Dear Asia Pacific Industrial Relations Net members and readers,

We are happy to bring the latest news for this August issue. The highlights and new features on this AP-IRNet newsletter include:

- Two featured publications: Women in business and management: Gaining momentum in Asia and the Pacific; Women in Business and Management: Gaining momentum.
- As well as updated news on industrial relations issues in the region.

To ensure that you receive our community updates in the future, please register as an AP Industrial Relations Net member. You can also view more news, resources and events on industrial relations issues in Asia and the Pacific by clicking here.

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**Featured Publications**

**Women in business and management: Gaining momentum in Asia and the Pacific**

Publishing Year: 2015

The report brings together data collected from the ILO global company survey in 2013 on gender diversity in the workplace, specific to the Asia-Pacific region, and also incorporates other latest data to provide overview of the status of women in business and management. The evidence is showing that gender diversity is good for business, and women increasingly represent an important source of talent, the data clearly illustrates a lack of women in top management positions and a concentration of women in certain types of management and occupations. Some progress has been made but much remains to be done in terms of gender equality in the workplace. The report serves to highlight the key role of employers'
organizations in supporting business and advocating for gender equality and women's equal opportunity employment in the workplace and provides an overview of key actions for business.

Download from here.

**Women in Business and Management: Gaining momentum**

*Publishing Year: 2015*

This report brings together available data and ILO statistics to provide a comprehensive, up-to-date and global picture of women in the business world and in management positions. It highlights the business case for gender diversity and the obstacles women still face as well as ways to move ahead, underlining the fact that women's presence in the labour market is increasingly significant for economic growth and development at both enterprise and national levels. It advocates for a greater role for national business organizations, which can assist their member companies with putting in place policies and measures to recruit and retain talent. The report also shows that women still have to deal with a number of hurdles to reach positions as CEOs and company board members. The report calls for a closer examination of the career paths of women and men to ensure that subtle gender biases are eliminated, proposing an array of initiatives that challenge gender stereotypes and corporate cultures, and that seek to reconcile work and family responsibilities.

Download from here.

**News Highlights**

**China:** Works Councils discuss labour relations at German chemical companies in China

*IndustrALL, 31 July 2015* - Leading officials of IndustrALL Global Union's German affiliate IG BCE (Mining, Chemical and Energy Workers' Union) analyze labour relations in China through an Industry Forum.

**VietNam:** Minimum wage to rise next year

*VietNamNet Bridge, 22 July 2015* - Vu Tien Loc, chairman of the Viet Nam Chamber of Commerce and Industry, spoke to Thoi Bao Kinh Te (Vietnam Economic Times) about plans to increase the minimum wage in 2016.

**Cambodia:** Wage-increase impact up for debate

*The PhnomPenhPost, 22 July 2015* - Recent data from the International Labour Organisation say that despite implementing a $126 minimum wage in January, the Kingdom's garment and footwear sector has grown by over 10 per cent in the first quarter this year, although experts suggest a wait-and-see approach to determine its full impact.

**Myanmar:** Global brands voice support for minimum wage proposal

*Global New Light Of Myanmar, 15 July 2015* - Dozens of major global brands have thrown their weight behind Myanmar's proposed minimum wage, calling for guaranteed pay rates as a means of promoting investment in the country's garment industry and lifting the living standards of its workers.

**Bangladesh:** ILO Joins Hands with Bangladesh IndustrALL Council

*TextilesUpdate, 14 July 2015* - ILO has joined hands with the Bangladesh IndustrALL Council (IBC) to further strengthen workers' rights and working conditions in the ready-made garment industry.
Korea: Minimum wage decision - Rate of rise, negotiating process leave much to be desired

The Korea Times, 12 July 2015 - The three-party negotiations to decide next year's minimum wage level ended last Wednesday, leaving a bitter taste in various ways. Not only did the 8.1 percent increase from 2015, to 6,030 won ($5.3) an hour, fall far short of initial expectations, but the government remained distant from the process and reneged on its promises — again.

Bangladesh: First ever quarterly labour force survey underway BBS likely to release data in September

The Financial Express, 8 July 2015 - The Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) has started conducting a quarterly survey this month aiming to provide up-to-speed workforce data, helping the government to design sound labour market policy.