

Media advisory
**UN Ministerial Conference to address the social impact of the economic crisis
in Eastern Europe, Central Asia and Turkey**

ALMATY (ILO News) – High-level representatives from Eastern Europe, Central Asia and Turkey will examine regional policy responses to the economic crisis at a UN Ministerial Conference jointly organized by four U.N. agencies (the [ILO](#), [UNICEF](#), [FAO](#) and [UNDP](#)) and hosted by [the Government of Kazakhstan](#) in Almaty (Kazakhstan) on 7-8 December.

The Conference will gather Ministers of Labour and Social Affairs and senior officials from the Ministries of Labour, Finance/Economy and Agriculture from 13 countries¹ of the region, high-level representatives of the United Nations system, international and regional financial institutions (IFIs), regional organizations, bilateral cooperation agencies, international employers' and workers' organizations, civil society and regional academia.

Based on the most recent development of the crisis, the conference will provide a platform to exchange experiences and good practices on how to stimulate recovery in the region, mitigate the social impact of the crisis and build on long-term sustainable responses to the global financial and economic crisis.

Keynote speakers will include the Prime Minister of Kazakhstan, H.E. Karim Massimov and Ms Kori Udovicki, Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations and Director of the UNDP Regional Bureau for Europe and CIS.

Following a ministerial panel discussion on the social impact of the crisis in the region, the conference will include three thematic technical sessions focusing on employment, social protection and food security, based on working papers prepared by the ILO, UNICEF and FAO.

The Conference agenda includes a press conference of Ministers of Labour and Social Affairs that will be held at 11.00 on December 7th.

The Conference will take place at the Almaty Hotel Intercontinental located at 181 Zheltoksan Street Almaty, Kazakhstan. Registration of participants and media members will begin at 08:30 on December 7th. The opening session of the Conference is scheduled to start at 09:00 on December 7th. For more information, including an agenda and background materials, please see contact and website information below.

Note to correspondents:

For media accreditation and for interview requests, please contact the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of Population of RK at (+7 7172), 74 36 45, email almas@enbek.kz . Accreditation of international media at (+7 7272) 582643 (ext 1416), e-mail vlastimil.samek@undp.org

For more information on the UN Ministerial Conference please visit:
(<http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/eurpro/geneva/what/events/almaty2009/index.htm>).

¹ Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.