



Photo by : mohammad qusnul taufik

NEWSLETTER IMWU NL
JULY - SEPTEMBER 2013



IMWU NL is a self-organisation, established by and for the Indonesian Migrant Workers in the Netherlands. IMWU NL aims to promote the labour rights for all workers particularly Indonesian, both documented and undocumented, in the Netherlands. We determine to eliminate human trafficking, jobs trade, abuses and various forms of rights violation and discrimination against all workers particularly the Indonesian workers in the Netherlands.

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MINAL AIDIN WAL FAIDZIN!

After implementing the holy month of Ramadhan, the big family of IMWU NL celebrated the eid day for those members who are Muslims. In this opportunity we also congratulated the marriage of our



members, Jerry & Yanie. We wish them happiness ever after. The celebration took place in Wereldhuis Amsterdam attended by IMWU members and supporters from various cities ; Amsterdam, Delft, the Hague, Utrecht and Rotterdam. Such celebration is also to strengthen the solidarity among each other and an opportunity to meet and to come together as well as knowing each other as our adage says "you don't know then you don't care". So, the gathering was very important for us.

Photo by : mohammad qusnul taufik

In this newsletter, we will divide the activities and the report based on our issues and our involvement; the undocumented, migrant (domestic) workers, Indonesian (migrant) workers and IMWU NL activities.

THE ISSUE OF THE UNDOCUMENTED MIGRANTS

IMWU NL is part of AHRU - The Alliance for Human Rights for the Undocumented - <http://www.ahru.nl/> . Last July 6th AHRU organised a seminar on the Prospect for Undocumented Migrants in the Netherlands: Legalization vs Criminalisation. Corinne de Klerk from Advocatenkantoor de Binnenstad, Rian Ederveen from Stichting LOS, Cor Ofman from Het Wereldhuis and Ellen Dekkers from FNV Bondgenoten sat as the source persons. The discussion were on the Current Dutch policy on the criminalisation of the undocumented, the campaigning for rights of the undocumented migrants, Criminalising the rights defenders and The importance if ratifying ILO Convention 189. *Photo by : Faisol Iskandar*

The discussion was very interesting and we hope the outcome can be as the recommendation for Dutch government as an alternative instead of criminalising the undocumented.



Another good news was the issuing of the decision of Raad van Staad (Rvs) last September 4th which stated that the police is not allowed to enter someone's house to check the undocumented resident without the permission from the owner of the house. see:

<http://deeplink.rechtspraak.nl/uitspraak?id=ECLI:NL:RVS:2013:1126>

And from newsletter of St.LOS , the staatsecretaris Teeven issued a letter on the new policy about detention centre on 13th September, which stated:

- a less stringent regime with respect to the detention of aliens who do not inconvenience anyone. It is unclear how this will work out.
- in some cases visits will no longer be restricted to 2 hours per week and visits by relatives without identity papers will be made possible. As yet it is unclear which conditions apply in this case.
- fewer aliens will be placed in detention because more alternatives will be applied such as the obligation to report, judicial deposits or help from NGOs. This is in fact a continuation of existing alternatives.
- in some cases Dublin claimants (who are being sent to another European country) can await their transfer outside of detention. This is a new proposal.
- fewer families with children will be placed in detention of aliens, even if they arrived through Schiphol. This has been possible for some time.
- locations where residents have restricted liberties will also be used for migrants who have no asylum background, as long as they cooperate in their return. In these cases courses will be offered as well. This is a new proposal.
- adjustment of the policy concerning migrants without culpability: contact with IOM is no longer required, a list will be drawn up with documents per country that can be used to prove the identity providing there was no doubt as to the country of origin during a previous procedure; no proof of nationality needs to be provided and a solution will be sought if the embassy does not reply.

DOMESTIC WORKERS CAMPAIGN

Global

Convention 189 on Decent Work for Domestic Workers is entry into force on September 5th 2013! One step further to the recognition of our rights! more info: <http://j.mp/14meVKg> and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1H7vACxhtjE>.¹

In the Netherlands

We are proud of our leader of Netherlands Domestic Workers, Coring de Los Reyes from UMDW (United Migrant Domestic Workers), who is very active in the struggle of the rights. She represented Netherlands DWs at EFFAT meeting in Brussels and forwarded the issues of DWs in the Netherlands.

photo by Coring de los reyes.



¹ Information from Marianne Jekkers, FNV Bondgenoten

She initiated with UMDW to organise a weekend training on the rights of DWs by inviting Karin Pape from IDWN (International Domestic Workers Network) which our leader Faisol Iskandar and Siti Murwani took part of it.



Photo by Siti Murwani



Photo by Coring de los reyes



One of the result of the training was the establishment of DWs working group which include all representatives from the DWs migrant organisations. Our leader Siti Murwani sits as our representative in the working group.

The working group has forwarded the position paper of DWs in the Netherlands, prepared by one of Netherlands DWs' leader, Jack Cervantes. Such Position paper is forwarded to Commission Kalsbeek which is now busy in studying the position of DWs in the Netherlands.²



Our Network RESPECT NL which IMWU NL is part of it was also forwarding the position paper to support the position of Migrant DWs in the Netherlands.³

Both position papers were submitted to the Commission Kalsbeek in *de Hoorzitting over Dienstverlening aan huis*

² <https://www.facebook.com/notes/jack-cervantes/position-paper-of-domestic-workers-in-the-netherlands/559766140752778>

³ More information please contact: <http://www.cfmw.org/>

voor een betere positie van huishoudelijk werknemers in Nederland. Coring de Los Reyes represented Netherlands DWs attending the meeting and forwarding our messages. Please kindly update the share of her experience at her facebook account: <https://www.facebook.com/coringd?ref=ts&fref=ts>

I met first Professor Jaap de Koning, hoogleraar arbeidsmarktbeleid Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam and director of SEOR. Together with our leaders from FNV vakcentrale, Els Bos , from our union [FNV Bondgenoten](#), Chris de Visser, and from FNV Abvakabo, Wim van Hoorn, we had a short conversation while we are waiting for the time and it is good that i explained some important points....then we are approached by Thijs Weistra THE SECRETARIAT OF THE COMMISSION. And THE ROOM IS READY..

So I met the whole commission Kalsbeek... Ella Kalsbeek, de voorzitter van de Raad van Bestuur van Altra and oldest Secretary from Justice.

Professor Dr. Willem Bouwens, hoogleraar social recht aan de VU Amsterdam, Professor Dr. Jaap de Koning, hoogleraar arbeidsmarkt beleid in Erasmus Rotterdam, Meneer van der Veen, Mark Wijne- Unicef and Jille Stein also from Unicef, Petra Snelders, from Groenlinks and from Respect, AND FROM CNV ,another Union. and from FNV delegations including myself..

NOW THE BATTLE BEGINS in a good communication..

we discuss 2 things:

about the Subsidie for the Thuizorg AND ANOTHER is the Informal Economy and we are the domestic workers in the Private household..

I talk about who i am in short and i said of course i am the undocumented BUT WE DONT WANT TO TALK ABOUT THAT ISSUES first since the political climates are not good. What we want is to RATIFY THE CONVENTION 189, OF COURSE WHY? SO THAT WE COULD HAVE all the Social Protection same as the other workers in THE Netherland.....kailangan ito ang ating maipaabot a better strategy and now we are talking as one, the Respect, the workers, the Union and i suggest to invite more organizations like wereldhuis and AHRU for a more broader discussions so have a collective outcome and it will make a bigger Success. AND THEY AGREE...this meeting is outside the room...AND NOW WE ARE PLANNING TO DO THE Meeting NEXT MOVE IN OUR wereldhuis, THE DIACONIE have all the facilities that can accomodate us..we are stronger because of them so they need to be present as well.....and the other networks.....this is what is done today.....

Listen to the interview of Coring: <http://www.at5.nl/tv/wereldstad/aflevering/12988>

Find other news of our campaign at: <http://www.schoongenoeg.nu/> and <http://www.schoongenoeg.nu/>

IMWU NL

IMWU NL is involved in the project of Noticias,⁴ an organisation of artists in Amsterdam, which raising up the issue of migrant domestic workers. See the first and second videos on the daily life and the work of our leader Sity Murwani, a migrant domestic worker from Indonesia.

"The day by day of a migrant domestic worker":

<http://www.laruta.nu/video/day-day-migrant-domestic-worker>; and

<http://www.laruta.nu/video/day-day-migrant-domestic-worker-ii>

With Our Indonesian Fellows all over the World

Please like the IDWN/ International Domestic Workers Network's facebook page in Bahasa. It would be very useful to share and getting information on the campaign of Domestic Workers all over the world. <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Jaringan-PRT-Internasional/297872120357746>

Furthermore, IMWU NL attended the Congress of Indonesian Diaspora on 18-20 August 2013. Indonesian Diaspora was established in 2012 as the idea of our president to unite all Indonesian and non-Indonesian to support Indonesia from wherever they are. The first congress was conducted in Los Angeles, USA and the second one was held in Jakarta, Indonesia.

Migrant workers are part of Indonesian diaspora and migrant workers' issues were also discussed in the congress. IMWU NL was attending the congress represented by our re-integration coordinator, Ms. Yulia Mallo.

Yulia mallo was working as domestic workers in the Netherlands and she was actively taking part in the campaign of DomesticWorkers Netherlands. She lives now in Bali, Indonesia.



In the congress, Yulia Mallo took part as the source person for the topic "Health care access for the undocumented in the Netherlands and Global" in the task force of Medical Health Care. the response was super! Many of Indo-NL doctors are willing to give assistances to the undocumented as well as some Dutch doctors. Yulia was also sitting as the responder in the discussion on the issues of Migrant Workers which the minister of Manpower and Transmigration of Indonesia, MPs, Head of BNP2TKI (National Body for the placement and the protection of Indonesian Migrant Workers), and Director of Protection of

Indonesian citizen were sitting as the panel. We are very proud of Yulia Mallo. She forwarded our issues and extend the struggle in Indonesia.

Kindly see the Press release of Migrant Workers Task Force of Indonesian Diaspora: <http://t.co/1rywTcSI52>. Pictures by Yulia Mallo



⁴ <http://www.noticias.nl/>

The issue of our Passport

Another campaign that IMWU NL do is the campaign to get passport for Indonesian undocumented. Indonesian government do not separate its citizen between document or undocumented. It is the destination country which divide based on the residence permit/ visum of the person. Indonesian citizens will be as Indonesian citizen. However, the Indonesian overstayer in the Netherlands cannot get passport as the renewal of their expired one. Instead of getting passport, they receive travel document in lieu of passport which is used to return to Indonesia only. It occurs since the overstayers cannot fulfill the requirements of the renewal of passport which one of the requirements is the statement from the city hall. The overstayers cannot obtain the statement since they are undocumented. The embassy in another hand requires such document to be sure that the person is Indonesian and only has one nationality. Therefore, the embassy cannot give passport for the overstayers.

Find our article about the updated issue (in Bahasa): <http://www.majalahsedane.net/2013/10/siapa-sih-yang-mau-jadi-undocumented.html>

IMWU NL NEWS

Empowerment

Scholarship from Het Wereldhuis Amsterdam to follow the course on Human Rights from University Foundation, please kindly see:

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=550537398317000&set=a.187062881331122.35123.100000822359009&type=1&theater>

For those who are interested to be a researcher and to learn research, ISS University has a project of research to study the rights of health care for the undocumented. They train the undocumented to be researcher and to do the research. If you are interested, please contact Helen Hintjens: hintjens@iss.nl.

Solidarity & Advocacy (Support & Assistances)

We are proud of our sister , Rista who worked in Malaysia before. She is now settling down and got married but she doesnot stop doing the struggle particulary to the future generation, the children.

Kindly see the straits times:

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=448462858594318&set=a.433221703451767.1073741831.424115531029051&type=1&theater> and

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=478704035570200&set=a.433221703451767.1073741831.424115531029051&type=1>



Furthermore, IMWU NL and Ahru Netherlands represented by Fuad Sanad gave solidarity to our fellows Filipino in their meeting with their ambassador 17 aug 2013. *photo by:faisol iskandar*

PLEASE Vote Coring de Los Reyes at this website <http://www2.red.nl/reds-hot-women> before 13th October! We are proud that she is one of the candidates nominated by het Wereldhuis.

IMWU NL also give support and assistances of some various cases faced by its members and/or other migrants. The cases are vary from cases of arrest, access to health care, return, woman & Children (School and education of the children, domestic violence, marriage status, the recognition of the children etc) as well as sharing information of housing and works.

No.	Cases between July - September 2013	Number of reports & assistances
1.	cases of arrest	8
2.	access to health care	9
3.	return	4
4.	woman & Children	2
5.	sharing information	2

Visibility

IMWU NL was present at the Bazaar organised by Indonesian embassy to commemorate the independence day. IMWU NL commemorated also the 9 years of the loss of Munir, human rights' hero. However, our solidarity by hanging the picture of Munir was controversial. Kindly see our statement (in Bahasa): <http://www.scribd.com/doc/166682034/Pernyataan-IMWU-NL-Munir>



OTHER NEWS

FIND OUR NEWSLETTER APRIL-JUNE 2013!

<http://www.scribd.com/doc/152105481/Newsletter-Imwu-Apr-june-2013>

YOUR VOICE SAFE A LIFE! PLEASE SIGN: <https://t.co/bwCVJqDclo>

Wilfrida, domestic workers from east Indonesia who is accused killing her employer meanwhile she was defending herself from the abuse. She is sentenced to death by the prosecutor. Migrant Care try to get support to save Wilfrida from the death sentence. Wilfrida was under age when she was going to work in Malaysia. The formal sending at that time (october 2010) was stopped by the government but she was still being sent by the agent. She could be the victim of human trafficking. Therefore, based on the humanity reason, please save Wilfrida from the death sentence! sign the petition!

The other petition you should sign! <http://www.change.org/id/petisi/dpr-dan-pemerintah-sahkan-uu-perlindungan-prt-ratifikasi-kilo-189>

This petition will be sent to our parliament and government to ratify ILO Convention 189 and adopt the Law on the protection of domestic workers.

DO YOU KNOW

That all children in the Netherlands, documented or undocumented, have RIGHTS to go to school until they are 18 years old! Register them as soon as possible to the nearest school!

That you can make a transport card (abonemen) in the Netherlands. Just give our picture and pay the cost and you can get one. You do not need to have a broker/ someone to register the transport card for you. When you need assistances or further information, Please contact us!

NEXT EVENTS

6th October - in scheveningen, meeting a member of our advisory board, Surya Tjandra from Trade Union Rights Centre, Indonesia

7th October - Decent Work Day! Domestic Workers Netherlands meet the vice prime minister!

8th October - Meeting with Indonesian Ambassador

11th October - AHRU meeting

12th/19th/20th - Business and Investment Training by SEVA Business School

13th October - Gathering & Follow up with Irwan Ahmett, Indonesian artist in regard to the project of film documentary

16th October - Info night and dinner organised by het Wereldhuis Amsterdam. The discussion will be with Police and IND officer on your rights to report!

17th October - OC Meeting of Netherlands Domestic Workers

19th October - Domestic Workers Netherlands' gathering with the employers

25th October - Meeting the Indonesian MP, Hayono Isman

2nd November - Rally of Domestic Workers Netherlands !!!

3rd November - Socialisation on the election 2014 by PPLN in Amsterdam

5th/ 20th November - Info night for Indonesian group on access to health care with Dokters van de Wereld?

8th November - the final round of the Collective Bargaining for Domestic Workers, invitation from the Hague University for Domestic Workers Netherlands

10 or 17th November - Socialisation on the election 2014 by PPLN in the Hague

1st December - visiting Slamet Heri's funeral - to commemorate 1 year of our loss.