



International
Labour
Organization

Health and life at **work** : A basic human right



Supported by the International
Social Security Association

WORLD DAY FOR SAFETY AND HEALTH AT WORK
28 APRIL 2009 - www.ilo.org/safeday



Invitation & Programme

28 April 2009 at the ILO

www.ilo.org/safeday

To commemorate the World Day for Safety and Health at Work 2009, the International Labour Office and the International Social Security Association warmly invite you to a presentation and a unique projection of films.

Health and life at work: A basic human right

Venue:

International Labour Office, 4 route des Morillons, Geneva
Room XI, R-2 South

Date and Time:

28 April 2009, 11.00 – 12.30

Programme:

Welcome by *Mr. A. Diop, Executive Director, ILO Social Protection Sector*

Introduction by *Dr. Sameera Al-Tuwaijri, Director of the ILO SafeWork Programme*

Statement by *Dr. Janet L. Asherson, Adviser - Environment, Health and Safety, Secretary-General IOE*

Statement by *Ms. Raquel Gonzalez, ITUC General Office Director*

“Stress at work in the context of the financial crisis, what is the role of the Swiss Government?” – Presentation by *Dr. Margaret Graf, Head of the Work and Health Section, Department of Labour, State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (Switzerland)*

“Protecting our workers” – Presentation by *Shirley Hickman, Executive Director, Threads of Life (Canada)*

Presentation by *Martina Hesse-Spötter (Germany)* of extracts from the winning films of the Safety and Health at Work International Film and Multimedia Festival 2008

Opening of the ILO photo exhibition on safety and health at work

Reception

The session will be in English only.
Open to the public! Photo ID is required.
4, route des Morillons – Geneva.
Bus 8, 28 and F, stop BIT.

Did you know?

that **by the end of this day**,
nearly **1 million workers**
will suffer a workplace **accident**.

that **by the end of this day**,
around **5,500 workers will die**
due to an accident or disease from their work!

(ILO/SafeWork, 2009)

Dr. Margaret Graf

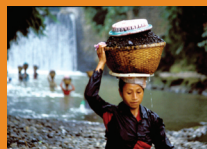
Dr. Graf will reveal statistics on numbers of workers suffering from health problems due to work related stress in Switzerland. This is a growing priority as stress related health problems due to work cause a great deal of suffering and reduce the quality of life and work. In Switzerland programmes to improve workplace prevention are being developed. In the current crisis this work may be particularly urgent as statistics show that the threat of loss of work increases these risks substantially.

Shirley Hickman

In her capacity as a prominent world leader in the struggle for safer and healthier workplaces, Ms. Shirley Hickman, Director of the association “Threads of Life”, will be addressing the audience. Ms. Hickman has created a support group for families who have lost loved ones due to workplace accidents and diseases. Ms. Hickman herself has suffered the loss of her son to an occupational accident and has been an active promoter of good practices on safety and health at the workplace.

International Film and Multimedia Festival

Film and multimedia provide important tools for education, training and public awareness on safety and health issues. Dozens of films and multimedia presentations are shown at the International Film and Multimedia Festival that is organized by the International Social Security Association and its Prevention Sections during the triennial World Congress on Safety and Health at Work, most recently held in Seoul, Republic of Korea, in July 2008.



**Decent work implies above all,
safe and healthy work.**

**The message is loud and clear:
Even in a changing world,
we tolerate NO COMPROMISE on the right
to safe and healthy work.**

The World Day for Safety and Health

Since 2003, the ILO observes the World Day, calling for the prevention of accidents and illnesses at work, and capitalizing on the ILO's traditional strengths of tripartism and social dialogue. The World Day remains a significant platform to raise awareness on how to make work safe and healthy whilst attracting political commitment. It is supported by the International Social Security Association.

The April theme of the 2008-2009 ILO campaign on “Gender equality at the heart of Decent Work” is “Occupational Safety and Health from a gender perspective”.

The ILO has always addressed safety and health at work. Some of the first international labour standards, even dating from 1919, responded to concerns in this field. Today, as the ILO celebrates its 90th anniversary, around 70 international labour standards deal with safety and health at work.

