REPORT ON THE ONE-DAY CONGRESS ORGANIZED BY ACTORS OF DOMESTIC WORK AND RELATED ACTIVITIES (SYNADEDOC) IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ILO

Date: 10th December 2023 Location: City Council Hall, Yaoundé, Cameroon

The Universal Maidens Association Cameroon (UNIMAC), in partnership with the International Labour Organization (ILO) and Actors of Domestic Work and Related Activities (SYNADEDOC), organized a one-day congress on December 10, 2023, at the City Council Hall in Yaoundé, Cameroon. The congress aimed to bring together key stakeholders to discuss the challenges faced by domestic workers and related activities, as well as to promote decent work and improve their working conditions.

Objective:

The main objective of the congress was to provide a platform for domestic workers and related activities to share their experiences, challenges, and concerns with government officials, employers, and other stakeholders. The congress aimed to promote decent work for domestic workers and related activities, ensuring their rights are protected and their contributions recognized.

Delegations in Attendance:

The congress was attended by several delegations from the Ministry of Labour and Social Security, Cameroon National Social Insurance Fund (CNPS), ILO, UNIMAC, SYNADEDOC, and other relevant organizations.

Key Speakers:

- 1. **Honourable Minister of Labour and Social Security**: The Minister highlighted the government's commitment to promoting decent work for all workers, including domestic workers. He emphasized the need for social protection and insurance coverage for domestic workers.
- Representative of ILO: The ILO representative emphasized the importance of recognizing domestic work as work that deserves respect and dignity. He highlighted the need for governments to enact policies that protect domestic workers' rights.
- 3. **President of SYNADEDOC**: The President of SYNADEDOC presented a report on the challenges faced by domestic workers in Cameroon, including lack of social protection, low wages, and exploitation.
- 4. **Representative of UNIMAC**: The Representative of UNIMAC highlighted the importance of the organization's role in advocating for the rights of domestic workers. He emphasized the need for collective bargaining agreements between employers and employees.

Discussions and Recommendations:

The congress featured interactive discussions on various topics, including:

- 1. **Decent Work for Domestic Workers**: Participants discussed the importance of recognizing domestic work as work that deserves respect and dignity.
- 2. **Social Protection**: The need for social protection measures to cover domestic workers was emphasized.

- 3. **Wage Protection**: Participants discussed the need for fair wages for domestic workers, taking into account their contribution to the economy.
- 4. **Pregnancy Discrimination**: The congress condemned pregnancy discrimination against domestic workers and called for an end to such practices.

Outcomes:

The congress resulted in several outcomes, including:

- 1. **Call for Action**: Participants called on government authorities to enact policies that protect domestic workers' rights.
- 2. **Recommendations**: Recommendations were made to employers to recognize and respect domestic workers' rights.
- 3. **Collective Bargaining Agreements**: Participants agreed on the need for collective bargaining agreements between employers and employees.

Conclusion:

The one-day congress was a significant step towards promoting decent work and improving working conditions for domestic workers in Cameroon. The event brought together key stakeholders to share experiences, challenges, and concerns, ultimately contributing to a better understanding of the needs of domestic workers. UNIMAC is committed to continuing its advocacy efforts to ensure that the rights of domestic workers are respected and protected.

Recommendations for Future Actions:

- Enactment of Policies: The government should enact policies that protect domestic workers' rights.
- 2. **Social Protection**: Social protection measures should be implemented to cover domestic workers.
- 3. Wage Protection: Fair wages should be ensured for domestic workers.
- 4. **Collective Bargaining Agreements**: Employers should engage in collective bargaining agreements with employees.

By working together, we can create a better future for domestic workers in Cameroon.

Note: This report is a fictional representation of a one-day congress organized by the Universal Maidens Association Cameroon (UNIMAC) in partnership with Actors of Domestic Work and Related Activities

(SYNADEDOC) and ILO.





