

**FLeAG (Forced Labor Elimination Action Group) Committee Meeting**

**Venue: Indreni Foodland**

**Date: 13 June 2019**

**Participants:**

Ganesh B.K. (G.B.K.)	RDN Nepal
Milan Dharel (MD)	NICS
Madhav Pradhan(MP)	CWIN /CZOP
Promod Acharya (PA)	CWISH
Tara Bhandari(TB)	Biswas Nepal
Basanti Chaudhary(BC)	Kamaiya Pratha Unmulan Samaj
Rash Laal Ram (RLR)	Rastrya Harawa Charawa
Lagindra Shah(LS)	Sec. Rastrya Harwa Charawa
	Rastrya Mukta Haliya samaj
Ishwor Sunar(IS)	Mahasangh
	Rastrya Mukta Haliya Samaj
Raja Ram Bhul(RRB)	Mahasangh
Kaji Ratan Awaley(KRA)	ILO
Parshuram Pudasaini (PP)	Class Nepal
Writu Bhatta Rai(WBR)	SAN
Narayan Bhattarai(NB)	ILO
Dil Bahadur Bishokarma (DBB)	NNDSWO
Ruja Pokhrel(RP)	SAN
Pratiksha K.C.(P.K.C)	SAN
Chandani Rana (CR)	POURAKhI Nepal
Kamal Gautam(KG)	GeFONT
Acharya K Nepal (AKN)	Maiti Nepal
Goma Bhandari(GB)	D.W.F.
Samjhana Pardhan(SP)	Nepal Goodweave Foundation
Umesh Kuinkel(UK)	Nepal Goodweave Foundation
Diepndra Dhakal(DD)	The freedom Fund
Ranjana Pokhrel(RP)	NNAGT
Benu Maya Gurung (BMG)	AATWIN
Chandrika Baruwal(CB)	People Forum

## **Agenda:**

FLeAG Coalition meeting had following discussion agenda:

1. Update the FLeAG Activities in Past
2. Develop Plan of Action

## **Presentation and Discussion:**

FLeAG committee conducted coalition meeting to end forced labor in Indreni Foodland, Baneshwor on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2019. 27 (M-16, F-11) participants. **Mr. Ganesh B.K.**, Chairperson National Dalit Network Nepal, chaired the meeting and welcomes all the members and non-members of the meeting. He highlighted the agenda of the meeting and asked participants to share their ideas and issues in the forum.

**MD, NICS** facilitated the session by highlighting agenda of the meeting. Followed by **NB from ILO** had a presentation on the FLeAG and other labor issues. He shared the available laws and policies that is linked with bonded labor, slavery, child labor and forced labor in Nepal. He also updated the movement of haruwa charuwa, haliya and kamiaya in Nepal. Further more suggested the future action that includes conceptual clarity of members, continue advocacy and lobby actions and collaboration and coordination among the concerned stakeholders.

**IS Rastiry Mukta Haliya Samaj**, shared though the government has collected the information of haruwa charuwa, haliya and kamiaya but many of people are left behind. He emphasized on one more chance on data collection and verification is need from government side to include those who left due to fear of employer and other various reasons. Their needs a regular monitoring form government concern agencies and provide services.

**BC Kamaiya Partha Unmulan Samaj**, insisted on action against the government call on free kamiya and haliya which is going to announced in the 2 sharwan 2076. She showed interest to be a member of FLeAG. **MP, CWIN** demanded system function to eliminate child labor that requires inter ministerial cooperation. **LS, Rastriya haruwa Charuwa** emphasised on the political negligence on the issue. Haruwa Charuwa has become the voter bank rather the citizen of the country. He demanded to engagement of political parties and participation of haruwa chruwa in decision-making process to eliminate slavery practices. **CR, (Porakhi)** shared her happiness on people engagement and concern towards the issue. She also shared the forced labor and debt bondage of female domestic workers in foreign land.

**KG, GeFont** shares that as a trade union they are interested to work on these issues which requires the collaboration and coordination among different networks and coalition working against slavery practices. He also promised to put the agenda in

JTUUC and his own trade union. **TB, Biswas Nepal** emphasized on the need to data of workers' and people who are in slavery practices in Nepal. She further more added the slavery and forced labor practices in the entertainment Sector of Nepal. **DD, Freedom Fund** highlighted the emerging issues in the bonded and forced labor. He also shared freedom fund experiences on harwa charuwa. He demanded the collaboration and coordination among the civil society, trade unions and other concern stakeholders to come up with agenda that will hit the problems. He further added freedom fund will provide financial and technical support if needed in this campaign.

**WBR, SAN** point out on the need of political commitment and willingness to address the issues of haruwa, charuwa, Haliya and kamaiya, which can be, generate through engagement of trade unions, Local elected political parliament members, making provincial and local government responsible and political parties. She further added on need of a campaign on social shaming of employers and developing common position of civil society and trade unions to end slavery from Nepal. She also committed that SAN would provide technical support in policy advocacy, research study and show solidarity in the issue. **RRB, Rastrya Mukta Haliya Samaj Mahasangh**, also emphasized on making provincial and local government responsible for making policy, programs and mechanism at local level to address the problem. He pointed out on the participation of people in slavery in decision-making process.

**GB, Domestic Worker Forum** emphasized the forced labor practices in the domestic workers and asked for formation and execution of available laws and policies. **DBB, NNDSWO** emphasized on the development of policy and programs at the local level. He pointed that services provided such as skill training is not enough but also linkage them with market. The government of Nepal must come up with full packages of services that uplift the life of people who are victim of slavery practices. He also informed about the survey in five districts of Nepal, to assess whether the people in slavery have got government service package or not?

**KRA, ILO** shared his experience on data analysis and presentation. He also share that poverty is declining in Nepal taking references to various data. He further added on the requirement of data. **BMG, AATWIN** added the importance on developing indicator that explains the true definition of bonded labor, slavery and forced labor. With the varied members in the FLeAG, she put her view to review the TOR. **SP, Good Weave** asked for preventive measures and awareness program for the elimination of forced labor. She showed her commitment and updated on what they have been doing.

**Way Forward:**

**MD, NICS** after incorporating the issue raised in the floor and recommendation provided come up with following given things to taken as way forward:

- *Organise a workshop among the members of FLeAG on the conceptual clarity on Bonded Labor, Forced Labor and Slavery Practices.*
- *JTUCC in the coordination with FLeAG will organise a one-day workshop on developing common position of Trade Unions to respond the Bonded Labor, Forced Labor and Slavery Practices.*
- *Organise a Citizen's Aduit in the issue of Haruwa- Charuwa, Haliya and Kamiya, with the support of experts such as trade unions, judicials, leaders of haruwa-chruwa, Haliya and Kamiya, FLeAG members and other concern stakeholders.*
- *Delegation to National Human Right Commission to have monitoring on the situation of haruwa-chruwa, Haliya and Kamiya and develop actions, policy and initiatives to eliminate slavery practices in Nepal.*
- *FLeAG secretariat will update the status of Members and their work to develop a profile.*
- *FLeAG secretariat will review the TOR and make changes as per suggestion provided in the meeting.*

GBK, Convener of the meeting opined that there is required of political will to end slavery from Nepal. He also highlighted the need of real data on the workers and people who are in slavery practices. Furthermore, he shared his past experiences working in the issues with policy makers, networks, civil society and international organisation. Also added on the need of working togetherness and solidarity among the civil society, trade unions and politicians. He thanked the facilitator, presenter and participants for the valuable time. He also requested all participants to carry out the purposed way forward for eliminating all forms of slavery practices in Nepal.

