



Workshops and Training

Global Action Programme on Migrant Domestic Workers
and their Families

This project is funded by the European Union



International
Labour
Organization



The Founding Congress of International Domestic Workers Federation (IDWF)

Montevideo, Uruguay, 26-28 October 2013

The Founding Congress of the International Domestic Workers Federation (IDWF) took place in Montevideo, Uruguay, gathering nearly 200 domestic workers from 42 countries to discuss how to improve the working conditions of domestic workers worldwide.

The launching of the IDWF has a wide implication on the history of the labour movement as for the first time a global union has been formed by workers from the poorest sections of society, with an all-women elected leadership. The GAP-MDW provided assistance to organize the IDWF Founding Congress on a special request from the Domestic Workers Network by facilitating its organization, developing the Federation's strategy and providing a seed funding. The 5 year action plan of the IDWF was well as strategic campaigns and advocacy activities were elaborated aiming at promoting decent work conditions and labour rights for domestic workers. The founding of the global Federation of domestic workers is a sign of the growing strength of the movement and a key moment to assess progress for workers long excluded from basic labour protections.

The Congress adopted by consensus a Constitution and Development Strategy for the Federation. Members of the IDWF have agreed upon strategic campaigns and approved a 5-year action plan of the Federation. The Global Action Programme on Migrant Domestic Workers (GAP-MDW) facilitated the organization and provided seed funding for the Congress, and provided further support to organization's activities.

