



CONCEPT NOTE
VGCL and ILO WORKSHOP
LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND – REDUCING HIV VULNERABILITY FOR
ENTERTAINMENT WORKERS

8:30 – 12:00, 1st December 2015

Trade Union Guest House, 95 Tran Quoc Toan, Hanoi

I. Background

HIV first appeared in Vietnam in 1989, and regardless of the Government's efforts, 250,000 Vietnamese people are still living with HIV. HIV/AIDS is still a health threat to labour workforce in Vietnam where 0.5% of people aged 15-49 have HIV and 95% of people living with HIV is at working age (15 – 49).

Among worker groups, labourers in entertainment business sector, especially in business settings are involved in sex trade (including karaoke bars, restaurants, massage parlors), are more vulnerable to HIV infection. Due to the nature of business, and personal, family, community, and macro social and economic factors, some of them may involve in sex work, working regularly or intermittently, directly or indirectly. Besides risks of HIV resulting from sexual behavioral factors, the conditions in which the entertainment workers work often have an impact on the degree of HIV risk and the effectiveness of prevention efforts.

In Vietnam, since 2014, LO has been collaborating with tripartite constituents, including, the VCCI, VCGL, and MOLISA to promote safety and healthy working conditions for entertainment workers, including reduction of HIV vulnerability. VGCL, with the role as representing labourers and protecting their entitlements, has provided capacity building for people representing entertainment groups on laws on labour, safety and health working condition, and advocacy for rights to safety and health at work. This is the first time the VGCL has support activities for entertainment workers, who are mainly working in informal business sector.

After almost one year of implementation, VGCL sees a need to share experience as well as to seek collaboration with other tripartite partners about promoting HIV prevention as well as safety and health at work for entertainment workers in Viet Nam's context. In

addition, 1st December is World AIDS Day. The workshop is to show commitment of VGCL, MOLISA, ILO and other partners in preventing HIV and protecting human rights of workers at workplace.

II. Objective

Overall aim of the workshop is to increase awareness of HIV vulnerability, unsafe and unhealthy working conditions of entertainment workers among tripartite constituents and explore measures that national trade unions can take a bigger role in protecting safety and health at work for entertainment workers.

III. Venue and Date

One day, in Hanoi.

Date: 1st December, 2015.

Tentative Venue: Trade Union Guest House – 95 Tran Quoc Toan, Hanoi

IV. Workshop Participants

Participants consist of government officials, trade union's officials, entertainment working groups, United Nations agencies and NGOs working on entertainment worker issues in Viet Nam.

56 Participants include:

- a) 11 participants from VCGL in Hanoi and Hanoi Trade Union
- b) 15 participants from 15 provincial VGCL departments
- c) 10 participants from groups of entertainmetn workers
- d) 10 participants from central govenment's and NA's agencies: MOLISA (3), Government Office (2), Social Affairs Committee (2), Women's Union (1), MoH/VAAC (2); MoPS (1),
- e) 2 participants from Hanoi DOLISA, and Hanoi Department of Public Security
- f) 8 participants from UN and NGO organizations: UNAIDS (1), UNFPA (1), UNWomen (1), ILO (3), CARE (1), Plan (1), SCDI (1)

And 12 participants from media agencies under Trade Unions and other agencies.

Contact person

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