



February 2012

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Bismo, Sulistri, Firman

2nd edition

DWi-UPDATE

Domestic Workers News Update from Indonesia



Sulistri (Deputy President KSBSI)



Mudhofir (President KSBSI)

Around 50 NGOs and Trade Unions joined their action today (15 February 2012) in front of the House of Representatives to demand Ratification of ILO Convention 189 on Domestic Workers and National law for Domestic Workers. Sulistri said in her speech that "Now is the time for all domestic workers in Indonesia who are mostly women, to move, organize and claim their rights as a worker".

The number of domestic workers in Indonesia reached more than 10 million people where most of them are women and some are children below mini-

mum age of 16 years. While number of migrant domestic workers reached more than 6 million people working in Malaysia and some Middle Eastern countries with poor conditions like modern slavery.

Since 2004, the Draft Law for Domestic Workers have entered the National Legislation Program of the House of Representatives period of 2004-2009, but it had never been discussed. Draft Law for Domestic Workers then entered again into the National Legislation Program period of 2009-2014, and has become a priority agenda in 2010, 2011 and 2012. But only in early 2012, the House of Representatives started the discussion by Commission IX in charge of labor.

In a meeting of the legislature body of the House of Representatives on December 15, 2011, several factions of political parties pledged their support for the bill on domestic workers, namely; faction of the Nationalist parties (PDI-P,

Golkar and Hanura), as well as the fraction of the Islamic parties; PKS and PPP. While the fraction of the ruling party (Democratic) party and faction of -Minister of Labor Muhaimin Iskandar- not yet declared their support.



Mudhofir (President KSBSI) & Muhaimin Iskandar (Labor Minister)

For the record, in a speech of Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, President of the Republic of Indonesia at the International Labour Conference of the 100th on June 14, 2011, stated that Indonesia is committed to supporting the adoption of ILO Conventions No. 189 of Domestic Workers. The President also stated that the government of Indonesia would sup-

port decent work for domestic workers who work both domestically and abroad as migrant domestic workers.

After delivering his speech, Mudhofir and members of the KSBSI Executive Council met

with Minister of Labour, Muhaimin Iskandar. During the meeting, KSBSI explained about the current labor issues in Indonesia and urged the Government of Indonesia to actively encourage the House of Representatives to immediately discuss the Draft Law on Domestic Workers and the ratification of ILO Convention no. 189 of Domestic Workers.



Protesters demanding the ratification of ILO Convention 189 and the passage of the Domestic Workers Law.