International Labour Conference

The 109th Session of the International Labour Conference ended on a high note with the impact of COVID-19 on the world of work and how to ensure an inclusive, sustainable, and resilient recovery, dominating the conversation of this first virtual Conference.

Please find the Conference Global Call to Action on a Human Centered Recovery from Covid -19 and a Special Resolution and Recommendations on Social Protection on this link http://www.fke-kenya.org/site/index.php/resources/downloads

Member Webinar

The Federation engaged members during a free webinar on the Health and NHIF (Amendment) Bill 2021. The Webinar sought to expound to members the proposed changes and their implication to enterprises. Members had the opportunity to voice their concerns on the proposals as follows:

1. Impact on the Cost and Ease of Doing Business
2. Job Creation and Job Security
3. What are the benefits derived against member contributions?
4. Where is the role of the Government in reference to Art. 43 of the Constitution?
5. The proposed financing of the scheme is not tenable
6. Where is the infrastructure to support provision of health services to all Kenyans? At the moment the ratio of health workers to citizens is below the required level.
7. What happens to the existing private Mechanical Insurance arrangements that employers have provided for their employees? Do we want to kill the insurance industry?
8. Benefits and contributions from the private sector and the Government are not the same.
9. It seems like penalties for late remittance or not joining the scheme have been given more focus than the quality of services to be offered.

In the forgoing it should be appreciated that Employers are not against the bills and would prefer a situation where all Kenyans access affordable health care. However, the financing model is unacceptable. The benefits accrued should also be made clear from the onset.

The Federation has prepared and presented a memorandum to the Parliament capturing the sentiments and views of members. To read a copy of the Memorandum, please visit this site http://www.fke-kenya.org/site/index.php/resources/downloads

CBA Negotiation on behalf of Members

The Federation facilitated the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA) between Frigoken Limited and the Kenya Union of Commercial Food and Allied Workers (KUCFAW). The agreement negotiated through our Industrial Relations wing, was signed at a time when COVID-19 has negatively impacted business.

FKE Wins the Global International Elimination of Child Labour Changemaker Award!

The Federation of Kenya Employers has been recognized as the Global Bronze Winner of the International Elimination of Child Labour Changemaker Award by the International Organization of Employers (IOE).
The results were announced during the Global UN Compact Leaders’ Summit by Mr. Roberto Suarez the Secretary General, International Organization of Employers (IOE). “721 Million children in Africa are still involved in Child Labour majorly due to poverty; hence the need to deal with the root causes of poverty and having long term commitments.

Involvement of private sector, providing adequate social protection and facilitating children of school going age to access education are key in elimination of child labour.” said Mr. Suarez.

The Federation was feted for the “Adopt a School” Initiative which was initiated in 2009 to link businesses with schools to prevent school drop-out and encourage families to send children to school. Enterprises are encouraged to play a leading role in preventing and eliminating Child Labour not only in their workplaces, but even beyond by supporting vulnerable children in the communities they operate in.

While acknowledging the award, Mrs. Jacqueline Mugo said, “This initiative was as a result of raising awareness to help members put in place measures and policies to stop child labour in their workplaces and reach out to the surrounding communities. A survey conducted by FKE established that household poverty and lack of food were the main reasons why children drop out of school.”

The IOE launched a major campaign this year as part of this worldwide effort - IOE Leaders Initiative to End Child Labour. The campaign aims to bring the power of the private sector to global initiatives to eliminate Child Labour in all its forms by 2025.

FKE Election to the ILO and IOE Board

The Federation of Kenya Employers (FKE) is delighted to announce the election of Mrs. Jacqueline Mugo as the International Organization of Employers (IOE) Vice President for Africa. The IOE is the largest network of the Private Sector in the world with 157 Business and Employer Federations in 145 Countries around the world. The IOE is the Global Voice of Business.

Mrs. Mugo has also been elected for the 5th time as a titular member of the Governing Body of the International Labour Organization (ILO).

Mrs. Mugo has led engagements at national, regional and international level to advocate for the interests of employers and business in policy debates so as to influence positive outcomes to support enterprise sustainability. Her commitment and zeal to the cause of Africa’s development has been recognized in Africa and beyond.

These appointments are also a testament of Kenya’s commitment to furthering social Justice and the role of business in development.

Why does labour migration matter for business?

Join us and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in the “It takes a community campaign” focussing on the role of employers and the business community in changing the negative perception of migrant workers. Follow our YouTube Channel FKEChannel and our Twitter page @FKEKenya for more on this.