

Symposium 2: SUPPORT FOR BREASTFEEDING IN THE FORMAL AND INFORMAL SECTORS

[Coordinated and Sponsored by IBFA-GIFA]

Background:

The *Innocenti Declaration* of 1995 set the creation of legislation for maternity protection as a specific target; in 2005, the *Declaration* reiterated this demand. The *Global Strategy for Infant and Young Child Feeding* made a specific demand to enact legislation that extended maternity protection to women in the informal economy, specifying that women in paid employment should be provided with paid maternity leave, part-time work arrangements, on-site crèches, facilities for expressing and storing breast-milk and breastfeeding breaks. Maternity entitlements emerge from the fundamental human right of maternity protection. Entitlements require government action either in the form of creating and enforcing legislation, or provision of services or both.

Maternity protection has been a core issue at the International Labour Organization (ILO) since its establishment. Three Conventions on maternity protection have so far been adopted – No. 3 in 1919, No. 103 in 1952 and No. 183 in 2000, which have expanded the maternity entitlements of working women. Convention No. 183 covers all employed women, including those in atypical forms of dependent work.

	Symposium 2: <i>Support of Breastfeeding in the Formal and Informal Sectors</i>		
	Convener: IBFAN-GIFA		
11:30 - 13:00	Moderator: Maryse Arendt, IBFAN-GIFA	Objective: Share experiences and lessons learnt in Policy Implementation and Adoption of the ILO Convention 183 on Maternity Protection	Method of Presentation: Active Dialogue with participants
Introduction: Maryse Arendt, IL IBFAN Luxemburg - ILO Perspectives on maternity and paternity at work. Opportunity and challenges at country level in implementing the ILO Convention [10mins]			
Panellists/Discussants:			
1) Dr. Shoba Suri, BPNI/IBFAN Asia – Status of Maternity Protection from 57 countries[15mins]			
2) Camille Selleger, IBFAN-GIFA – Maternity Protection in the Framework of Human Rights [10mins]			
3) Betty Samburu, MOH Kenya - Policy adoption and implementation of ILO Convention 183 on Maternity Protection - <i>Experiences from Kenya</i> [10mins]			
4) Fofana Malang, NaNA The Gambia - Policy adoption and implementation of ILO Convention 183 on Maternity Protection- <i>Experiences from The Gambia</i> [10mins]			
5) Dexter Chagwena, MOHCC, Zimbabwe - Maternity Protection Campaign- Progress, Best practices and challenges [10mins]			
Discussions – All speakers [25mins]			
Focal Person: Maryse Arendt, IBFAN-GIFA			