

International Domestic Workers Federation



IDWF e-Newsletter #3 - APR 2014

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1. Thirteen Ratifications! Our Next Targets: Tanzania, Jamaica, Chile and Mexico

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1. Thirteen Ratifications! Our Next Targets: Tanzania, Jamaica, Chile and Mexico



13 countries have ratified the C189:

Uruguay, South Africa, Philippines, Paraguay, Nicaragua, Mauritius, Italy, Guyana, Germany, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Bolivia and Argentina.



Tanzania:

Tanzania launches an Action Plan. The official launch of the Tripartite Action Plan Towards Decent Work for Domestic Workers was held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania on February 27, 2014. This gives a big kickstart towards the ratification of C189 in that country. The launch was officiated by the

Minister of Labour, Hon. Gaudencia Kabaka in the presence of the employers' association, trade unions, CHODAWU (our affiliate), NGOs, media and ILO officials. Her key message was that the government should ratify the C189. She also recognized the efforts of all parties to date, including the IUF and IDWF, in moving the process forward.



Jamaica:

Following persistent calls and actions from the Jamaica Household Workers Union, including a broadcast on five radio stations, the Prime Minister, Ms. Portia Simpson Miller, [made a public announcement on International Women Day](#). She said that the government was moving towards the Ratification. "Together with our affiliates, we

will intensify our actions until we win the C189 in Jamaica", said the Union.

2. Our Affiliates' Activities

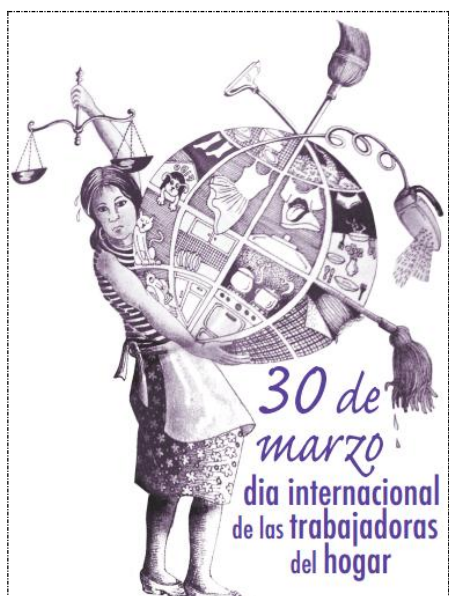
International Women's Day:

- [Burkina Faso](#)
- [Guinea](#)
- [South Africa](#)
- [Tanzania](#)
- [Togo](#)
- [Trinidad & Tobago](#)
- [Uganda](#)
- [Zimbabwe](#)



International Domestic Workers' Day in Latin America, March 30:

- Read and download [the activities report](#) (in Spanish).





The campaign to Stop Abuses of all Migrant Domestic Workers in Hong Kong is gathering momentum!

- Show your support please [sign the petition](#).



Domestic Workers Workshop, Lima, Peru, March 28-30

- 40 domestic workers from various regions in Peru met in Lima for three days to discuss the challenges domestic workers face in exercising their rights. The problems of migrant domestic workers were highlighted, especially those resulting from the mal-practices of private employment agencies. They were joined by representatives of domestic workers organizations from some countries in the Andean region: Bolivia, Colombia and Ecuador. They exchanged experiences about their respective C189 Ratification Campaigns. At the end of the meeting, [a joint letter](#) was adopted that is to be sent to the Minister of Labour in Peru calling for immediate ratification of C189. Ms Ana Jara, the Minister of Labour, came to address the participants on March 30.



CIAWU became an IUF affiliate

- The Commercial, Industrial and Allied Workers Union (CIAWU) in Malawi became an IUF affiliate after the IUF Administrative Committee approved its application in March 2014. The CIAWU is an IDWF affiliate with 535 members.

3. Asian Domestic Workers Leaders Discussed Regional Networking, February 23-24



Representatives from some affiliates in Asia [met in Bangkok for two days to review the past organizing efforts of domestic workers in the Asia region](#). The Committee for Asian Women (CAW), a women's NGO, was recognized for its contribution in helping to set up the Asian Domestic Workers Network (ADWN) in 2004. This was the first ever Asian network of domestic workers. At the meeting, the concept of Community of Practice (CoP), an on-line knowledge/information network was introduced as a vehicle to help the IDWF strengthen sharing of information amongst its affiliates. A visioning event on this is planned for the end of April and will be supported by the ILO Asia.

4. IDWF Regional Coordinator, Marcelina Bautista received Award on Equality & No Discrimination



Our Regional Coordinator for Latin America, Marcelina, [received the Mexican National Award for Equality and No Discrimination](#) (Premio por la Igualdad y la No Discriminación 2013) by Conapred (National Council to Prevent Discrimination) on March 31.

5. IDWF new Website and Facebook

**We are
domestic
workers!**

An illustration of three raised fists in shades of yellow and orange, positioned behind the text 'We are domestic workers!'.

IDWF has a new look on [our official website](#) and [Facebook](#) and we are now officially changed the address to **IDWFED**. Like and follow us via website and various social media to receive news on domestic workers from different parts of the world.

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