



Policy Dialogue on Domestic Work in the Arab States

Istanbul, Turkey, 12-13 October 2014

A regional meeting on Dignity, Rights and Domestic Work in Arab states was organized by the ILO regional Office for Arab States on 12-13 October 2014, aiming at exchanging experiences and views on ways to better protect domestic workers through improved regulatory and stronger workers organizations.

This event was a follow up to another regional conference organized by the ILO in 2012 in Cairo with the view to raise awareness on the ILO Convention 189 on Domestic Work and gain political commitment to improve domestic workers' rights in the Arab region. The Istanbul conference brought selected experiences and provided a space of dialogue for future priorities to be addressed by a regional strategy on domestic workers with a strong emphasis on migration.

Participants of the meeting were representatives of governments, recruitment agencies, workers' organizations, employers' organizations as well as representatives of the Domestic Workers Union Founding Committee in Lebanon, who shared the experience of organizing and promotion of domestic workers' labour rights. The importance of the regional dialogue from the point of view of labour rights and migration governance was underpinned by the recent estimates of two million migrant domestic workers in the Middle East.

[Technical workshop on challenges and good practices – background, rationale and programme](#)

