



**Report of
the 15th ASEAN-OSHNET Coordinating Board Meeting (CBM-15)
Singapore, 5-6 May 2014**

**AGENDA ITEM 5. COOPERATION OF THE ASEAN-OSHNET WITH
EXTERNAL PARTNERS [OPEN SESSION]**

a) International Labour Organization (ILO)

1. Ms. Ingrid Christensen, Senior Specialist on OSH of ILO Bangkok, presented the potential areas of collaboration in 2014-2015, outlining the key developments on OSH in ASEAN and beyond giving a progress update of the 2013 potential areas of collaboration. Potential areas of collaboration for 2014-2015 include strengthening national OSH system (capacity building and development), formulation, implementation as well as monitoring, review and evaluation of national OSH policies and programmes, integration of safety and healthy into other initiatives/ areas, information and knowledge sharing, and initiatives on the impact of the ASEAN economic integration to labour sector. The presentation slides of ILO appears as **ANNEX 11**.

b) International Association of Labour Inspection (IALI)

2. Ms. Michele Pattersons, President of IALI, proposed for potential areas of collaboration between IALI and ASEAN-OSHNET in building the framework around IALI's six international common principles for labour inspection and providing IALI's expertise at ASEAN-OSHNET conferences and workshops. She also presented the international common principles for labour inspection. The presentation slides of IALI appears as **ANNEX 12 and ANNEX 13**.

c) European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA)

3. Dr. Christa Sedlatschek, Director of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work presented five priority areas of the EU-OSHA notably anticipating change, facts and figures, tools for OSH management, raising awareness, and networking knowledge. She presented possible collaboration efforts through knowledge-sharing and tapping into their expertise as they have developed methodology for research. The presentation slides of EU-OSHA appears as **ANNEX 14**.

d) Japan Ministry of Health Labor and Welfare (MLHW)

4. Mr. Hideo Kamishi, Senior Coordinating Officer, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare of Japan, shared information on the previous and on-going cooperation between ASEAN and Japan on the labour sector, challenges in implementation, and technical cooperation programmes being planned. He also shared information on the possible future direction of cooperation through JICA and ILO-ROAP subject to fund availability, notably on the strengthening of national OSH programme of CLMV Countries in collaboration with Japanese Companies operating in ASEAN Member States. There was also a possibility of collaboration directly with MLHW. The presentation slides of MLHW appear as **ANNEX 15**

e) Korean Occupational Safety and Health Agency (KOSHA)

5. Mr. Jaewang Lee, Senior Manager of KOSHA, shared information on bilateral technical assistance particularly on the reviews of OSH regulations and standards in the Philippines in 2012, Myanmar in 2013, and Mongolia in 2014; and education and trainings particularly on setting up and strengthening the OSH training centre in Viet Nam in collaboration with MOLISA. New projects were also highlighted including OSH policy consultations based on demand from other countries, OSH education and capacity building trainings. KOSHA welcomed interests from AMS for collaboration on similar activities. KOSHA invited ASEAN Member States to the 31st International Congress on Occupational Health on 31 May – 5 July 2015 in Seoul, and offered itself to host the CBM-16 in conjunction with the Congress.

f) ASEAN Service Employees Trade Union Council (ASETUC)

6. Mr. Christopher Ng, Regional Secretary of ASETUC, shared information on the background of establishment of ASETUC with the main objective to promote social dialogues amongst the tripartite partners on various focus areas which include occupational safety and health. ASETUC highlighted the development of OSH guidelines for retail industry, hospital and construction, which had been published and translated to Bahasa Indonesia, Vietnamese, Thai and Japanese. ASETUC received indications of some companies from various countries to use the guidelines for improvement of OSH standards, and planned for capacity building trainings complementing the guidelines. ASETUC observed that there were only few countries worldwide that had developed national OSH guidelines/standards for retail industry. He stressed the importance for the ASEAN-OSHNET to collaborate on more comprehensive activities to create policies that ensure health and safety is improved. The presentation slides of ASETUC **ANNEX 16**.

7.3. Strengthening regional and international cooperation beyond current partner countries and international organisations

- **OPEN SESSION**

7. ASEAN Member States shared their responses to the proposed areas of collaboration by the external collaborators, and also requested for support to some initiatives of the ASEAN-OSHNET.
8. The Meeting noted the responses from the external collaborators, as follows:
 - a. In response to Indonesia's request for technical assistance from the EU-OSHA and ILO on the area of nanotechnology. ILO noted that ASEAN-OSHNET is following the development and research results in term of nanotechnology. The topic is addressed in different publications e.g. the recent report for the World Day on OSH. These publications are available on the website and maybe shared with ASEAN-OSHNET. EU-OSHA informed that the expertise of its PEROSH group which is a large consortium of institutes handling nanotechnology.
 - b. ILO agreed in principle to the requested technical support to the TOT on OSHMS and risk management to be convened by the Philippines and the TOT on OSH in WISH led by Cambodia subject to availability of funds. ILO shared information on its on-going work to develop a new WISH manual and the on-going project in Indonesia on women's empowerment related to WISH. ILO proposed that the Cambodia-led TOT could be convened in 2015 after the ILO's WISH manual would be available.
 - c. ILO was of the view that the ASEAN-OSHNET Scorecard would best be used as a progress monitoring tool of each country's own performance at this initial stage. ILO further proposed to examine the indicators with a view to arrive at common definitions and understanding of the concepts and systems. Without a harmonized approach, it would appear premature to embark on cross-border benchmarking ILO proposed that the research planned by Indonesia could look at similar researches from other regions and the scope of research should be clear and workable.
 - d. In response to Indonesia's request for ILO's support for capacity building on data collection on prevalence of occupational diseases, work related diseases and OSH implementation in health sector such as hospitals and medical laboratories, ILO would share the HEALTH WISE training materials, which has recently been finalized and published. The LEGOSH database which provides a range of topics on the national labour legislations concerning OSH from countries worldwide was recommended to be accessed. The EU-OSHA also offered itself to share information from some of the EU Countries' guidelines on OSH in health sector.
 - e. A workshop on OSH inspection was proposed to be convened in conjunction with the ASEAN Labour Inspection Conference or to be planned as part of the Conference's recommendations in light of promoting greater convergence of OSH and labour inspection. IALI shared information that the experiences of some of the EU Member States in benchmarking on OSH to track progress of a country against

its own performance and case studies could be looked at by the ASEAN-OSHNET for its Scorecard.

- f. EU-OSHA agreed to share its research methodology and OSH risk assessment tool with ASEAN Member States. They also shared information on its assessment on the costs and benefits of investment on OSH to companies. Another assessment was being planned to focus on SMEs. Online instrument of risks assessment could be shared with the ASEAN-OSHNET, and trainings on the use of the online instrument are accessible to ASEAN Member States.
 - g. KOSHA noted with appreciation the response of ASEAN Member States to the proposed hosting of the CBM-16 in Seoul.
9. The Meeting noted the comments from some ASEAN Member States, as follows:
- a. Malaysia was of the view that ASEAN Member States would need to study the EU-OSHA's and IALI's tools as reference, before considering the idea of convening a training on the use of those tools.
 - b. The Philippines would consult with its capital the IALI's proposal for a workshop back-to-back with the 4th ASEAN Labour Inspection Conference planned for 3-4 July 2014 in Manila. The tentative programme would be shared as soon as it would become available. A proposal of the proposed workshop could be developed by the Philippines for consideration of the ASEAN-OSHNET, and to be presented at the Conference. Singapore as the PAC for inspection expressed its readiness to support the Philippines in the concept development. Collaboration on this area could also be undertaken with ILO.
10. China expressed its interest to share with ASEAN Member States its experience in implementing its national OSH management system amidst of development of industries in the country.
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