

Committee: ILO

Character: Brazil's Workers Representative



Topic: Achieving the Decent Work Agenda Through Reinforcement Agreements

Achieving the decent agenda, protection of the workers' rights, enhancement of the working conditions are possible with strengthening the social security system. It targets to create a labor atmosphere where every worker can lead a life with safe and fair working conditions. Economic growth, increasing job quality and ensuring equal opportunities are also important parts of this target.

The development of workers' rights and unions in Brazil, became strong with the unionization movement that was supported by the immigrant workers in the 20th century. However, during the military coup times, unions were pressured, strikes were banned and the workers' rights were violated. With the democracy in Brazil, unions gained importance again. Brazil continues to focus on creating decent work conditions.

However, even though there is a development in employment rates in recent years, Brazil still faces many problems. There is a growth observed in sectors like trade and construction, however the rate of informal work remains high. This leads to a major part of the labor being deprived of social security and workers' rights. Besides, there is a need for more effort to improve working conditions and create more decent jobs. There is a economic growth, although increasing the quality of jobs and decreasing the social inequalities are still the issues on Brazil's labor agenda.

Brazil recognizes the fundamental rights of workers' that are established by the International Labour Organization (ILO). However, there are deficiencies in the protection and inspection of these rights. Especially issues such as informal employment and worker exploitation, make difficult to effectively implement workers' rights.

The issues that affect the workers' in Brazil most are, informal employment, low and unequal wages, poor working conditions, job insecurity, forced labor and modern slavery.

The government and employers in Brazil sometimes do implementations that violate the workers' rights. Especially the majority of informal employment and insufficient workplace safety makes it difficult to protect workers' rights. Also some cases have been reported that some employers force workers to labor under conditions like slavery. Such practices like this cause the violation of worker's rights.

Unionization rates in Brazil have been declining in recent years. This decreases the bargaining power of the workers and makes it difficult to defend worker's rights.

To achieve decent work agenda in Brazil through employer and government collaboration;

The government should increase the inspections and implement deterrent penalties. Also, enhance policies that encourage formal employment. The minimum wage should be arranged according to the cost of living in Brazil and reduce wage inequality. Strengthening the collective bargaining processes can help the improvements in workers' wages. The workplace safety precautions should increase and protect the workers health. Labor inception systems should strengthen, this can ensure that employees are completely working legally. Strengthening unions and encouraging unionization and joining the unions to workers is important for protecting the workers' rights. Barriers on unionization should be removed.

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