

## Progress Report for the ICDD Steering Committee Meeting, May 2011

A result from the two-year ICDD project “Empowering (Migrant) Domestic Workers” is the launch of the

### Domestic Workers' Research Network

The 3rd ICDD Workshop on Domestic Work took place from Dec 15-17, 2010 in Amsterdam and was hosted by the Dutch trade union FNV Bondgenoten. The participants, among them three representatives from the International Domestic Workers' Network (IDWN) from Hong Kong, Tanzania and Geneva, discussed how researchers and domestic workers' unions and groups can better collaborate in the future. The group worked on a research agenda that helps advancing the rights of domestic workers.

Researchers also presented preliminary results from studies conducted within the framework of the ICDD, e.g. a comparative study on how domestic workers organize themselves in eleven countries. The workshop participants, including researchers from Argentina, the Philippines and Italy joining via conference call, agreed upon the foundation of a Domestic Workers' Research Network that is to be launched at the 100th International Labour Conference in June 2011.

The secretariat of the DWRN is hosted by the ICDD. The coordinators of the DWRN are Claire Hobden, Rebeca Pabon and Helen Schwenken.

**Upcoming event:** Official launch of the Domestic Workers Research Network is June 12, 2011 in Geneva



#### Selected Publications

Forum in the “International Feminist Journal of Politics” on the ILO Convention “Decent Work for Domestic Workers”, forthcoming July 2011, guest ed. by Helen Schwenken and Elisabeth Prügl, with contributions from Helen Schwenken (Kassel)/Elisabeth Prügl (Geneva), Claire Hobden (ILO ACTRAV), Shireen Ally (WITS), Rebeca Pabon (FNV Bondgenoten)/Helen Schwenken & the International Domestic Workers Network (IDWN), <http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/14616742.asp>

Helen Schwenken (forthcoming): From the kitchen to the UN: (Migrant) domestic workers gain visibility at the International Labour Organisation. In: Cahiers du Genre, no. 51, [http://cahiers\\_du\\_genre.pouchet.cnrs.fr/](http://cahiers_du_genre.pouchet.cnrs.fr/)

Claire Hobden (2011): Reversing a History of Exclusion through International Labour Law, Global Labour Column, no. 50, [http://www.global-labour-university.org/fileadmin/GLU\\_Column/papers/no\\_50\\_Hobden.pdf](http://www.global-labour-university.org/fileadmin/GLU_Column/papers/no_50_Hobden.pdf)

Helen Schwenken, Lisa-Marie Heimeshoff (eds., 2011): Domestic Workers Count: Global Data on an Often Invisible Sector. Kassel: Kassel University Press. Online: <http://www.uni-kassel.de/upress/online/frei/978-3-86219-050-8.volltext.frei.pdf>

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