



NEWSLETTER IMWU NL

July - Sep 2014



IMWU NL is a self-founded organization, established by and for the Indonesian Migrant Workers in the Netherlands. IMWU NL aims at promoting the labor rights for all workers particularly Indonesian, both documented and undocumented, in the Netherlands. We determine to eliminate human trafficking, jobs trade, abuses and various forms of human rights violation and discrimination against all workers particularly the Indonesian workers in the Netherlands.

Nieuwe Herengracht 20, 1018 DP, Amsterdam

Paardenberg 1a, 2572 XH, Den Haag

contact number: +31685006458

email: imwu_nl@yahoo.nl / info@imwu-nl.com

facebook account: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100000822359009>

facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Indonesian-Migrant-Workers-Union-Netherlands-IMWU-NL/249827881709642>

Twitter: [@IMWUNetherlands](https://twitter.com/IMWUNetherlands)

Website: www.imwu-nl.com

KVK. 54442796



*The family of IMWU NL would like to say, **Taqobalallahu minna waminkum,***

EID MUBARAK 1435H

We celebrated led day and back on work again.

As we shared in our last newsletter, after so many years, the members of IMWU NL could participate again and

use their political rights to vote for the Indonesian parliamentary members and president. It could be happened since after years we campaign on our identity rights to have passport for the undocumented Indonesian people. Since February 2014, the undocumented Indonesian people could obtain a passport as their renewal ones. With their passport, they could vote.

Indonesia has a new President, Joko Widodo who is an open, transparent, and accountable person. To establish his cabinet, he opens for some recommendations. IMWU NL proposes the ambassador Ms. Retno Marsudi as the first female Indonesian Minister of Foreign Affairs (see: <http://news.detik.com/read/2014/09/16/175830/2692055/10/2/imwu-berharap-dubes-retno-marsudi-jadi-menlu-wanita-pertama>). Months after months we waited, at last our President has decided his cabinet called 'work cabinet'. Our pray and hope came true. Ms. Retno Marsudi is chosen as Indonesian Minister of foreign affairs. It's a historical moment and we are very proud! We congratulate Ms. Retno Marsudi. She has a great commitment to promote Indonesia and to protect Indonesian people especially Indonesian workers abroad.



Further good news for us is in commemorating Indonesian Independence Day. The undocumented Indonesian people are recognised again as Indonesian people since they received passport as their renewal ones. This year, we could join the celebration of our Independence Day and commemorate it. For further information on our struggle and campaign, please see:

<http://www.majalahsedane.net/2013/10/siapa-sih-yang-mau-jadi-undocumented.html>,
<http://www.majalahsedane.net/2012/08/kemerdekaan-yang-semu-passport-sebagai.html>,
<http://picum.org/en/news/blog/35627/>



Beside our great news above, there is also sad news for us and for the whole world. A plane, Malaysian Airlines MH017 is shot down, hundreds passengers and plane's crews died. This is a great tragedy. One of our friends, Supartini was in the plane. We give our deep condolences for all the victims' families. Kindly find more information in these sites: (our warning for people who want to work to the Netherlands): <http://www.kindo.hk/blog/?e=760>, <http://www.lensaindonesia.com/2014/07/25/ini-4peringatan-pekerja-wni-di-belanda-prihatin-supartini-korban-mh17.html>, <http://buruhmigran.or.id/2014/07/26/imwu-belanda-tak-ada-penempatan-resmi-tki-domestik-ke-belanda/>

EMPOWERMENT



IMWU Den Haag organised also information day on voluntary return by inviting IOM. Such information is very important for those who would return to Indonesia.

VISIBILITY

July! Ramadhan feest at wereldhuis. IMWU NL attended Ramadhan party at the Hague Wereldhuis to show our visibility.

Furthermore, IMWU participated in Public Celebration organized by our embassy by selling food and fashion products. Obviously, this participation is also intended to let others know about the existence of IMWU as the self-organization to protect Indonesian migrant workers in the Netherlands.

IMWU NL has also participated in Peace Run event as a campaign to fight against racism. It is a part of IMWU mission to obtain equality among the Dutch society. (for more info see <http://www.vredesloopdenhaag.nl/evenement/>)



MIGRANT (DOMESTIC) WORKERS ISSUE

<http://www.doorbraak.eu/commissie-kalsbeek-negeert-positie-van-illegale-huishoudelijk-werkers/> .

IT is the link to the campaign of domestic workers recently in the Netherlands. Kalsbeek Commission was formed by Ministry of Social Affairs to provide research and advisory to Minister about domestic workers status in the Netherlands (ILO Ratification Convention 189). The research has been conducted in collaboration between the Commission. IMWU NL took active participation as well as other migrant organizations through FNV and Respect NL. (see https://www.facebook.com/imwu.nl/media_set) . The result of this research is published in our newsletter on IMWU website (see <http://www.imwu-nl.com/.../Newsletter%20Jan-Mar%202014%20IMWU...>) Unfortunately, it still has no discussion to



follow up this research, because in fact, many migrant workers – including undocumented workers – work in the domestic sector. Therefore, this campaign should be intensively performed. Keep fighting!

Respect networks in other hand tried to approach Bram van Ojik, MP from Groenlinks party to deliver the issue and the demand of (undocumented) migrant domestic workers.

We want ratification of ILO convention 189!

The recognition of work will bring the recognition of the workers! Visibility of migrant domestic workers!

Moreover, Celia Mather, our old friend, and Anna Basten from Effat were coming to the Netherlands for the steering committee Domestic workers in Europe. We are grateful to meet them and delivered our aspirations and sharing our stories. Friends from IMWU NL, FILMIS, OKIA, and other supporters were enjoying this informal dinner and discussion.

Celia Mather is our old friend, not only with the previous generation but also with IMWU NL. She wrote the story of Slamet Hery , our first chairperson. Please find the article here

<http://www.thejakartaglobe.com/archive/a-migrants-tale-in-his-own-words/>



SOLIDARITY

IMWU NL support the energy creative in Jatiwangi Village, Indonesia (Kindly see <http://panenergi.wordpress.com/2014/06/25/pendanaan/>)

The global issue of energy crisis now widely becomes main attention to all countries. Many programs, either big scale or small scale, are performed to be part of solution to overcome the crisis. One of the beneficial programs that can be an initial solution is by the idea of Energy Village. To achieve the notion of Energy Village, first, we would like to encourage people to keep inventing, utilizing and processing renewable energy from local resources as a movement towards Village Energy. Then, we would also like to engage the society and other elements like government, entrepreneurs and institutions to actively involve in giving ideas, discourses and production towards the establishment of Energy Village. As a result, the event could be a form of creative promotion to develop local resources to push the economic growth and the awareness of energy utilization.

Food for Ramadhan



IMWU NL gives also its solidarity to Monthly dinner Den haag wereldhuis We cook great foods!

Juli Ramadhan feest at wereldhuis! We cook! September monthly dinner and info night!



Demonstration of Anti-Discrimination



IMWU NL also actively supports the campaign of anti-discrimination from the Netherlands police. The migrants are often captured and interrogated, although they do not behave against the law or undermine the public order.

Bowling for Charity



IMWU NL takes part in bowling for charity organized for our Phillipines friends. The money will be contributed to school in Philippine.

Be graceful and keep hoping

IMWU NL gives solidarity to refugees in the Hague whom Dutch government still rejects their request for asylum that makes their life is legally unsettled over the years.



ORGANISING & MOBILISATION



Go traveling,

Domestic workers in the Netherlands still get not recognition to their rights and existences, so that the labor deployment tends to be permittedly illegal. Absolutely, this condition gives no benefits to all workers because of the potential exploitation. Inappropriate working hours, heavy workload, low wage, no health insurance, no day-to-leave, and no

holiday allowance as well as annuity are the risks that they will encounter with despite their big contribution not only to the Dutch society and economy, but also Indonesia.

Hence, IMWU NL held a one-day-leave event to provide all domestic workers and their family to enjoy Giethoorn – A Venice of the Netherlands – which visitors could reach the city only by boat or bike. This event was denoted to give a time to indulge themselves within their hard struggle of life in the Netherlands.

Halal bihalal /Suiker Feest / Ied Day Celebration

IMWU NL organized Ied Day Celebration by gathering members in The Hague, Rotterdam and Amsterdam. We are one, we are united.



ASSISTANCES

IMWU NL gives assistances to Indonesian migrants in particular. We give the first aid such as giving information, references to other organization that is specialized in the case, to the lawyer, doctor/health practitioner, etc. From July-September 2014, the list of assistances is as follows:

No.	Cases	Number of people	Notes
1.	Access to health care	9	Inc.payment etc
2.	Return	4	Referring to IOM
3.	Arrest	2	Contacting advocate, giving advices etc
4.	Passport	2	
6.	Undocumented children	2	School, kinderpardon
7.	Domestic violence	1	
8.	others	4	Marriage, etc

At this moment, together with other organisations such as St.LOS, St.OKIA, and some supporters, IMWU NL is campaigning on 'safe report' for the undocumented who became a victim or a witness of human trafficking or other criminal action. We experienced that our fellows, the undocumented, were arrested and deported after they provided report and testimony as a witness in regard on the case that they know of. Please find the article here: <http://www.doorbraak.eu/indonesische-migrantenvakbond-strijdt-voor-arbeidsrechten/> or here in English: <http://www.imwu-nl.com/informasi/razzia.pdf>

OTHER INFORMATIONS

Please find our last newsletter: http://www.imwu-nl.com/document/newsletter/Newsletter_2014_Apr-June.pdf

Also our Annual report 2013: <http://www.imwu-nl.com/annual.pdf>



SIGN & SHARE to call on the Government of the Netherlands to protect its domestic workers from #ModernSlavery: <http://bit.ly/1p6Agij>

To learn more about modern slavery in the Netherlands, click here: <http://bit.ly/VGNMPP>

Every country must adopt the new game-changing international law to end domestic slavery – will yours be next? <http://t.co/BcKmwtdgXx>



Please introduce these two ladies, who struggle the rights of (Indonesian) au pairs in the Netherlands. Au pairs is a culture exchange program for students in age 18-26 years old. (<http://www.imwu-nl.com/AU%20PAIRS.pdf>) .

This program offered to learn the culture by living with a host family. Beside learning the culture, au pairs must help the host family with light work such as playing and take care of children, light cleaning, etc. They get pocket money as much as 300 euros. However, some of au pairs are exploited by the host family. Instead learning the

culture, they become the cheap domestic worker for the family. Instead of helping the au pairs, the agent sometimes use this condition to return au pairs or to exploit au pairs more. We are glad that Cut and Yuni started the movement to protect the rights of au pairs.

Beginning October to November, IMWU NL start to have photo competition with theme "This is my work and I'm proud of it" , the photo competition is open for public and any kinds of work sectors. We hope that a lot of people would participate in such competition.

