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# ITF Global Transport Workers and HIV/AIDS Programme

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# This issue...

At a time when HIV is still spreading steadily across the globe, we are also witnessing progress in controlling this deadly disease. Responses to the AIDS epidemic have grown and improved considerably over the last few years. The objective of this E-bulletin is to circulate AIDS-related news, publications, literature and research to affiliated unions and others working in this field. It is a part of our Global HIV/AIDS programme, which is targeting ITF affiliates all over the globe. Get involved! For further information and queries please contact Dr. Syed Asif Altaf, Global HIV/AIDS Project Coordinator, [Altaf.Asif@itf.org.uk](mailto:Altaf.Asif@itf.org.uk) or the Regional Education Coordinator in your ITF region, ITF *Education* Department: [education@itf.org.uk](mailto:education@itf.org.uk).

This issue of the E-bulletin will look at how transport unions all over the world observed the World AIDS day, 2012.

## World AIDS day, 2012: Transport Unions commit to be a "change agent: Getting to zero"

World AIDS Day this year is about being a "change agent: Getting to Zero" – that is zero new HIV infections, zero discrimination and zero AIDS related deaths.

The ITF affiliates all over the world were active during World AIDS day, 2012 and implemented different activities. When we were writing this bulletin, more than 130 affiliates from 47 countries have already sent us reports of their activities. We expect more affiliates will soon report.

**BREL, Bangladesh** organised a general meeting Loco Shed Gate at Chittagong. They also organised a meeting on 2nd December at their eastern zonal head quarters with Chief Medical Officer and his medical team took part. They also displayed banners at different important places. **Bangladesh** Noujan Sromik Federation organised discussion sessions to mark the day.

**Barbados Workers Union** joined the national AIDS programme to mark World AIDS day

**Confederacion Sindical de Trabajadores Ferroviarios, LAB, AASANA y Jubilados Ferroviarios de Bolivia** organised in collaboration with the railway company organised number of activities which is part of their long term HIV/AIDS campaign.

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**Burma Seafarers Union** organised a education programme for its members in collaboration with local NGOs and also distributed condoms and put on ITF posters in different work places.

**Sihanoukville port trade union of Cambodia** organised discussion sessions for its members.

**CAW, Canada** in collaboration with the North Star Alliance(NSA) organised a display booth on HIV/AIDS in the recently concluded ITF's road and rail conference in Toronto.

**Seafarers centre in Chile** put on ITF campaign materials in different workplaces.

**Colombia: SNTT** organised number of activities in different provinces which includes discussion sessions, condoms distributions, putting on ITF poster at work places, meeting with the management to discuss about work place policy.

**ITF affiliates from the R.D. Congo** organised rallies and distributed condoms among the workers.

**CORPAQ, Ecuador** organised discussion sessions and displayed ITF campaign materials at work places.

**SUTRAPAA in Côte d'Ivoire** organised discussion sessions at work places and also put on ITF campaign materials at work places.

**Ethiopian** Transport and Communication Workers Trade Union Industrial Federation (TCWTUIF) organised a high level panel discussion where in addition to board members, young activists and members of their women's network took part. Campaign posters, stickers, bag tags & flyers were distributed among the affiliated unions & members.

**In Ghana** ITF affiliates led by the General **Transport Petroleum and Chemical Workers Union** organised a discussion session on HIV/AIDS and rallies.

**In Guatemala** ITF affiliates including the **SITRUEMPORNAC** organised number of activities on World AIDS day week starting from November 25 to mark international day for violence against women The activities included rallies around port area, discussion sessions and distribution of condoms to workers.

**Confédération Nationale des Travailleurs de Guinée (CNTG),République de Guinée** organised discussion on the importance of dealing HIV/AIDS at workplaces.

**Guyana: Clerical & Commercial Workers Union**, organised a discussion session with HIV positive workers. They also organised information booths at different work places.

**Honduras:** Sindicato de Trabajadores de la Empresa Nacional Portuaria organised march through the main streets of the port. They also organized exhibitions and trainings program for the port community in Porto Cortes. **Sindicato Gremial De Trabajadores Del Muelle SGTm** organised Forum-workshop with members of their union and infected people in the community including a march through downtown.

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ITF affiliates in **India** including All India Railwaymen Federation(AIRF), National Federation Indian Railway(NFIR), Indian National Transport Workers Federation, Madras Port Trust Employees Union, Maritime union of India, Transport and Dockworkers' union, Mumbai, Transport and dockworkers union, Kandala, Cochin Port Staff Association, National Union of Seafarers of India(NUSI), Air India Air cabin crew Association, Air India Employees Guild, Air India Officers Association, Maharashtra State Transport Kamgar Sangtha, Forward Seafarers union, organized different activities during the WAD which included discussion sessions for workers and family members, street drama, visiting ships and distributing awareness materials and condoms to seafarers, put up ITF posters in workplaces, rallies at work places, organising meeting with management to develop workplace policy on HIV/AIDS.

Like previous year, **in Indonesia, the Norwegian Seafarers' Union and the Kesatuan Pelaut Indonesia** ran an information stand in Bali seafarers' centre and held a day of activities including Quiz, Talk show, AIDS game, education sessions, production of news-letter and ship visiting to create awareness.

The ITF affiliates in **Kenya** including **Kenya Long distance truck drivers' union, Kenya Dock Workers Union, USAFIRI, the network HIV positive transport workers, Kenya Seafarers Union** organised number of activities during week long observation of WAD. They activities included VCT camps, story telling sessions involving HIV positive transport workers, rallies, organising campaigns at different border points.

**United Workers' Union of Liberia (UWUL)** put on campaign posters on buses of the National Transit Authority. UWUL conductors on these buses distributed condoms and campaign leaflets to passengers. They also organised discussion program where the Minister of Health & Social welfare and the Minister of Labor took part.

**SYGMMA in Madagascar** organized number of activities during World AIDS day week which includes discussion sessions and distribution of condoms.

**ITF affiliates in Malawi** organised street play, rallies and distribution of condoms at work places.

**In Mauritius MTPEU** in collaboration with the ministry of Health and Quality of Life in Mauritius organised a blood testing session for seafarers, Dockers, and seaman on the 20th and 22nd of November. They also organised rally on December 1. **Airports of Mauritius Employees Union** organised sensitization workshop for both male and female employees /members. They Affix the ITF campaign posters onsite of work and distributed leaflets and the ITF bag tags.

**Mexico: ATM** organised discussion sessions on HIV/AIDS and distributed condoms and awareness materials in different workplaces. **CENTRO VERACRUZANO DE BIENESTAR PARA LA GENTE DE MAR, A.C.** in collaboration with ITF affiliates organised discussion sessions and ship visiting.

**Mozambique: Sindicato Nacional de Trabalhadores de Transportes Rodoviários, Assistência Técnica e Simulares (SINTRAT)** organised rally, education session for workers. They also distributed condoms at work places.

**Namibia Transport and Allied Workers Union and Federation** organized discussion sessions at work places and displayed ITF campaign materials.

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**In Nepal Yatayat Mazdoor Sangh and ITWAN** organised campaign activities along India and Nepal border points. They also organised rallies, discussion sessions.

**In Niger SYNARTA** organised a conference on information and awareness for their members. They also organised rallies at taxi stations and parking lots. They also organised discussion session with network of HIV positive people on possible collaboration.

**UNE-MTI Nicaragua** distributed campaign materials in workplaces. They also organised discussion session for their executive board members.

**Air Transport Services and Senior Staff Association, Nigeria** organised a sensitisation workshop on “HIV/AIDS and stigma and discrimination at work places”.

**Norwegian Seafarers' Union** organised where they distributed ITF's campaign materials.

**Pakistan Merchant Navy Officers' Association** organised discussion sessions on HIV/AIDS at work places.

**In Paraguay SOMUPA** distributed campaign materials at work places and organised discussion sessions.

**RED DE SALUD OXAPAMPA, Peru** organised information fair where they screened documentary on HIV/AIDS. They also conducted VCT camps and organized sensitization workshops in schools.

**Associated Marine Officers' and Seamen's Union of the Philippines** organised discussion sessions inviting resource persons from governments agencies and private individuals/doctors .

**In Panama**, the ITF affiliates in collaboration with the government health authorities organised free HIV testing to students of universities of maritime professionals. They also organised lectures at universities and work areas. They also put on ITF campaign materials on ships transiting the Panama Canal. They also distributed ITF's HIV/AIDS Luggage tags in Tocumen International airport.

**National HIV/AIDS Secretariat-Eastern region, Sierra Leone** organised number of activities to mark the day in collaboration with different partners.

**South Africa Transport and Allied Workers Union(SATAWU)** organised number of activities to mark the day at different wellness centres

**Swaziland Transport and Allied Workers' Union** organised awareness sessions for workers and also distributed condoms. They also promoted VCT at work places.

**Tanzania: Mission to Seafarers** put up ITF campaign materials in the seafarers centre.

**Seafarers centre in Siracha, Thailand** in collaboration with local church and NGOs organised number of events for seafarers and students from local maritime school. They also conducted ship visiting and distributed condoms.

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**The Federation of Transport Workers' Unions of Togo (FESYTRAT)** organized an informal debate on the theme of the year focuses on "change agent to be the target of zero" with the objective to help their members better understand the theme to be more involved in the fight through campaigns.

**Ugandan Amalgamated Transport and General Workers' Union (ATGWU)** organised rallies, discussion sessions and conducted voluntary HIV Counselling and Testing (HCT) camp at work places.

**Marine Transport Workers' Trade Union of Ukraine** conducted campaigns for their members all over Ukraine. On November 30 they took part in the All-Ukrainian Youth Forum in Kiev with the theme "Don't give AIDS a chance". In collaboration with GIZ, they conducted training for trainers among employees of Ukrainian ports and factories. In the Port of Kerch (Crimea) together with the city council arranged informational campaign in the centre of the city, where people could take rapid tests, receive condoms and leaflets. In Ilchichevsk leaflets and condoms were distributed among the young seafarers in marine school. The cadets of Odessa National Maritime Academy and the Odessa College of Technical took part in seminar on HIV/AIDS.

**In UK**, RMT organised information campaign at work places.

**Zimbabwe Amalgamated Railway workers Union** organised discussion sessions at workplace throughout the country