

DOMESTIC WORKERS AT THE FRONT-LINES



Newsletter #39

August 27, 2020

"WE WANT TO GO HOME"

Migrant Domestic workers' voices echo in Lebanon.



Lebanon, 3 weeks after the explosion, migrant domestic workers are still trapped there. The IDWF is partnering with the Anti-Racism Movement (ARM) to provide support such as but not limited to shelters, food, medicine and eventually plan to cover costs for air tickets.

Roula Seghaier, IDWF Strategic Program Officer appeared on Al Jazeera English along with the @Anti-Racism Movement and @Egna Legna Besidet, to speak of the situation of Migrant Domestic Workers stranded in Lebanon. #CareForThoseWhoCareForYou and #EvacuateNow

Click to [here](#) watch Al Jazeera English stream

Support Migrant Domestic workers today

[Donate here](#)

A group of Kenyan domestic workers requesting to be repatriated spend the night outside the Kenyan embassy in Beirut, Lebanon.



Click [here](#) to read the article "In Wake of Beirut's Devastating Blast, Stranded Kenyan Domestic Workers Demand Repatriation" by The Fuller project

In the spotlight!

Sandigan Kuwait Domestic Workers Association The first-ever IDWF affiliate in the MENA region

Formed in 2018, the Sandigan Kuwait DW Association has 395 members. Its vision is By The Year 2023, SKDWA Will Be Recognized As An Effective And Efficient Organization that Operates Locally And Internationally; Develop And Provide Quality Assistance And Services For The Welfare And Rights Of Domestic Workers.

In August 2020, it has successfully affiliated to the IDWF after satisfying all requirements. .

Click [here](#) to learn more about our affiliates.

5 Action Points to protect migrant domestic workers under the Covid-19:

IDWF POLICY BRIEF

Are you incorporating these recommendations into your work?

Policy Recommendations for Domestic workers under COVID-19

While contexts are diverse across the regions, the core demands of domestic workers movements are the same and resonate with one another. Aside the urgent alleviation of the COVID-19 induced hardships, they look into the deeper-seated injustices, to make sustainable change towards the alleviation of economic and gender inequalities of the sector.



Domestic Workers with Migration Status



Collaborate with embassies to support MDWs looking to return to their countries of origin, facilitate their travels, and exempt them from paying any pending fees associated to their documentation status.

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Domestic Workers with Migration Status



Grant automatic amnesty and visa extensions to MDWs whose documentation has expired and facilitate their acquisition of new paperwork.

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Domestic Workers with Migration Status



Make available safe shelters with proper quarantine measures, food, protective gears, and medical equipment for MDWs waiting to return to their countries of origin.

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Domestic Workers with Migration Status



Guarantee the safety of irregular MDWs from deportation and arrest after the crisis is alleviated.

Policy Recommendations for Domestic workers under COVID-19

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Domestic Workers with Migration Status



Facilitate travel and provide legal and financial exceptions for DWs to cross national borders, during their closure, so they can reach their countries of destination and deliver essential work.

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