



Draft for ASETUC-Conference "ASEANs impact on workers' rights" 22nd – 25th October 2009 in Bangkok (Thailand)

Since its formation in March 2007 the ASEAN Service Employee Trade Union Council (ASETUC) has made major progress in positioning as a labour partner of the ASEAN and the emergent civil society movement in the region. ASETUC is currently deeply involved with three major concerns: migrant workers' welfare, occupational safety and health for service sector employees, as well as the ASEAN Charter and services trade liberalization under the ASEAN Framework Agreement on Services (AFAS). After ASETUC was founded mainly by the support of UNI APRO, BWI AP has also officially joined the network and PSI AP, ITF AP and other regional GUFs are keen to develop future cooperation and common projects.

The "Regional Trade Union Programme Asia and Pacific" of the Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung is supporting ASETUC from its beginning and aims to cooperate even closer next month's to achieve in 2009 the following common goals:

- Realise an assesment about ASEAN's implications towards workers' rights and trade unions
- Create visibility for ASETUC as regional player of trade unions to ASEAN
- Develop outreach-tools for ASETUC towards national structures via trainings and materials

Therefore FES and ASETUC have currently assigned Prof. Mar S.V. Amante (Professor from Hanyang University, Korea) and three sector experts with the task of conduction a study upon "ASEAN Economic Integration and its Impact on Workers and Trade Unions". This study would be the preparation and input for the ASETUC-Conference "ASEANs impact on workers' rights", that will take place from 22nd – 25th October 2009 in Phuket (Thailand). This meeting of 40 representatives from trade-unionists and officials from ASETUC will serve on the first day as strategic conference of ASETUC, where they review the study and produce policy recommendations. Afterwards the study and the recommendations will be presented during the second day to officials from the "ASEAN Senior Labour Officials Meeting" (ASEAN SLOM) and on the third day to a joint dialogue with civil society and representatives from ASEAN foreign ministries.

Draft Agenda

Thursday, 22th October – Arrival Day

Until 18:00 **Arrival** of 40 ASETUC/FES participants to Bangkok (Thailand)

20:00 Welcome **Dinner** by the ASETUC and FES

Friday, 23rd October – Day for Internal Review by ASETUC

- 9:00 - 9:30 **Opening and Introduction**
- Chris Ng, UNI APRO
 - Erwin Schweisshelm, FES
- Introduction of Participants**
- 9:30 – 10:00 **ASETUC Report and Introduction to ASEAN General and Sectoral Mappings**
Mohamed Shafie BP Mammal, ASETUC Secretary General
- 10:00 - 10:30 **ATUC Report**
- 10:30 - 11:00 **Morning Break**
- 11:00 - 12:00 **Introduction of the study "ASEAN Economic Integration and its Impact on Workers and Trade Unions"**
Prof Mar S.V. Amante (Lead-Researcher, Professor from Hanyang University, Korea)
- 12:00 – 13:00 **Panel Presentations of the Sectoral Mappings: (Finance, Healthcare, Telecom and Construction Sector)**
Four Researchers
- 13:00 – 14:30 **LUNCH**
- 14:30 – 16:00 **Sectoral Break-Out Groups:**
Discussions and recommendations based on the Sectoral research and mappings.
- 16:00 – 16:30 **Coffee Break**
- 16:30 - 17:00 **Break-out Group Report Backs**
- 17:00 – 17:30 **General Discussion: *Synergy of Break-Out Group Reports and Development of Overall ASETUC political policy and recommendations***
- 19.00 **Dinner / Arrival of 10 SLOM officials to Conference**

Saturday, 24th October – Day for External Review with SLOM officials

- 9.0 – 9:30 **Welcome**
- ┆ ASETUC
 - ┆ FES
- 9:30 – 10:00 **Introductions of Participants**
- 10:00 – 10:30 **Understanding Mechanism and Work of SLOM**
SLOM Representative
- 10:30 – 11:00 **Morning Break**

- 11:00 – 12:30 **Analysis of Various Industries**
GUF Representatives
- ATUC Presentation**
Representative of ATUC
- 12:30 – 14:00 **LUNCH**
- 14:00 – 15:30 **Presentation of Sectoral Research and Mappings and ASETUC Recommendations 1:**
Finance and Telecommunications
- 15:30 – 16:00 Afternoon Break
- 16:00 – 17:30 **Presentation of Sectoral Research and Mappings and ASETUC Recommendations 2:**
Health Care and Construction and Forestry
- 17:30 **Future Cooperation and Work**
- 18:00 **Conclusion**
- 19:00 **Official Reception with representatives of Global Unions, Trade Union Solidarity Support Organisations and Thailand Trade Union movement**

Sunday, 25th October – Departure of all delegates

After the conference the national ASETUC delegations from the conference and other national stakeholders like the National Trade Union Councils together with the national FES offices will organise at least one debriefing session in all ASEAN countries in order to present the study, their findings and agreed recommendations. With these presentations ASETUC will start off national campaigns – either in joint sessions with their national trade-union or even with governmental representatives from labour ministry or parliament.