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Datum: 10/08/2010 12:45 PM

Onderwerp: SOLIDAR Weekly Round Up 08-10-2010

After contributing to the launch of the Decent Work Decent Life Campaign in Nairobi in 2007, SOLIDAR welcomed the celebrations for the 3rd [World Day for Decent Work](#) yesterday, with over 374 actions taking place in 91 countries. SOLIDAR took this opportunity to call on [European leaders to make decent work the sustainable solution to the crisis](#).

Governments worldwide have shown that it is possible to mobilise huge sums of money to save the banks and financial system, so now they must fulfil the needs of their people by prioritising spending on reinvigorating social development to make sure that sustainable, smart and green growth and decent work result. This is the only way to end poverty.

In addition, the austerity measures being put in place by European governments will only mean further cuts in social spending, both in Europe and abroad. Investment in social infrastructures and social protection schemes is essential for all people to lead a decent life.

Conny Reuter, Secretary General

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

SOCIAL PROTECTION ROUND TABLE: 5 OUT OF 10 FILIPINOS DIE WITHOUT SEEING A DOCTOR

On the World Day for Decent Work, Thursday 7 October, SOLIDAR - together with the European Working Group on Social Protection & Decent Work and the Network for Transformative Social Protection - held a Round Table in the European Parliament. The event, hosted by Ska Keller MEP (Greens/EFA), was opened by Véronique de Keyser MEP (S&D) and heard speakers from the Asia-Europe People's Forum highlight the impacts that a lack of social protection has on people's lives. [Read more](#).

EU-COLOMBIA/PERU FTA - NEED FOR DEMOCRATIC DEBATE

The multiparty trade agreement between the EU and Colombia & Peru, which was adopted by the European Commission, will be presented to the European Council by the end of this year. This is the first multiparty agreement negotiated by the EU, however it includes several elements calling for democratic debates at national and EU level.

First of all, the agreement reflects important asymmetries between the parties with terms and modalities tailored to the interests and needs of the EU trade and investment policy. Second, the agreement leaves no or little opportunity for real policy dialogue and proper feedback on civil society input. Third, in the case of Colombia, the agreement sends the wrong message to a government that does little to fight the serious violations of human and workers rights, and that has repeatedly failed to implement its international human and trade union rights obligations. [Read more](#).

SOCIAL AFFAIRS

SOLIDAR AT COMMISSION EVENT ON EUROPEAN SECTORAL SOCIAL DIALOGUE

On 30 September, SOLIDAR was invited to present the results of the [Decent Work and Industrial Relations project](#), carried out with EU funding, to the 150 social partner representatives, industrial relations experts and Member State representatives attending a one-day European Commission organised conference on the [functioning and potential of European sectoral social dialogue](#).

SOLIDAR's project highlighted examples of the contribution of social partners in the social inclusion of particularly vulnerable or disadvantaged groups on the labour market and the potential for closer cooperation with NGOs and other stakeholders to achieve this objective. It further explored the question to which extent industrial relations and social partners can help to address precarious labour and to safeguard decent work.

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