



Standing Members

Bangladesh

Ain O Salish Kendra (ASK);
Refugee and Migratory Movements
Research Unit (RMMRU);
Welfare Association of Repatriated
Bangladeshi Employees (WARBE)
Association for Community
Development (ACD)

India

Center for Education and
Communication (CEC);
Migrant Forum India (MFI)
Center for Indian Migrant Studies
(CIMS)
Migrants Trade Union - India

Nepal

All Nepal's Women Association
(ANWA);
Women Rehabilitation Center
(WOREC)

Sri Lanka

Action Network for Migrant Workers
(ACTFORM);
Migrant Services Centre (MSC);
Women and Media Collective
(WMC)

Burma

Federation of Trade Unions – Burma
(FTUB)

Indonesia

Center for Indonesian Migrant
Workers (CIMW);
Jarnas Pekabumi;
KOPBUMI;
Migrant Care;
Solidaritas Perempuan;
Serikat Buruh Migran Indonesia
(SBMI)

Malaysia

Charles Hector & Co.;
Tenaganita

Philippines

Batis Center for Women;
Center for Migrants Advocacy
(CMA-Phils);
Kapisanan ng mga
Kamag-anakan ng Migranteng
Mangagawang Pilipino(KAKAMMPI);
Kanlungan Center Foundation, Inc.
(KCFI);
Unlad Kabayan Migrants Services
Foundation, Inc.
ATIKHA

Singapore

St. Francis Workers Centre (SFWC)

Hong Kong

Asian Migrant Centre (AMC);
Coalition for Migrants Rights (CMR);
Indonesian Migrant Workers Union
(IMWU)

Japan

Solidarity for Migrants – Japan
(SMJ)

Korea

Joint Committee for Migrant Workers
in Korea (JCMK)

Taiwan

Hope Workers Center (HWC)

Mongolia

Center for Human Rights and
Development (CHRD)

Migrant Forum in Asia (MFA)

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February 14, 2007

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Dear Sir/Madame,

Greetings from Migrant Forum in Asia.

Migrant Forum in Asia applauds the Seoul High Court ruling (date) allowing migrant workers, regardless of their status to join and form trade unions in Korea. This unprecedented move of the High Court is a victory in our long struggle to protect and promote the rights and well being of all migrant workers, irrespective of their documentary status .

Migrant Forum in Asia is a non-profit regional network formally organised in 1994. MFA currently has more than 260 official members from 14 Asian countries with its secretariat based in the Philippines. Some of the members are themselves national networks representing large number of local organizations (e.g. the network members from Japan, Korea, Sri Lanka, India, Indonesia and Hong Kong.) In addition to its formal members, MFA has close working relations with more than 50 other migrant related groups and networks in Asia (South Asia, Southeast Asia, East Asia and West Asia) and other regions of the world.

While applauding the groundbreaking decision of the High Court, we however note that this is only one step in our fight for the rights and well being of migrant workers and their families, and that much remains to be done in terms of implementation and practice of sound human rights policies.

We draw your attention to the recent fire at the Immigration Detention Center in Yeosu, South Jeolla Province on the 11th of February 2007 which killed 8 Chinese and 1 Uzbek, and left 18 other foreigners injured.

The Korea times reported: “The fire started at around 4 a.m. and most of the victims are believed to have suffocated from the fumes. About 55 foreigners were detained in the facility, including 42 Chinese, four Uzbeks, two from Kazakhstan and Sri Lanka, and one each from Russia, Kyrgyzstan, India, Vietnam and Iran.”

MFA believes that no human being is illegal and that all migrant workers irregardless of their status have rights. We therefore call for a thorough investigation of the incident at the Immigration Detention Center in Yeosu, South Jeolla Province and a public presentation of the report of the investigation.

Courage Peace, Power,

William Gois
Regional Coordinator
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