



ILO Social Protection Week held in Geneva

09 December 2019 / AMRC

The International Labour Organization (ILO) held the Global Social Protection Week in Geneva, Switzerland last 25-28 of November 2019, with the theme Achieving SDG 1.3 and Universal Social Protection in the context of the Future of Work. According to the program, the events surrounding the Social Protection Week “will provide a roadmap for the future of social protection within the framework of the recently adopted ILO Centenary Declaration for the Future of Work”.

The financing aspect of social protection, as well as gendered social protection took a big space in the discussion during the whole week. There are current proposals to create an international financing mechanism where countries can get support during times of crisis, as strong criticisms have been

hoisted on international financing institutions, including World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, who in the past have pushed countries to take on austerity measures, with social protection financing taking a big hit in terms of funding.

Unpaid care work was unpacked and discussed in many sessions. Some countries have shown their initiative to tackle unpaid care work and address the needs of women, who often carry the burden of care work in the family and society. There were proposals to institutionalize recognition of unpaid care work, as well as provide appropriate mechanisms to reduce the burden on women.

AROSP was able to attend the events and shared information with other participants about the work it is doing in the region ■

AROSP joins global meeting on social protection floors

09 December 2019 / AMRC

The Global Coalition on Social Protection Floors (GCSPF) held its global meeting last 24-25 November, 2019 in Geneva, Switzerland. Core team members of the GCSPF from Latin America, Africa, Asia, Europe and North America attended the event. The Asia Monitor Resource Centre, the AROSP standing secretariat, attended the event to represent the South Team from Asia.

The topics discussed during the 2-day meeting included the recent International Labour Organization (ILO) General Survey on Social Protection Floors, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Social Financing Strategy, and the Universal Social Protection 2030 (USP2030) initiative. Workshops were held to deepen the understanding on Social Security Standards, using the human rights lens to view social protection, and appropriate strategies to engage USP2030. There were also discussions on Universal Health Care as a cross-cutting issue, care work and social protection, as well as the strategy in developing a global financing mechanism for social protection.

The meeting also came up with inputs for the ILO Social Protection Week. A commitment statement was drafted and read during the commitment session of the ILO SP Week. A new video on social protection floors was also shared and launched during the ILO SP Week. AROSP also proposed during the meeting the need for the GCSPF to include more marginalized groups coming from the South ■



GCSPF Commitments towards achieving Universal Human Rights-Based Social Protection Systems and Floors

26 November 2019 / GCSPF

Our Global Coalition for Social Protection Floors comprises over 100 non State actors, civil society organizations and trade unions. We work towards the implementation of universal, residence and human rights-based social protection systems and floors – in line with human rights instruments, international labour standards, ILO Recommendation No.202 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Our coalition is active on issues which in our view are essential building blocks to achieve universal social protection systems and floors for all. These include:

- Robust monitoring of the implementation of the four social security guarantees of recommendation 202
- National and international financing mechanisms for social protection

- Participation in the design, promotion and monitoring of the implementation of social protection systems and floors
- National and international action required to ensure delivery of social protection systems and floors including universal access to essential health care
- The importance of gender equality and rights-based care policies

We are a committed member of the interim Steering Committee of the USP2030 partnership. We are pleased to participate in specific country action covered by the EU Action Programme on “Synergies in Social Protection and Public Finance Management”. We are confident that this partnership with ILO, UNICEF and the EU will strengthen national-level dialogues to reach consensus to further social protection for all.

Our four priority areas are:

1. Articulate the transformative potential of social protection for social development, the eradication of poverty, for gender equality, to enable people and societies to address the impact of climate change and to reduce inequalities.
2. Strengthen partnerships, advocacy and lobbying on social protection floors, highlighting progress and gaps. We stress the need for enhanced coverage, adequate financing, and tax justice.
3. Identify and help overcome obstacles in the delivery of social protection, including means-testing and conditioning benefits, and ineffective delivery systems that exclude marginalized and hard to reach people.
4. Strengthen social accountability through assessment-based national dialogue, capacity building, data disaggregation and monitoring to achieve universal residence- and human rights-based social protection systems and floors for all people on our planet.

Thank you for your attention ■

The AROSP Newsletter

The AROSP Newsletter is a bulletin that provides updates about the struggles, campaigns, and other activities of the members of the AROSP network. The articles are collated by the Asia Monitor Resource Center (AMRC), a non-profit labour rights NGO based in Hong Kong.

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The Editorial Team

Abu Mufakhir
Nina Lau
Noel Colina





Asia Monitor Resource Centre

Flat 7, 9/F Block A, Fuk Keung Industrial Building
66-68 Tong Mi Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong
Tel (852) 2332-1364 Fax (852) 2385-5319

Email amrc@amrc.org.hk

Website www.amrc.org.hk

 Asia Monitor Resource Centre

 @amrc.hongkong