



# Regional Domestic Workers Knowledge Sharing Forum in Africa

## Dar es Salam, Tanzania, 28-30 May 2013

Following the adoption at the 100th International Labour Conference (2011) of the Domestic Workers Convention (No.189) and Recommendation (No.201), the ILO organised Africa's first regional knowledge-sharing forum in Dar es Salam, Tanzania, 28–30 May 2013, providing stakeholders a venue for sharing information about their country experiences and practices, and exchanging views and insights.

For several countries in Africa, the forum was the first time that the tripartite partners sat together to discuss domestic work issues. Tripartite representatives from 10 countries (Angola, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mauritius, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa, United Republic of Tanzania, and Zambia) participated in the two and a half day Forum of Africa.

The forum highlighted key problems faced by migrant domestic workers, main policy issues and challenges, actions being implemented as well as practices that were regarded as good approaches. Priority areas for future action were also outlined. Main problems faced by migrant domestic workers were mapped, among them the absence of employment contracts; exploitative working conditions; and unfair recruitment practices. These were traced to lacunae in law and practice with respect to: protection of domestic workers in general; migration law and policy; and regulation of recruitment agencies; lack of awareness of rights and language barriers among domestic workers; and lack of data on migrant domestic workers.

