

Q1: Do workers', rights and right to occupational health belong to basic human rights?

International generic instruments for Human Rights

- Universal Declaration of Human Rights UDHR (1948)
- UN International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (1966/1976) & UN Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966/1976)
- Regional Human Rights Charters for Africa and Americas
- HR Charter and Social Charter for Europe
- 6000 multilateral and about 60 000 bilateral Agreements and Covenants for global international governance
- 250 International Organizations, IGOs, and 1500 UN-registered NGOs for support of implementation

Human rights at work

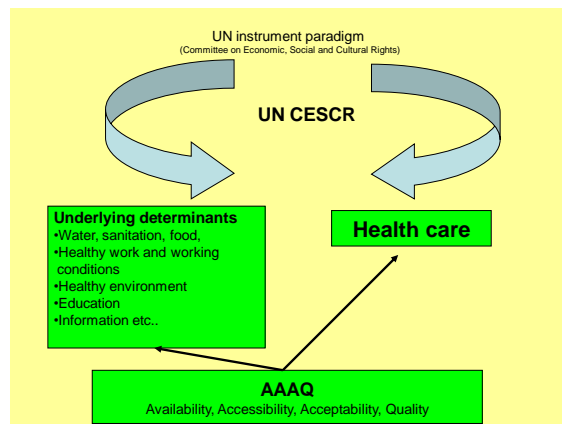
- 44 Special rights have been stipulated by the core UN Instruments on Human Rights.
- 15 (one third) of those rights deal with various aspects of human rights at work

Right to work

UN-CESCR

- Right to life
- Right to work
- Right to social protection
- Free choice of employment
- Highest attainable standards of workers' physical and mental health
- Prevention, treatment and control of endemic, epidemic and occupational diseases

Right to safety and health Access to medical services and medical attention Right to social protection





ILO instruments for human rights at work (Second generation rights)

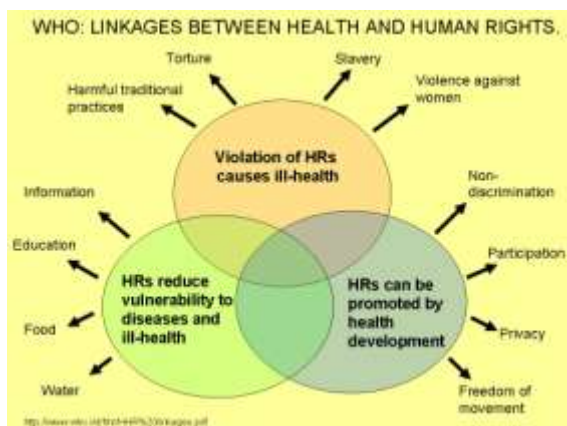
- ILO Constitution (1919) and Philadelphia Declaration (1944)
- ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (1998)
- **8 ILO Core Conventions ("freedom conventions")**
 - Freedom of association and right to bargaining (C87, C98)
 - Elimination of forced and compulsory labour (C29, C105)
 - Abolition of child labour (C138, C182)
 - Elimination of discrimination in employment and occupation (C100, C11)
- **ILO special OSH Conventions**
 - OSH Convention 155 (1981), OSH for all
 - OHS Convention 161(1985), OHS for all
 - Promotional Framework Convention 187(2006)
- **With its instruments, ILO is a strong legal and political guardian of HR at work. Implementation is ensured with tripartite negotiation. The level of ambition always subjected to the negotiation process.**



WHO and human rights

- WHO defines the principle on workers' right to health in constitution (1948).
- The WHO Global Strategy on Occupational Health for All (1996) reconfirms the WHA position on occupational health as a basic right.
- WHO Global Plan of Action (2007) provides access to services.

WHO does not regulate internationally. It provides scientific and technical information for support of national policies and services.

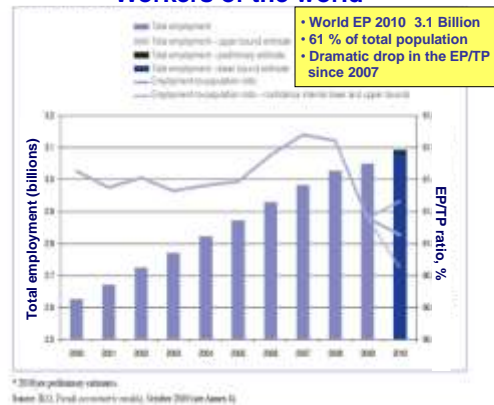


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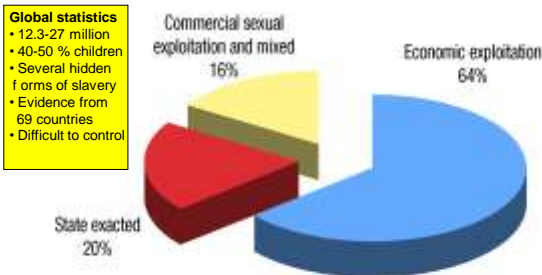
A1: Yes; The most authoritative political bodies have agreed upon it.

Q 2: How are the Human Rights realized in the contemporary world of work?

Workers of the world



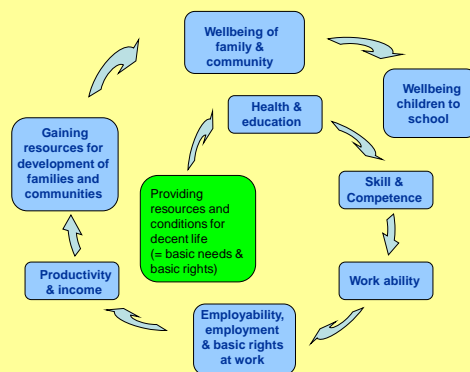
ILO Minimum Estimation of Forced Labour by Form



Working poor



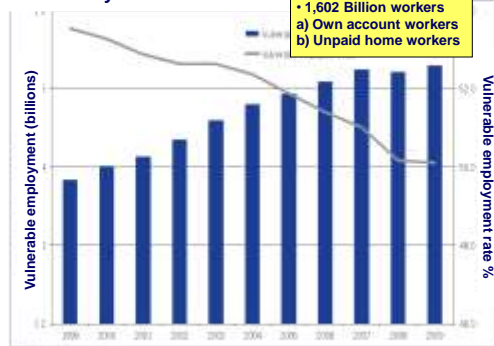
Positive cycle for poverty elimination





Economically vulnerable workers

• 52.8% of total EP
 • 1,602 Billion workers
 a) Own account workers
 b) Unpaid home workers



* 2009 is a preliminary estimate.
 Source: ILO, Trends in employment for women, October 2009 (see Annex 6)

Workers of the world

| Group | Number (mill) | % of world total | OBS |
|---|---------------|------------------|--|
| Developed economies | 470 | 15 | 25% in hazardous jobs |
| Informal workers | 1600 | 50 | Most in South Asia and SSA |
| Working poor | 1200 | 38 | Most in South Asia and SSA |
| Agricultural workers | 1300 | 41 | 91% in developing countries Women account for almost half of the agricultural workers |
| Economically vulnerable workers | 1528 | 48 | a) Own account workers and b) Unpaid family workers |
| Workers in high-risk and hazardous jobs | 2200 | 70 | Majority of workers in the less and least developed economies |
| SMEs | 1056 | 30 | OECD 132 Country Survey: 125 Mill formal MSMEs |

Accumulation of risks

- High-risk jobs
- Low pay or no pay
- Absolute or working poverty
- No OSH protection
- No social protection
- No OHS
- Global crisis hits hardest
- Impact on next generations
- Economic and occupational vulnerability

Q 2: How are the Human Rights realized in the contemporary world of work?

A 2: Not very well for 85% of the workers

Q 3: Is the right to occupational health realized in the contemporary world of work?

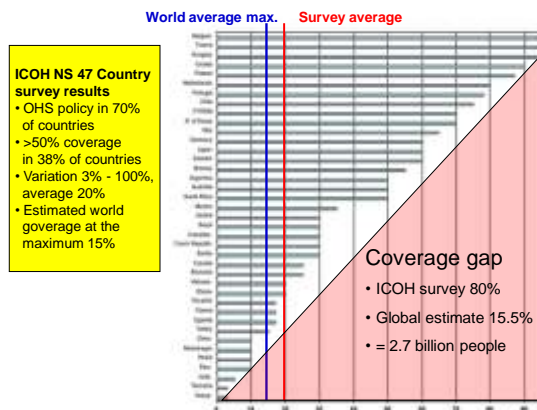
Industrialized countries

- Overall trend positive: Continuous decline of the traditional occupational hazards
- Still one order of magnitude differences in risks of accidents and occupational diseases
- Occupationally vulnerable workers, women, young, disabled, migrants, aged workers, temporary workers and workers with low qualifications (several HR problems)
- SMEs and self-employed in growing inequity
- Some actual issues like violence at work, discrimination and unequal access to OHS still prevail
- New technology hazards and new natural hazards in growth



Several orders of magnitude risk differences

- Accident risk difference DC/IC 1000-fold and 10-fold within ICs like Finland
- OD risk almost equal between DCs and ICs (~ 10-100/100000). Risk difference within ICs 10-fold, like in Finland
- WRD risk differences likely higher (e.g. asbestos worker and cancer)
- Access to OHS varies between individual ICs/Ds 3% to 100%. 85% of 3.2 billion workers live without services



Q 3: Is the right to occupational health realized in the contemporary world of work?

A 3: No, at least for the majority (85%) of the workers of the world

Q 4: Can anything be done?



ICOH can do a lot

- The best way to support HR by ICOH is **to promote and implement best occupational for all** in all its forms
- Collaborate with the IGOs and NGOs
- Reveal and inform on risks, needs and gaps through research
- Train and educate all; IGOs, politicians, social partners, health sector, media, etc
- Research and experiment models for filling the gap through services (like BOHS)
- Translate our research into practice (The Cancun Theme!)
- Encourage voluntary OH work (Doctors across Frontiers)
- Enhance visibility of occupational health and OHS in the public and political agenda > **Cancun Charter!**

Q 4: Can anything be done?

A 4: Yes; ICOH can do a lot together with others.

