

ILO COUNTRY OFFICE STATEMENT ON DRAFT TRADE UNION LAW

For immediate release: Wednesday, 10 June 2015

In response to a request from the Royal Government of Cambodia (RGC), the ILO has assisted the government, trade unions and employers' organizations to develop a law on trade unions. This process began in 2008 and continued through 2011, during which a series of tripartite meetings were held. The RGC decided to renew work on the draft in early 2014, and again requested ILO assistance. A number of consultations have taken place with the government, written comments have been provided, and one tripartite meeting was held over this period. It should be noted that the ILO places heavy emphasis on tripartite engagement in the development of labour legislation.

The ILO's role is to provide technical advice and recommendations to our tripartite constituents in Cambodia regarding the content of the legislation, with a view to ensuring that it complies with ratified international Conventions. The RGC has repeatedly stated, both in public statements and in private conversations that the law will indeed comply with these obligations. This will require continued and dedicated efforts from all stakeholders, in order to ensure that genuine freedom of association is reflected in both law and practice.

The ILO stands ready to provide continued support on the draft law on trade unions in response to requests from the tripartite constituents, and reaffirms its commitment to supporting their efforts to achieve decent work for all.
