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For immediate release

Enabling a national workplace response to HIV/AIDS in Jordan

Government, worker and employer representatives endorse regional commitment to combat HIV/AIDS in the workplace in Jordan

Beirut (ILO News) – Ensuring fundamental rights at work and social protection for workers and job seekers living with HIV and AIDS and protecting them against discrimination are the subjects of two workshops to be held in Amman and Aqaba on November 15 and 17.

Part of nationwide activities to mark World AIDS Day on December 1, the workshops will bring together one hundred government, worker, employer and civil society representatives, including persons living with HIV and AIDS, with aim of integrating a world of work response into Jordan's national HIV/AIDS strategy.

Specifically, the workshops aim to enable partners to create a policy framework for a comprehensive response to the epidemic in the world of work. The workshops will provide a platform for tripartite discussions among representatives of the Ministry of Labour, the Ministry of Health and workers and employers' organizations toward the development of a joint national policy to support the implementation of the HIV/AIDS National Strategic Plan (2012-2016) and to ensure social protection and the prevention of discrimination against persons living with HIV and AIDS in the workplace.

The workshop also features a presentation on the preliminary findings of an ILO study on Jordanian laws and practices relating to HIV/AIDS in the workplace.

Participants are expected to re-endorse a regional commitment to the implementation of ILO Recommendation No. 200 concerning HIV and AIDS and the World of Work that was signed in Beirut, Lebanon June 2011.

Delegates representing the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan participated in the 99th Session of the International Labour Conference and supported the adoption of HIV and AIDS Recommendation (No. 200) in June 2010, which calls for the adoption of national workplace policies and programmes on HIV and AIDS to facilitate access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support services.

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