Update on road transport activities

Maritime and Transport Unit
Sectoral Policies Department
International Labour Office
1. Greater Mekong Sub-regional Meeting on Road Freight Transport Safety (Bangkok, 15-17 January 2019)
2019 Sub-regional meeting

A total of 35 participants attended the Meeting. This included 25 representatives - including nine women (36 per cent) - from tripartite delegations from Cambodia, China, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam; and 10 advisers and resource persons.

All Governments presented their national laws and practices and the Workers' and Employers' Groups worked hand-in-hand to convey their priorities.
The ILO provided an Informal note to inform discussions.

The meeting adopted a set of Recommendations that provide a roadmap for action in years to come with a main focus on:

- alignment of national regulations applicable to the sector
- enhancing working conditions, diversity and welfare facilities for truck drivers also with a view to address shortages of skilled truck drivers
- acknowledging that economic pressure from supply chain management practices influence road safety practices in the industry
Promoting decent work and road safety for truck drivers of GMS countries

Governments, employers and workers from the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS) agree to enhance decent work by promoting social dialogue, skills development and cross-border coordination in road freight transport.

Press release | Bangkok, Thailand | 17 January 2019

BANGKOK (ILO News) – The GMS road freight transport industry generates considerable value to national economies and provides a significant number of job opportunities. Appropriate road freight transport policies can bring further competitive advantages to the GMS region.

Yet, “decent work deficits, concerns regarding road safety, the shortage of skilled professional drivers, pressure on the supply chain from economic employers and considerable challenges with cross-border transport can hold back the development and sustainability of the sector” representatives of an ILO-supported tripartite sub-regional meeting stated in Bangkok, Thailand.

The meeting was organized by the ILO and brought together representatives of governments, employers and workers from six GMS member States: Cambodia, People’s Republic of China, Lao PDR, Myanmar, Thailand and Viet Nam.

Regulation, driver shortage and pressure of supply chain management practices

Recommendations of the sub-regional meeting evolved around three issues:

- promoting the development and alignment of national regulations applicable to the sector (including working time regulations and enforcement, transit and insurance documents, vehicle configurations and import requirements, the carriage of dangerous goods, training and licensing standards);
- enhancing working conditions, diversity and welfare facilities for truck drivers also with a view to address shortages of skilled truck drivers, and
- acknowledging that economic pressure from supply chain management practices influence worker earnings, enterprise profitability and road safety practices in the industry.

“Welfare facilities should be adequate, accessible, affordable, clean, safe and secure and include parking, bathrooms, showers and resting areas”.
2019 Meeting of experts

“The purpose of the Meeting of Experts is to adopt guidelines on the promotion of decent work and road safety in the transport sector, as called for in the Resolution concerning best practices in road transport Safety.”
Thank you!

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