliates of the new global union federation, who will present and discuss collaboration opportunities with multi-stakeholder initiatives and their members. Through its focus on freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining DIEH has developed recommendations that emphasize the importance of strengthening and improving conditions in the local communities:

“Companies should join multi-stakeholder initiatives where possible to support efforts nationally and internationally in finding broader solutions to help promote freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining”.

“In order to ensure long term improvements of workers' rights, local stakeholders should be empowered and supported in their efforts to enhance their bargaining position and dispute settlement capacity”.

