

REPORT OF REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF CITY AUTHORITIES ON HOMEBASED WORKERS. 7th – 9th MAY 2014, AMARI GARDEN, PATTAYA, THAILAND



Organised by

HOMENET SOUTH ASIA & HOMENET THAILAND

INTRODUCTION

Homebased Workers are among the most vulnerable of all urban informal workers. They work within or near their homes as own account (self-employed) or subcontracted workers. Because they work in their own homes, or in small workshops near their homes, not in public space, homebased workers generally remain invisible to the public and to the policy makers. They work in the bottom links of value/supply chains and are, in the worst cases, exploited by contractors and subcontractors. They are particularly invisible and isolated in urban locations, where they are often scattered and have very little contact with one another. Moreover, unlike most rural homebased workers, they do not have agricultural employment or local sources of sustenance that they can rely on.

Despite these problems, homebased workers produce goods for both domestic and export value or supply chains, notably in labour-intensive manufacturing sectors (such as garments and textiles, artisanal craft, shoes, sporting goods) but also in electronic assembly, pharmaceutical packaging and sectors. Homebased Work provides a key source of employment, primarily for women but also men, and contributes to the household, national, and global economies. By bringing work into their communities, homebased workers are a source of economic resilience in their neighbourhoods. As a result, homebased work can raise significantly the social status of both women and men in their families and communities.

To illustrate the importance of homebased work: in South Asian cities, the majority of all non-agricultural women workers are homebased workers (about 70 per cent in Bangladesh, 53 per cent in India, 65 per cent in Pakistan). In other words, to talk about working poor women in South Asia, as well as in South East Asia, and in larger parts of the world is to talk primarily about homebased workers. While their products may be sold on the streets by local street vendors or make their way to retail malls in the global North, the homebased producers remain invisible and, therefore, ignored by policies. The net result is that urban laws, ordinances, and regulations, as well as the lack of urban services may often inadvertently harm homebased workers.

In the backdrop of the above, a Regional Conference of City Authorities on Homebased Workers was organised from 7th -9th May, 2014 in Pattaya, Thailand.

The objectives of the conference were:

- i To highlight how good civic amenities impact on the productivity, livelihoods and quality of life of urban Homebased workers.
- ii To share programmes and experiences regarding addressing issues of Homebased Workers in South and South East Asia in partnership with City Authorities.
- iii To identify some country specific issues that could be taken up by or in partnerships with City Authorities to address issues of Homebased Workers and to come out with an 'Asian Cities Declaration'.

ORGANISERS OF THE CONFERENCE

HomeNet South Asia (HNSA) is the sub-regional network of organisations of homebased workers. Born out of the Kathmandu Declaration in 2000, HNSA currently has a presence in 8 countries of South Asia - Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. HNSA aims to build regional solidarity among homebased workers, especially women workers, and empower them to lead a life of dignity, free of poverty, through obtaining decent work and social protection, within a rights based framework.

HNSA strives to make home based workers and their issues more visible; to ensure secure livelihoods for them and to strengthen their collective voice and organizing efforts in the region. HNSA also advocates for the implementation of national, regional and international policies for Homebased workers; inclusion of homebased workers in the existing policies and laws, as well as promotes access of Homebased workers' products to local, national, regional and international markets.

HomeNet Thailand was officially established in June 1998. It is the coordinating centre of the network of Homebased producers and home workers as well as concerned NGOs in the country. We operate through regional networks of NGOs and Homebased workers in the Northeast, the North and Bangkok. Each regional network has its own committee and an office with a regional coordinator who works part time for HomeNet Thailand. HomeNet Thailand provides the coordination at the national and international levels on policies and issues related to home workers. The national committee is composed of two representatives from each region.

PARTICIPANTS AND PROGRAMME OF THE CONFERENCE

The key invitees to the Conference were Mayors and Administrators from Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. The list of participants at the Conference is given in Annex 1. Though many more mayors and administrators had originally confirmed their participation; due to a variety of reasons, many of them were not able to attend. The programme for the Conference is given in Annex 2. All the presentations made during the Conference are available on

INAUGURAL SESSION

Day 1 – Inauguration and Introduction to the conference - 7th May 2014

At the outset, Ms. Firoza Mehrotra, Director Programmes & Monitoring of HomeNet South Asia, who was compering the conference welcomed all the participants and stated the objectives of the conference.

Ms. Malee Pruekpongsawalee, Representative of HomeNet Thailand and Chairperson, Foundation for Labour and Employment Promotion (FLEP) formally welcomed all the participants and gave a background of the Conference. She described the various issues of homebased workers including their informal and subcontracted status, inspite of which they formed a key component of the informal work force, contributing to the national GDPs of their countries. She mentioned that all studies so far have shown the importance of civic amenities for urban Homebased workers, who also require adequate skills as well as social protection.



Centre- Dr. Pusadee Tamthai (Hon'ble Deputy Governor of Bangkok)

From Left to Right: -

Ms. Firoza Mehrotra (HomeNet South Asia);

Ms. Malee Pruekpongsawalee (HomeNet Thailand) ;

Dr. Martha Chen (Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing & Organizing)

From Right to Left: -

Mr. Somkid Duang-ngeun (HomeNet Thailand);

Ms. Neeramol Suthipannaphong (HomeNet Thailand) ;

Ms Chandni Joshi (HomeNet South Asia)

The next speaker was Ms. Chandni Joshi, Enforcer, HomeNet South Asia. In her address she gave a historic perspective of the journey of HomeNet South Asia which began with WIEGO and SEWA. She talked about the challenges as well as successes of the organisation which now works in all 8 South Asian countries. She felt very nostalgic while talking about the homebased worker's movement which was conceived in Thailand and has now spread to many countries in South and South East Asia.

Ms. Neeramol Suthipannaphong and Mr. Somkid Duang-ngeun, the two homebased workers from Thailand on the dias represented the voices of Homebased workers at the Conference. Mr. Somkit Duang-ngeun gave an overview of the issues of homebased workers in Thailand and was very happy to see such senior people from across Asia at the Conference. He emphasized the need for city authorities to hear and pay heed to the concerns of Homebased Workers. Ms. Neeramol Suthipannaphong welcomed all the participants once again. She talked about the treatment meted out to homebased workers in their homes. She emphasized that city authorities must ensure that the needs and concerns of workers who are relocated due to eviction by the government in the name of urbanisation and beautification of Bangkok city, must be given due attention. She requested that the city bodies must keep in mind the homebased workers while drafting development policies.

Dr. Martha Chen from the Harvard Kennedy School, USA and International Coordinator of WIEGO delivered the Key Note Address. Her presentation was on 'what we know, what they need' in the context of homebased workers. To set the stage, she presented data from the recent analyses of national data in 4 countries as well as 'hot off the press' data on recent field research in 3 cities/countries (Ahmedabad, Bangkok and Lahore). Inadequate housing was one of the top negative drivers for homebased workers. Other negative drivers were lack of basic infrastructure, including public transport, lack of financial services, skill training, social protection and occupational health and safety. She dwelt on how HBWs cope with negative forces and ended by stressing the need for urban planners to recognise the contribution of HBWs to their cities and countries and plan accordingly. [Click here to view the full presentation on Inclusive Cities & Homebased Workers, by Dr. Martha Chen](#)



Dr. Martha Chen, delivering the Key Note Address

She stressed on some recommendations which stated that urban officials and policy makers should recognise the contribution of homebased workers to the city / economy and address the impact of city planning, policies and practices on homebased workers and their enterprises. All areas of urban design and planning, land allocation, housing policies, basic infrastructure services, public transport, local economic development need to integrate homebased workers and address their need for basic infrastructure services, because home is their workplace. Homebased workers need organization and representation in relevant policy making, rule setting or negotiating processes. Homebased workers their enterprises and output should be measured in official labour force and other economic statistics. In most cities, urban planning, policies and practices exclude or ignore homebased workers and Inclusive Cities would provide housing and grant housing tenure near markets & contractors; to promote mixed use zoning that allows homebased workers to carry out their work related activities in their homes; to provide basic infrastructure services to make home a productive place; to provide public transport services between homes which are also their workplaces and markets and contractors of homebased workers; to help finance and oversee the provision of financial and business development services to homebased workers; to extend social protection coverage, including health insurance, pensions, and occupational health and safety to homebased workers; to integrate homebased workers and their organizations, into urban planning and policy making.

The next part of the programme witnessed the launching of four Statistical Briefs on homebased workers in Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, by the Hon'ble Acting Governor Dr. Pusadee Tamthai and Dr. Martha Chen. Dr. Martha Chen also shared a message from Dr. Joann Vanek, Director Statistics at WIEGO, wherein she said that you do not need to undertake a special survey to obtain estimates of homebased workers. The only way to obtain national estimates of

homebased workers is from national labor force surveys which may require one to ensure that the labor force survey has data on place of work as well as data on the International Classification of Status in Employment (ICSE). She also talked about a training seminar for statisticians in national statistical offices of Asia, scheduled for January 2015 in India.



Launch of Statistical Briefs on Homebased Workers-Bangladesh, India, Nepal & Pakistan

The Hon'ble Acting Governor of Bangkok, Dr. Pusadee Tamthai, was the chief guest at the inaugural session. In her inaugural address, Dr. Pusadee said, 'Homebased workers should not only get civic amenities because they contribute to the economy significantly, but also because it is their human right'.



Dr. Pusadee Tamthai, Acting Governor, Bangkok -Chief Guest at the Inaugural Session

She added further, 'there is a great need for coordination among the various departments and agencies that provide different services in Bangkok as the Bangkok Metropolitan Authority alone is not responsible for all the services'. She also felt that 'it is the duty of the officials to visit the field, to get a better understanding of issues' and emphasized the 'need to understand the structure of the city administration, so that the right person or organisation could be approached'. In her closing remarks she mentioned, 'there is a need for all government officials to have a positive attitude so that they can provide better and more effective services to the people, including homebased workers'.

On behalf of HomeNet South Asia and HomeNet Thailand, gifts were presented to the Chief guest Dr. Pusadee Tamthai, Acting Governor of Bangkok and all others on the Dias.

In the end, Ms. Firoza Mehrotra gave a vote of thanks. She specially thanked the chief guest, Dr. Pusadee Tamthai for taking time out of her busy schedule and for her encouraging and insightful address. She also thanked Dr. Martha Chen for her very enlightened Key Note address and all the other participants, especially the Mayors, Administrators, Homebased Workers and Resource Persons. She also extended warm wishes for a quick recovery to those affected by the recent earthquake in Chiang Rai district.

The inaugural session concluded with a group photograph followed by tea break.

SESSION I

Setting the tone for the Conference

In this first technical session, Ms. Firoza Mehrotra, Director Programmes & Monitoring of HomeNet South Asia made a presentation on 'Key Urban Issues of homebased workers'. She started by mentioning about two kinds of HBWs, i.e. (i) own account (or self-employed) workers and (ii) piece rate workers (often referred to as home workers). She then went on to describe the key issues of all HBWs – Being isolated, invisible, not recognised as workers; low remuneration/earnings, exploited by middle men and contractors, lacking market intelligence and access, credit facilities, technology upgradation and no or minimal social security. She also gave an introduction to HomeNet South Asia, the Kathmandu Declaration and HNSA's vision for the future.



Ms. Firoza Mehrotra, presenting on "Key Issues of Urban Homebased Workers"

Ms. Mehrotra referred to the "Inclusive Cities" global project awarded to 6 organisations to address issues of informal workers - Waste Pickers/Recyclers, Street Vendors and Homebased Workers and mentioned that HNSA had been mandated to implement the "Strengthening the Organizations of Urban Poor Homebased Workers for Greater Visibility and Participation in City Governance" from 2008-2014. This conference was being organised as part of this project. She went on to mention the preliminary studies conducted in the 8 countries of Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Sri Lanka and Thailand to identify the key urban issues affecting HBWs. A film in which HBWs themselves talked about the urban issues, especially civic amenities affecting them, was screened so that the participants could hear first hand, how the lack of these civic amenities affect their lives and livelihoods. The key urban issues they identified were electricity, water, sanitation, water logging, garbage management, public transport, housing, zoning, relocation etc.

She went on to describe how engagement with city authorities has been initiated through 22 Workshops/ Dialogues with City Authorities, 2 City Forums and a number of follow up meetings with civic authorities. She also mentioned about some of the positive outcomes of these interactions especially in Thailand, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Nepal. She ended with the suggestion that the Conference should come out with and adopt an ASIAN CITIES DECLARATION FOR HOMEBASED WORKERS, which could provide all stakeholders with a road map for the way forward. [Click here to view the full presentation on "Key Urban Issues of Homebased Workers" by Ms. Firoza Mehrotra](#)

SESSION II

Panel 1 - Basic Infrastructure Services (Water & Sanitation)

Session 2

The first panel discussion was on Basic Infrastructure Services (Water & Sanitation) and was chaired by Mr. Arif Hasan, Chairman, Urban Resource Centre, Karachi, Pakistan. Mr. Arif who was also the Resource Person for this session presented various issues faced by low income settlements such as sanitation, water supply, housing, etc. He dwelt at length on the Orangi Pilot Project (OPP) with which he has been associated since 1981. This is an informal settlement upgrading project whose development is managed and funded by local communities. He also shared information about the Youth Training Programme (YTP) in Karachi which included training young people within the community for surveying as well as community mobilization. Mr. Arif Hasan's presentation included various maps on sewage system, treatment plants and sewage pollution etc. He emphasized that there is a huge recycling sector in Karachi with around 80,000 families are associated. This was followed by display of official maps generated on Google showing drainage and irrigation channels over the past years of planning. In addition, many photographs were used to depict the social and economic scenario in Karachi and how it was affected by rapid urbanisation and the pilot project. He emphasized the cause and effect relationship of basic facilities such as electricity and water on sewage and waste management in Karachi. [Click here to view the full presentation on "Infrastructure Issues", by Arif Hasan](#)



Mr. Arif Hasan, presenting on Infrastructure Issues in Karachi, Pakistan

Mr. Mitra Mani Pokharel, Executive Officer, Madhyapur Thimi Municipality Officer, Bhaktapur, Nepal was the other panelist for this session. He presented an overview of the country and the status and situation of Homebased Workers in Nepal. His presentation included statistical figures and categorisation of the Homebased Workers in Nepal. He also presented the social and economic condition of the Homebased workers in Hanumantee and Manohara in Nepal. In Nepal, participation of women is greater in various training and awareness campaigns conducted for the Homebased Workers. Some of the key issues that he mentioned in his presentation, which included the problems of squatter settlement where most of the Homebased workers live; in addition to that, the weak linkages between the rural areas with the urban settlement also has created inconveniences to run their livelihood. Environmental decay seemed to a larger problem in the context of Nepal. There is also a lack of integrated policy at the national level; institutions are weak at the municipal level in terms of capacity and resources; also no proper system existed for waste management; road facility is inadequate compared to the transport; the immense poverty affecting the livelihood of homebased workers and moreover illiteracy is a curse. Livelihood is affected by the unsafe working environment, severe low wages and lack of skills; illiteracy leads to the unawareness about health and environmental sanitation. He further discussed about key institutions with whom the homebased workers could be linked with. He mentioned about Ministry of Federal Affairs and Local Development, Ministry of Physical Works and Transport, Ministry of Urban Development, National Planning Commission, Ministry of Finance, Ministry of Labour & Employment, Ministry of Women, Children and Social welfare, Ministry of Health and Population and Ministry of Education and Sports. He also provided some recommendations and prospective facilitating inputs for future direction for the Homebased workers. Finally, he talked about the anti - poor bias in planning and policies where he emphasised on the facts of the 30, 000 families that were pushed from within the city to the periphery. They were engaged in collecting and recycling solid waste. Also, he discussed about the infrastructure investment which is much lower in poor than in rich areas and the projects are rarely completed, and if completed, not maintained. Contractors and their workmen engaged in the infrastructure work are of poor skills. In addition, the pedestrians are not taken into account while constructing roads; lack of public toilets stand as a great hindrance. Moreover, no efforts are made to integrate hawkers in the overall planning of various city areas and they are constantly evicted. Hence, the greatest problem lies as a bias which is

being rooted in culture and tradition and is also present in academia. [Click here to view the full presentation on “Environmental Sanitation of Homebased Workers”, by Mr. Mitra Mani Pokharel](#)

The floor was opened for discussion amongst the participants. Comments and issues raised by participants have been summarised below:

- In India also much the same problem exists especially with regard to water shortage and sanitation issues and similar constraints in addressing them.
- In Sri Lanka, the emphasis on implementation of beautification plans and urbanization resulted in less importance being given to water and sanitation issues for poor settlements.
- Similar issues exist in Bangladesh as well.
- The land and water/tanker mafias are pretty strong in all South Asian countries as well.
- Besides HBWs lack access to basic amenities and infrastructure.
- There is an urgent need for a larger vision and a need to treat the informal sector workers as ‘family’.
- It is essential to start small with baby steps, regarding key issues.

Mr. Arif concluded by summing up the salient comments/recommendations from this session which were:

- Land was the main problem and all aspects of it need to be addressed – availability, cost, land-use, innovative development etc.
- Problems will only increase unless the anti-poor and anti-labour bias in planning and policy as well as academia is removed,
- Consequently it would be imperative to change the school and college curricula as well,
- There should be political will to break the land and water mafias,
- A community model as opposed to a public-private (PP) model is recommended
- Cities must have an ‘Informal settlement friendly, pro-labour’ vision.
- Co-ordination issues must be ironed out
- HBWs must be represented and given a say in urban planning and managing civic amenities.
- There is a need to create and institutionalise a space for the 3 most important stakeholders - politicians, bureaucrats/planners and the people to interact and appreciate each others perspectives and work together.

The session ended with a vote of thanks to the chair and the panelist as well as all the participants for their active participation and involvement.

SESSION III

Panel 2 - Basic Infrastructure Services (Public Transport & Electricity)

Session 3

The third session was a Panel discussion on Basic Infrastructure Services (Public Transport & Electricity). However, before the actual session started, a short film on Homebased workers of South East Asia was screened. It provided an overview about the various trades Homebased workers in South East Asia are engaged in.

The second panel on Basic Infrastructure Services (Public Transport & Electricity) was chaired by Prof. Darshini Mahadevia, Centre for Environmental Planning and Technological (CEPT) University, Ahmedabad, India. Prof. Mahadevia gave a very informative and thought provoking presentation on transportation and electricity facilities in urban settings and how they affect informal sector workers like homebased workers. She talked about the effect of the privatisation of electricity even the state electricity and the homebased workers are also getting a pinch of that. Though in Indian context 92% of urban households have got access to electricity and quite a high percentage (97%) has got an access to electricity in Gujarat, India but quality, liability and price have remained as a problem. She stressed on the need to look at the last leg connectivity, by Intermediate Public Transport (IPT) and the need to connect metros and Bus Rapid Transport Systems (BRTS) to low income settlements and make access and egress to public transport convenient for the poor. She also suggested that public transport should be regulated by Governments, even if and when routes are contracted out. In particular, the low – income women are more vulnerable and excluded from mainstream transport as they are a by-product of drudgery i.e. unpaid work and low capacity to access labour market. They are suffering from lower access to education opportunities, low skills and low wages and hence fall into Vicious circle of lower income and restricted mobility and therefore they automatically depend more on non – motorised transport i.e. walking. [Click here to view full presentation on “Homebased Workers and Infrastructure Access” by Prof. Darshini Mahadevia](#)



Panel 2- Basic Infrastructure Services (Public Transport & Electricity)

Centre: Prof. Darshini Mahadevia (CEPT University), Ahmedabad, India

From Left to Right: Mr. Pashupati Pokharel, Local Development Officer, Lalitpur, Nepal

At Podium: Mr. Wirat Intharath, Assistant Director, Nongjok District, Thailand

The second speaker Mr. Wirat Intharath, Assistant Director, Nongjok District, Thailand shared his views regarding policies drafted in collaboration with the community in Nongjok district. He emphasized that though the Ministry of Interior is overall incharge of Bangkok, it is being governed keeping in mind the well-being of its inhabitants. In Bangkok, taxes are collected by the government which contribute to a budget of THB 6800 million annually, which is spent on development projects such as roads and highways, infrastructure, etc. He thanked the participants and requested all to join in the field trip to his office and other sites, the next day.

The third speaker Mr. Pashupati Pokharel, Local Development Officer, District Development Committee, Lalitpur, Nepal made a presentation on transportation issues in Nepal. He mentioned that some of the key problems with regard to transport in urban areas of Nepal are massive traffic jams and congestion on roads;

lack of fuel for vehicles, as it is all imported from India; lack of manufacture of indigenous vehicles, and consequently the high cost of transport. He also made some suggestions like exploring the production of alternate fuel for vehicles, using solid waste, jatropa, bio-gas and solar power. [Click here to view the presentation on “Basic Infrastructure Services- Public Transportation and Electricity” By Mr. Pashupati Pokharel](#)

The floor was thereafter opened for discussion. The gist of the discussions and the recommendations were wrapped up as under:

- Even though planning for water and sanitation, electricity and transport are often considered to be technical and engineering based; the more important thing is to now consider them as having crucial social dimensions as well.
- The nexus between the automobile lobby and the banking sector crowds out public transport.
- Cycles and motor cycles should be considered alternate modes of transport for women as well. Cycle lanes should also be planned.
- Financing public transport has to be carefully considered – subsidies must be appropriately targeted. Public transport can be subsidised by taxing car owners.
- Investing in side walks, pavements and over-bridges used by pedestrians is essential.
- It is important to situate homebased workers in the economy and not only with the poor. Dr. Martha Chen pointed out that 75% of manufacturing workers are homebased workers.

The session ended with a vote of thanks to the chair and the panellist as well as all the participants for their active participation and involvement.

SESSION IV

Panel 3 – Livelihood Support through Local Bodies

Day 2 (8th May 2014):

The day started with Ms. Firoza Mehrotra welcoming all the participants to the second day of the Conference. She announced that since we hope to come out with an Asian Cities Declaration on Homebased Workers, at the end of the Conference, a Drafting Committee with representation from all countries as well as all the resource persons is being proposed. The names of the Drafting Committee members were endorsed by the participants.

Session IV

This session witnessed a panel discussion on Livelihood Support through Local Bodies. The session was chaired by Dr. Sharit Bhowmik, National Fellow, Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), Mumbai, India. In his introductory speech he talked about the limited livelihood opportunities available to homebased workers and the challenges they face. He also talked about local bodies and challenges in coordinating with each other.



Panel 3- Livelihood Support through Local Bodies

Centre: Dr. Sharit Bhowmik, National Fellow, Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), Mumbai, India

Left to Right: Ms. G.K.S. Chandralatha, Commissioner, Municipal Council, Kurunegala, Sri Lanka

Right to Left: Mr. Moazzam Ali Janjua, Additional Secretary, Local Government, Punjab, Pakistan

Ms. G.K.S. Chandralatha, Commissioner, Municipal Council, Kurunegala, Sri Lanka was then invited to make her presentation. She talked about skill development of the homebased workers in the municipal area of Kurunegala, Sri Lanka. She also emphasized on local handlooms in the area. Some of the initiatives being undertaken in the municipality included providing livelihood opportunities, skills training programmes, education, awareness and infrastructural improvement. She mentioned that awareness generation programs are being undertaken in slum areas which are very vulnerable to many diseases and epidemics. Special market spaces are being made available to HBWs thus providing them an outlet for their products.

She also talked about some significant features of organising. For example, she stated about the development officers who are mainly females and degree holders who are involved in the mobilising process and establishing small groups. She talked about “Divi Bala” which is a community based organisation which had been established to strengthen the process of organising. [Click here to view the full presentation on “Livelihood Support through Local Bodies”, by Ms. G.K.S. Chandralatha](#)

The next presentation was by Mr. Moazzam Ali Janjua, Additional Secretary, Local Government, Punjab, from Pakistan. He presented on livelihood support being provided through local bodies in Pakistan. He dwelt on the ILO’s convention 177 and its implication on the community as a whole. He gave a brief profile of homebased workers in Pakistan. The roles and responsibilities of the local administration vis-à-vis homebased workers were presented. The challenges are the lack of data, long working hours, unhealthy working environment and exploitation of the workers. There are a number of initiatives that have been undertaken by the government bodies for the betterment of HBWs and for their skill up-gradation, such as free of cost vocational training for homebased workers. Advocacy workshops and awareness raising through media and press were other activities being carried out. Mr. Janjua also showed visuals of before and after sites of spaces provided to push-cart street vendors (who also often double-up as homebased workers) and how not only their livelihoods but also their environment and occupational health and safety have been taken addressed. [Click here to view the full presentation on “Livelihood Support through Local Bodies” by Mr. Moazzam Ali Janjua](#)

The floor was thereafter open to the participants for discussions. The essence of the discussions and the recommendations are:

- Initiatives taken by the Government in Pakistan were appreciated.
- The problem of financing of home based workers and the absence of funds for them was highlighted by the delegate from Bangladesh. He shared the initiatives of Government of Bangladesh regarding employment generation by providing loans to homebased workers, on guarantee/mortgage of some property with the bank.
- The delegate from Pakistan added about social protection initiatives in the Punjab Government Policy and how in Punjab and Sind they were undertaking pilot projects for collection of data on homebased workers. She mentioned that HomeNet Pakistan is working on a project for providing interest free loans to Homebased workers with assistance from Hakhuwat Foundation.
- Credit and financial assistance for HBWs was identified as a key bottleneck by many participants. Providing interest subsidy to HBWs was strongly recommended.
- Providing appropriate market spaces for HBWs, by local city authorities was recommended by a number of delegates. Zoning regulations should provide adequately for this.

- It was emphasized that it is important to convince the homebased workers that they are 'workers' who contribute to and supplement not only the household income but also contribute to the local and national economy.
- It is important to have initiatives/schemes for supporting the children of home based workers like mobile crèches.
- There was also a suggestion for multiple lane/level parking in markets with traffic congestion.

The session ended with a vote of thanks to the chair and the panellist as well as all the participants for their active participation and involvement.

SESSION V

Panel 4 – Secure & Adequate Housing

Session V

This session was once again a panel discussion on Secure and Adequate Housing. It was chaired by Ms. Shalini Sinha, Sector Specialist Homebased Workers, WIEGO.

Ms. Shalini Sinha first gave an introductory presentation on WIEGO and it's working globally. Thereafter she presented about how the 'home' is the workplace for homebased workers and therefore needs more space, storage, light, ventilation etc. than only a home for living may require. She emphasized on these issues as they are directly related to livelihoods of the homebased workers. She raised issues pertaining to city planning and urban development, relocation, zoning and housing policies. She emphasised on the role of city authorities and policy makers to understand that for homebased workers, the home is a place of work, it is their producing centre. They are not recognised and thus not included in city development plans and not considered as productive economic agents. It has to be understood that it is not a time pass activity rather it is an important and primary source of income for the household. The household is largely informal where the male members are also working as an informal worker. In addition, it is also to be understood that working from home is not a choice of a woman but also the global production process pushing more and more work out of formal settings into sub – contracted home based work. [Click here to view the full presentation on "Housing for the Homebased Workers" by Ms Shalini Sinha](#)

The two broad recommendations came out from many of the work that had been done with WIEGO and other partners. Firstly, there is a need for an approach to urban planning and local economic development that recognises the contributions of the homebased worker and seeks to integrate them and their livelihoods into urban planning and economic policies and secondly, to promote "Inclusive urban planning" by inviting organisations of homebased workers to have a seat at the policy table. She thereafter invited Mr. Anuradha Gamini Peramunage, Mayor, Municipal Council, Kurunegala, Sri Lanka.

Mr. Anuradha Gamini Peramunage in his presentation talked about types of homebased workers and challenges faced by them especially in crowded urban areas of developing countries and consequent shortage of resources for the poor especially homebased workers. He mention about initiatives taken by municipal corporations for home based workers in Sri Lanka like, joint funding by central government and municipal corporation for provision of basic service like water, housing, etc. The municipal council has been providing support including free water, attractive housing scheme namely Wilgoda Housing Scheme, which has been targeted to settle 480 families and it has got 2 bed rooms with attached toilets with kitchen and a living room for low income settlements and provisions for funding to the Homebased workers. He concluded with invitation to all to visit Srilanka. [Click here to view the presentation on Secure and Adequate Housing, by Mr. Anuradha Gamini Peramunage](#)

Ms. Shalini thereafter invited Ms. Bharati Bhonsale from Mahila Housing SEWA Trust, Ahmedabad, India to share the work and experiences of her organisation. She shared her experience of working with the homebased workers. She presented the statistics regarding the Homebased workers along with the roles and responsibilities of the other partner organisations at the local government level. Ms. Bharti highlighted key activities of Mahila Housing Trust like promotion of credits cooperatives, training and awareness programs for urban local bodies, energy audit etc. She discussed various experiences encountered while implementing on the ground. She discussed about Vikasini: a Federation of Community Based Organisation established at the city level which is organising water and sanitation housing programmes. It has already participated in the city development plan of Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India and conducted a biometric survey of 1,88,000 slum households in Ahmedabad for the purpose of the central government scheme namely Rajiv Awaas Yojana. It has developed community housing models for more than 8000 households in the slums and linking the slum areas with other development initialises for poverty alleviation like micro finance, health and various government subsidy schemes. Later, she screened a video showing how the gap between local government plans and the community could be bridged.

The floor was thereafter open to the participants for discussions. The essence of the discussions and the recommendations are:

- The need for policy to address and safeguard the interests of tenants, especially those who have no secure or formal tenure, was raised.
- Any re-development of existing slums needs to address issues of eligibility both of the owner and tenant of the dwelling.
- Re-location schemes lacked space for setting up outlets to sell their products, was the complaint of some homebased workers.
- While re-locating slums issues of distance from source of raw materials, contractors and markets, as well as availability of public transport was not considered, thus causing great hardship to those relocated.
- Mr Anuradha clarified that rehabilitation housing schemes were for all workers and not only focused on home based workers.
- The design and layout of housing units under re-location schemes as well as other low-income housing schemes need to keep in mind the requirements and needs of homebased workers.
- It was felt that there is a misfit between the government plans and the community needs. What is needed is facilitation for a blue print or process for slum up-gradation for not just homebased workers but other community members as well.
- The need of the hour is to prioritize policies for homebased workers and identified ways of addressing issues pertaining to them.

The session ended with a vote of thanks to the chair and the panellist as well as all the participants for their active participation and involvement.

SESSION VI

Panel 5 – Health & Occupational Health & Safety

Session VI

This session was on the subject of Health, Occupational Health and Safety and was chaired and moderated by Dr. Sara Arphorn, Associate Professor, Faculty of Public Health, Mahidol University, Thailand.

The first presentation was made by Dr. Sara Arphorn who has been dealing with key issues in health, occupational health and safety of both the organised and unorganised sectors in Thailand. She presented some statistical data of homebased workers in Thailand. She discussed that they are using the participatory approach, promoted by the ILO. She felt that occupational health and safety issues still remain understudied and need further research. She concluded that many academic and research institutions, local organisations and informal workers organisations need to coordinate and come together for the successful performance of the activities to be implemented by the local bodies. [Click here to view the presentation on "Health and Occupational Health and Safety" , by Dr. Sara Arphorn](#)

This was followed by a presentation by Mr. Ali Ahmed, Chief executive Officer, Chittagong City Corporation, Bangladesh. He shared various issues and data related to poverty and homebased workers. He also shared information about how the policies and plans were being framed and implemented in Chittagong city. Many NGOs were brought together to assist the homebased workers. [Click here to view the presentation by Mr. Ali Ahmed](#)



Panel 5- Health and Occupational Health & Safety

Left to Right: Mr. Ali Ahmed, Chief executive Officer, Chittagong City Corporation, Bangladesh

Right to Left: Mr. Oeun Pov, Deputy City Governor, Siem Reap Municipality, Cambodia

Dr. Sara Arphorn, presenting on key issues in health, occupational health and safety

The third presentation was given by Mr. Oeun Pov, Deputy City Governor, Siem Reap Municipality, Cambodia. He presented the basic information regarding the municipality and issues related with the Homebased workers. [Click here to view the full presentation by Mr. Oeun Pov](#)

The last presentation was by Mr. Kritsanawaroon Chaiyanit, Deputy Municipal Clerk, Khon Kaen Municipality, Thailand. He shared various health and occupational health issues as well as policies formulated to assist homebased workers in Khon Khen Municipality, Thailand. He further shared various activities related to health promotion, budget provisions for health care and rehabilitation of those displaced. [Click here to view the presentation on "Roles and Responsibilities in Health and Safety Promotion" by Mr. Kritsanawaroon Chaiyanit,](#)

Dr. Martha Chen requested the Cambodian panel member to throw some light on how health expenses of the home based workers were managed. The panelist from Cambodia replied that various steps for this can be found in the policies, which are formulated in consultation with civil society, which included homebased workers.

The session ended with a vote of thanks to the chair and the panellist as well as all the participants for their active participation and involvement.

FIELD VISIT

Meeting with Senior District Level Officials of Nongjok District

A meeting was organized with the City officials prior to visiting the field to provide an overview of the Nongjok District and an introduction to Homebased workers residing in the area. The meeting was chaired by Mr. Wirat Intharath, Assistant Director, Nongjok District, Thailand and commenced with a round of introduction of the participants. The government officials included:

- 1) Mr. Wongduen Duangsamsorn, Community leader
- 2) Ms. Pissamai Chandrangsou, National Housing Authority Officer
- 3) Police Captain Suwat Nutmahamad, Lum Pakchee, Deputy Superintendent
- 4) Police Captain Suthep Intuen
- 5) Police Captain Krasuay Suwannaakij



Meeting with Senior District Level Officials of Nongjok District

Ms. Firoza Mehrotra presenting gift to Mr. Wirat Intharath

The district presentation included an overview of the Chalong Krung housing estate in Nongjok district, which is in the outskirts of Bangkok. It was set up in 1996 and has a population of about 12,000 persons. The objective of this housing estate was to rehabilitate the people displaced by the eviction of slums in the heart of Bangkok. as well as people displaced by the airport project just outside Bangkok. The housing estate covers an area of 422 wah (one wah + 2 sq mts). About 60% of the population are informal homebased workers. There are 3599 plots available for allotment. The plots (each measuring 80 sq mts) are given on lease for 20 years during which the occupant pays monthly sum of approximately 1500 Thai baht. After 20 years, the occupant becomes the owner of this land. They have to construct their own houses on these plots. The main problems in this estate are that it is prone to flooding and more important, it is very far from the workers source of employment (source of raw materials, markets, contractors in the context of HBWs) with little or no arrangements for public transport. Some regular formal garment factory workers (when they lived in Bangkok slums) had to resort to informal homebased work due to distance from place of work and lack of public transport.

Currently, 70 to 80 per cent of the space is already occupied by the workers, most of whom are homebased workers. Each zone in the estate has a chairman and committee for the Homebased worker's groups. The government provides the basic amenities such as roads, electricity, footpaths, tap water and transportation services including minimal bus service truck/pick up service.

The floor was opened for the questions from the participants. The questions and their respective answers included:

- > The official governing head for this housing estate is the Director of Nongjok district who is directly appointed by the Bangkok Governor.
- > There are a total of twenty groups of Homebased workers living in the housing estate. There are ten to twenty members in each group. Every group is involved in one trade/craft, eg. sewing, making of food items etc.
- > The sales channels and markets for the goods of these homebased workers are through the contractors and sub-contractors who take care of the marketing of the goods produced, but they charge the HBWs for their transport, in view of the long distance from Bangkok. There is also a special market set up by the government every Friday where the homebased workers can directly sell their products to the local community.
- > The homebased workers however are looking for a more permanent way to sell their products.
- > HomeNet Thailand is also helping HBWs market their products through "Boutique Company" and also linking them with social security and occupational health and safety.
- > Most workers are registered with the government, though some are not registered.
- > The worker's capacity is enhanced by regular trainings and field trips conducted by the local authorities.
- > During the disastrous floods of 2011, since Bangkok city and the Suvarnabhumi airport had to be protected, flood waters were released in suburbs including the Chalong Krung housing estate, which remained flooded/waterlogged for one month.

Ms. Firoza Mehrotra of HomeNet South Asia presented the token of appreciation to various government officers for sharing valuable information and experiences with the participants and thanked them for the same.

FIELD TRIP TO HOMEBASED WORKERS SITES

The participants were divided into 2 groups for the field visit. One group went to homes of homebased workers who are into garment stitching and one group visited 'Waste Plastic Recycling Group', where they were exposed to practical and ground based realities. Translation assistance was provided by students.

Discussions with the Homebased workers brought out the conditions in which they work. All the dwellings were permanent structures, with most having modern facilities like T.V. air conditioner, washing machine and often their own car/van/motorcycle. The homebased workers however pointed out that their income was very irregular since the industries assigned work very erratically and only when the demand was high.

The groups visited the follow sites:

- 1. The Chicken soup Group:** - The group consists of ten workers who collect the left overs from the markets and cook chicken soup from the residuals. The workers bring in the residuals from the wholesale market twice a week and use it to cook the chicken soup and the vegetables to add flavour to the soup. This activity is being funded by an anonymous philanthropist outside Thailand. The food is distributed free to the community.
- 2. Sewing Group:** - The Group is being funded by an organisation for environment. The workers earn around 200 Thai baht per day. The contractors provides fixed rate for every product manufactured such as each vest for kindergarten kids earns 10 Thai baht, ASEAN shirts for the BMA school kids earns 15 Thai baht. The contractor provides the raw materials and collects the final products. The electricity bill is charged at the rate of 1 Thai Baht from every worker. The waste raw material is recycled and door mats are manufactured from it.
- 3. School Bag Group:** The group of Homebased female workers consisting of around ten to fifteen women. These workers stitch the "Ben 10" school bags. The husband of the group leader owns a pick-up truck which is used for the transportation of the workers as well as delivery of the products to the contractor. The bags are equipped and designed as per the market standards.
- 4. Waste Plastic Recycling Group:** HBWs in this group are engaged in sorting and separating plastic and foil from waste strips that come from a tooth paste factory. The employer brings the waste to the HBWs' homes and takes back the sorted waste materials. The plastic is recycled but the foil is perhaps burnt. The women HBWs do not know where the factory is located or what exactly it is doing. The workers get paid per kilo sorted. They usually earn about 500 Baht per week.



Homebased worker from Nongjok District – Stitching (School Bag Group)

Leader from School Bag Group showing the Final Product



Homebased Workers

Nongjok District (Sewing Group)

The participants returned to the conference venue after a very fruitful and interesting learning session of field work.

VALEDICTORY SESSION

Day 3: Valedictory Session:

Ms. Chandni Joshi, Enforcer of HomeNet South Asia was requested to chair the last session which was the valedictory session and she graciously accepted.

On the second day a Drafting Committee to draft the 'Asian Cities Declaration on Homebased Workers' was formed with representation from all countries as well as all the resource persons. The names of the Drafting Committee members were endorsed by the participants. They are Mr. Ali Ahmed from Bangladesh, Mr. Men Sinoeun from Cambodia, Ms. Primar S. Jardeleza from Philippines, Ms. Bandana Rana from Nepal, Mr. Presad Rathnayake from Sri Lanka, Mr. Arif Hasan from Pakistan, Dr. Sara Arphorn from Thailand, Prof. Darshani Mahadevia, & Dr. Sharit Bhowmik, from India, Dr. Martha Chen & Ms. Shalini Sinha from WIEGO and Ms. Donna L Doane & Ms. Firoza Mehrotra from HomeNet South Asia. Ms. Chandni Joshi were requested to chair the Drafting Committee.

Based on the discussions and suggestions received during the Conference and the expertise and experience of the Drafting Committee members, the Committee had prepared a draft declaration. The draft was read out para by para and comments and inputs of the participants incorporated into it. The 'Asian Cities Declaration on Homebased Workers' was finally endorsed by all the delegates with a thumping of desks.



Giving final touches to "Asian Cities Declaration"

ASIAN CITIES DECLARATION ON HOMEBASED WORKERS, 2014

1. We, Mayors, City Administrators, Senior Government Officers, Networks of Homebased workers., Development Practitioners and Researchers from South and South East Asian countries, including Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, Thailand and Sri Lanka, met at Pattaya, Thailand, from 7th to 9th May 2014, at the Regional Conference of City Authorities on Homebased workers., jointly organized by HomeNet South Asia and HomeNet Thailand.

2. We note that the Governments of South and South East Asia have committed to according all workers their basic and universal rights. With regard to Homebased workers. we recall the ILO Convention 177 of 1996 on Home Work, the Kathmandu Declaration of 2000 and the South Asia Plan of Action for Homebased workers., 2007 that urged the recognition of Homebased workers and steps to bring them into the national economic mainstream; formulation of National Policies for Homebased workers.; integration into regional markets; and raising their visibility and voice.

3. After having deliberated, over the last three days, on the concerns and challenges of urban Homebased workers. in the cities of Asia, we note the following:

- a) Homebased Workers contribute significantly to the city's economy. They are linked to the formal economy and value chains, and local markets. In spite of this, they are not accorded their basic rights as productive workers and remain largely invisible, unrepresented and voiceless, and are not generally incorporated in the national and city development agendas and programmes.
- b) Homebased Workers produce goods or services for the market from within or around their own homes: stitching garments and weaving textiles; producing craft products; processing and preparing food items; assembling or packaging electronics, automobile parts, and pharmaceutical products; selling goods or providing services; or doing clerical or professional work among other activities.
- c) There are at least 50 million Homebased workers. In South Asia (Kathmandu Declaration 2000), with large numbers in South East Asian countries as well. The vast majority of HBWs are women, making up approximately 75-80% of Homebased workers in South and South East Asia.
- d) Homebased Workers include (i) self-employed (mainly own account) workers and (ii) sub-contracted piece rate workers (sometimes referred to as homeworkers). The Homebased workers.' remuneration/earnings are generally very low and they absorb many of the costs of production themselves.
- e) Homebased Workers have limited access to social security, skill up-gradation opportunities, credit and markets. This is because they are generally not recognized as workers and are unable to register themselves as workers with relevant agencies.
- f) For the Homebased Workers, their home is also their workplace. Often, their homes are of poor quality, poorly lit, dingy and small and subject to such problems as leaking roofs and water logging.
- g) Homebased Workers work gets disrupted in the event of slum evictions, whose instances have increased with the idea of the 'Making of World Class Cities' gaining ascendance in urban policy making.
- h) Certain kinds of Homebased Workers may be hazardous for the worker and family members, in particular the children, since home is the workplace.
- i) Homebased workers regularly need to travel to access raw materials, interact with contractors, suppliers, and customers, as well as sell their goods. In the absence of affordable accessibility to public transport, they become dependent on the contractors for work and are thus subject to exploitation and uncertainties.
- j) For economic growth and poverty reduction, Homebased workers along with the other working poor in the informal economy need to be integrated into national and local development planning.

4. Mindful of our roles and responsibilities in the above context, we understand that in order to promote the growth and prosperity of our cities, we need to address the concerns of urban Homebased workers and integrate them into urban and economic plans. We therefore recommend:

I. Overarching recommendations:

- a) Homebased Workers need to be recognized as 'workers' in urban areas and as contributors to the national and urban economy.
- b) Local Bodies / relevant authorities should conduct surveys of the numbers and contribution of Homebased workers within their jurisdiction.
- c) The local authority should ensure that Homebased workers. And their organisations are registered and provided identity cards that will enable them to access different schemes of the government.
- d) Where needed, existing government schemes and services should be modified to include Homebased workers and address their specific needs. Where no such scheme / service exists, the concerned city authority should consider learning from experiences of other cities and starting something on similar lines, keeping in view local requirements and customs.
- e) Different departments and levels of government (local, state/provincial, national) need to coordinate and work together to effectively ensure recognition and rights for Homebased workers..
- f) In order to ensure awareness as well as easy access to services and schemes, the design and procedures for schemes should be revisited and options such as 'one window services' ('one stop shop') for Homebased workers should be adopted.
- g) Activities including awareness campaigns, bringing out a customized package/compendium of schemes and services for urban Homebased workers. And camps for assisting them with their documentation to apply for services and schemes should be initiated by the relevant agencies.
- h) Organizations of Homebased Workers should be promoted, and they should be included in decision-making processes including planning and budgeting processes as well as implementation and monitoring of programmes of civic bodies by including them in appropriate committees and boards (e.g., for determining master plans, zoning plans, land use plans; for slum up-gradation; for housing; for transport; for budget allocations; and for other purposes).

II. With regard to Urban Planning/Regulations and Housing:

- a) Local bodies and their planners should adopt an approach that recognizes the home as the workplace, thus allowing mixed land use (flexible zoning regulations) and diverse ecology.
- b) Housing is the most important asset of the Homebased workers. All the local governments must extend tenure security through in-situ regularization and improvement for all existing settlements. This should be extended to all the households in informal settlements. Tenure security should be defined as 'guarantee of no forced evictions and if relocation is required for slums on hazardous locations such as riverbeds, on or around garbage dumps, etc. it should be carried out through consultations'.
- c) Key to shelter security for all means that a data base of slum and informal settlements should be created through their mapping and census. The local governments should create an inventory of public lands that can be used for this purpose. This information should be made public so that Homebased workers can network with other groups for advocacy for access to land and housing.
- d) Where there are existing low cost housing schemes, relevant agencies should ensure that Homebased workers are included. Where there are no such schemes, these should be introduced.
- e) In-situ upgrading can either be extending services or redevelopment, through a time bound plan. In both cases, common work spaces should be made available which should be considered as part of public amenities.

III. With regard to Basic Infrastructure Services – Water, Sanitation, Electricity and Transport

- a) Basic civic amenities such as regular and affordable electricity, gas, individual water supply and toilets, waste management, drainage and sewerage and paved roads should be extended to all informal settlements by relevant agencies, in a participatory manner.
- b) For individual toilets and water connections, subsidies should be provided to enhance privacy and dignity, especially of women. This would also help keep the surroundings clean and reduce the spread of diseases.
- c) Local public transport that caters to the special needs of low income groups should be considered as a basic service as it opens up the markets opportunities and access to raw materials. The relevant governments should prioritize 'least cost investments' in public transport systems and construction of well-lit footpaths for safe access to public transport.
- d) The local public transport should be provided by the local public authority / relevant agency, who should have an over-arching planning and regulatory role. The Intermediate Public Transport (IPT), that provides the last mile connectivity to a public transport facility, should also be brought under the ambit of the public transport authority for regulating their routes, schedules, prices and safety.
- e) The Civic Authority should encourage creation of water users'/civic infrastructure users' groups for regular dialogue with them, for creative solutions related to financial, administrative, technical and maintenance issues.

IV. With regard to Livelihood Support through local and other relevant bodies:

- a) Urban local bodies should facilitate marketing of Homebased workers. Products by providing free or subsidized space for night markets/weekly markets or spaces in regular markets and at special exhibitions and fairs.
- b) Programmes and schemes related to skill up-gradation, basic literacy, credit, and sustainable livelihoods should be made easily accessible to Homebased workers.
- c) Where needed, local bodies should facilitate or set up neighbourhood common facility centres for production, processing and storage.
- d) All relevant agencies should consider having a procurement policy to purchase items from Homebased workers or give them a price preference.

V. With regard to Occupational Safety and Health (OSH), and health-related issues:

- a) The relevant agency should put in place an Occupational Safety and Health Policy, with needed mechanisms for implementing the same.
- b) A separate Occupational Health and Safety Unit with people's participation should be created at the local level.
- c) A basic minimum or floor social protection for Homebased workers. Comprising five essential components of child care, maternity benefits, health insurance, old age pensions and disability pensions should be adopted by all local bodies and agencies involved in development.
- d) Health awareness campaigns and health camps must include Homebased workers.

Ms. Chandni in her concluding remarks acknowledged and appreciated the participation and interest shown by all the participants especially, Mayors and senior Government officials. As the chair of session, she thanked all the delegates for their inputs and patience in drafting and finally endorsing the 'Asian Cities Declaration on Homebased Workers'. This was followed by a special applause for the drafting committee members. She also gave special thanks to the core group, i.e. Ms. Shalini, Dr. Donna, Ms. Sapna and Ms. Firoza, for their tireless efforts and dedication. Last but not the least, she thanked the organizers of the conference i.e. HomeNet South Asian and HomeNet Thailand for their relentless efforts.

On behalf of the co-organizers, Ms. Poonsap from HomeNet Thailand, thanked all the participants for their contribution and for making the event a grand success. She conveyed special thanks to Mayors, senior government officials for their participation and valuable inputs. She also conveyed special thanks to Hon'ble Acting Governor of Bangkok, Dr. Pusadee Tamthai, Chief Guest, Dr. Martha Chen, Harvard Kennedy School, USA and International Coordinator, WIEGO who gave the Keynote Address and Ms. Malee Pruekpongsawalee, Representative of HomeNet Thailand and Chairperson, FLEP & Ms. Chandni Joshi, Enforcer, HomeNet South Asia. She concluded with thanks to Ms. Firoza, Ms. Sapna and Home Net South Asia staff for all their support.

The conference concluded with new hope for the visibility, empowerment and better quality of life of Homebased workers, around the world, and particularly in South Asia.

ANNEX 1

<u>List of Participants</u>			
Sr. No.	Name	Organization	Designation
1	Dr. Pusadee Tamthai	Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) Thailand	Acting Governor, Bangkok
2	Ms. Malee Pruekpongsawalee	HomeNet Thailand (HNT) and Foundation for Labour and Employment (FLEP) Thailand	Representative (HNT) Chairperson (FLEP)
3	Ms. Chandni Joshi	HomeNet South Asia (HNSA) India	Enforcer
4	Dr. Martha Chen	WIEGO and Harvard Kennedy School	International Coordinator of WIEGO
5	Ms. Neeramol Suthipannaphong	HomeNet Thailand (HNT) Thailand	Homebased Worker
6	Mr. Somkid Duang-ngeun	HomeNet Thailand (HNT) Thailand	Homebased Worker
7	Mr. Anuradha Gamini Peeramunage	Municipal Council, Kurunegala Sri Lanka	Mayor
8	Mr. Wirat Intharath	Nongjok District Thailand	Assistant Director
9	Mr. Oeun Pov	Siem Reap Municipality Cambodia	Deputy City Governor
10	Mr. Ali Ahmed	Chittagong City Corporation Bangladesh	Chief Executive Officer
11	Ms. G.K.S.Chandralatha	Municipal Council, Kurunegala Sri Lanka	Commissioner
12	Mr. Mitra Mani Pokhrel	Madhyapur Thimi Municipality, Bhaktapur Nepal	Executive Officer
13	Mr. Pashupati Pokharel	District Development Committee, Lalitpur	Local Development Officer

14	Mr. Moazzam Ali Janjua	Local Government Punjab Pakistan	Additional Secretary
15	Mr. Kritsanawaroon Chaiyanit	KhonKaen Municipality Thailand	Deputy Municipal Clerk
16	Ms. Shalini Sinha	WIEGO	Sector Specialist Homebased workers.
17	Dr. Sharit Bhowmik	Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) India	National Fellow
18	Mr. Arif Hasan	Urban Resource Centre, Karachi Pakistan	Chairman
19	Dr. Sara Arphorn	Faculty of Public Health, Mahidol University Thailand	Associate Professor
20	Prof. Darshini Mahadevia	Centre for Environmental Planning and Technological (CEPT) University India	Professor
21	Ms. Bharati Bhonsale	Mahila Housing SEWA Trust, India	Programme Coordinator
22	Ms. Sarojani Tamshetty	Labour Education and Research Network (LEARN) India	Field Coordinator
23	Ms. Primar S. Jardeleza	PATAMABA Philippines	Field Coordinator
24	Ms. Laila Azhar	HomeNet Pakistan (HNP) Pakistan	Executive Director
25	Mr. Men Sinoeun	Artisans' Association of Cambodia Cambodia	Executive Director
26	Mr. Presad Rathnayake	Janthakshan (Guarantee) Ltd Sri Lanka	Project Manager
27	Ms. Bandana Rana	Saathi Nepal	Executive Chair
28	Mr. Khandaker Jahurul Alam	Centre for Services and Information on Disability (CSID) Bangladesh	Executive Director
29	Ms. Poonsap Tulaphan	HomeNet Thailand and Foundation for Labour and Employment Promotion (FLEP)	Manager

		Thailand	
30	Ms. Firoza Mehrotra	HomeNet South Asia India	Director, Programmes & Monitoring
31	Ms. Donna L Doane	HomeNet South Asia India	Consultant
32	Mr. Bipin Shah	HomeNet South Asia India	Financial Consultant
33	Ms. Tanzeena Mukherjee	HomeNet South Asia India	Programme Manager
34	Mr. Suketu Dave	HomeNet South Asia India	HR & Operations Executive
35	Ms. Da Chidchanok Samantrakul	HomeNet Thailand Thailand	Event Organizer
36	Ms. Duannapa Panyawong	HomeNet Thailand Thailand	Consultant for HomeNet North
37	Ms. Suntaree Sreng-ging	HomeNet Thailand Thailand	Consultant for HomeNet Northeast
38	Ms. Kotchaporn Klakthongkham	HomeNet Thailand Thailand	Field Coordinator, IUP
39	Ms. Sristi Mallah Joshi	SABAH Nepal Nepal	Director
40	Ms. Surang Panio	Social Welfare Department, KhonKaen Municipality Thailand	Director
41	Ms. Siriporn Laosang	UN Women Regional Office for Asia and Pacific Thailand	Regional Coordinator, Knowledge Gateway for Women's Economic Empowerment
42	Ms. Piyawadi Watthanadrek	Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) Thailand	Professional Social Developer
43	Ms. Surapon Pagalamont	Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) Thailand	Director, Department of Social Development and Welfare
44	Ms. Supawadee Wattanakamol	Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) Thailand	Senior Specialist Developer, Department of Social Development and Welfare

45	Ms. Tanatda Jaisuea	Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) Thailand	Senior Specialist Developer, Department of Social Development and Welfare
46	Ms. Rakawin Leechanawanichphan	International Labor Organization (ILO) Thailand	Senior Specialist
47	Mr. Shubham Pathak	Thailand	Rapporteur
48	Ms. Aditi Madan	Thailand	Rapporteur
49	Ms. Job	Thailand	Interpreter
50	Ms. Wipaphan Korkiakajorn	Thailand	Interpreter

ANNEX 2

PROGRAMME

Regional Conference of City Authorities on Homebased Workers

7th to 9th May 2014

Pattaya, Thailand

DAY 1: 7th May, 2014

TIME	TITLE OF SESSION	MODERATOR
08:45-09:00	REGISTRATION	
09:00-10:30	INAUGURAL SESSION	
09:00-09:05	Welcome & Introduction to Conference by Ms. Malee Pruekpongsawalee, Representative of HomeNet Thailand and Chairperson, FLEP	
09:05-09:15	Address by Ms. Chandni Joshi, Enforcer, HomeNet South Asia	
09:15-09:25	VOICES of Homebased Workers (Thailand) a) Ms. Neeramol Suthipannaphong b) Mr. Somkid Duang-ngeun	
09:25-09:55	Key Note Address by Dr. Martha Chen, Harvard Kennedy School, USA and International Coordinator, WIEGO	
09:55-10:00	Launch of Statistical Briefs on Homebased Workers by Hon'ble Acting Governor of Bangkok, Dr. Pusadee Tamthai, Chief Guest & Dr. Martha Chen	
10:00-10:30	Inaugural Address by Hon'ble Acting Governor of Bangkok, Dr. Pusadee Tamthai, Chief Guest	
10:30-10:32	Vote of Thanks by Ms. Firoza Mehrotra, Director, HomeNet South Asia	

10:32-11:00 GROUP PHOTO & HIGH TEA		
11:00-12:00	SESSION I :- SETTING THE TONE FOR THE CONFERENCE	
11:00-11:45	Key Findings of Urban Studies by Ms. Firoza Mehrotra, Director, Programmes & Monitoring, HomeNet South Asia	
11:45-13:15	SESSION II:- PANEL 1-BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES (Water & Sanitation)	Dr. Arif Hasan
11:45-12:05	Mr. Arif Hasan, Chairman, Urban Resource Centre, Karachi, Pakistan - Resource Person (20 minutes)	
12:05-12:25	Mr. Mitra Mani Pokhrel, Executive Officer, Madhyapur Thimi Municipality Officer, Bhaktapur, Nepal (10 minutes)	
12:25-13:15	Open House Discussion – 50 minutes	
13:15 – 14:30 LUNCH BREAK		
14:30-16:00	SESSION III:-PANEL 2 – BASIC INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES (Public Transport & Electricity)	Prof. Darshini Mahadevia
14:30-14:50	Prof. Darshini Mahadevia, Centre for Environmental Planning and Technological (CEPT) University, Ahmedabad, India - Resource person (20 minutes)	
14:50-15:00	Mr. Wirat Intharath, Assistant Director, Nongjok District, Thailand (10 minutes)	
15:00-15:10	Mr. Pashupati Pokharel, Local Development Officer, District Development Committee, Lalitpur, Nepal (10 minutes)	
15:10-15:50	Open House Discussion – 40 minutes	
15:50-16:15	FILM ON HOMEBASED WORKERS IN SOUTH EAST ASIA	
16:15-16:30 TEA BREAK		

DAY 2 – 8th May, 2014

09:00-10:30	SESSION IV:- PANEL 3 – LIVELIHOOD SUPPORT THROUGH LOCAL BODIES	Dr. Sharit Bhowmik
09:00-09:20	Dr. Sharit Bhowmik, National Fellow, Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR), Mumbai, India - Resource person (20 minutes)	
09:20-09:30	Ms. G.K.S. Chandralatha, Commissioner, Municipal Council, Kurunegala, Sri Lanka (10 minutes)	
09:30-09:40	Mr. Moazzam Ali Janjua, Additional Secretary, Local Government, Punjab, Pakistan (10 minutes)	

09:40-10:30	Open House Discussion – 50 minutes	
10:30-11:00 TEA BREAK		
11:00-12:30	SESSION V:- PANEL 4 – SECURE & ADEQUATE HOUSING	Ms. Shailini Sinha
11:00-11:20	Ms. Shalini Sinha, Sector Specialist Homebased Workers, WIEGO - Resource person (20 minutes)	
11:20-11:30	Mr. Anuradha Gamini Peramunage, Hon'ble Mayor, Municipal Council, Kurunegala, Sri Lanka (10 minutes)	
11:30-11:40	Ms. Bharati Bhonsale, Programme Coordinator, Mahila Housing SEWA Trust (10 minutes)	
11:40-12:30	Open House Discussion – 50 minutes	
12:30-02:00	SESSION VI:- PANEL 5 – HEALTH AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH & SAFETY	Dr. Sara Arphorn
12:30-12:50	Dr. Sara Arphorn, Associate Professor, Faculty of Public Health, Mahidol University (20 minutes)	
12:50-13:00	Mr. Ali Ahmed, Chief executive Officer, Chittagong City Corporation, Bangladesh (10 minutes)	
13:00-13:10	Mr. Oeun Pov, Deputy City Governor, Siem Reap Municipality, Cambodia (10 minutes)	
13:10-13:20	Mr. Kritsanawaroorn Chaianit, Deputy Municipal Clerk, Khon Kaen Municipality, Thailand (10 minutes)	
13:20-13:50	Open House Discussion – 30 minutes	
13:50-14:00	Orientation for field visit & distribution of packed lunch By Ms. Chidchanok Samantrakul (Da), Event Coordinator	
14:30-18:00	Field Visit By Ms. Chidchanok Samantrakul (DA), Event Coordinator	

DAY-3: 9th May, 2014

09:00-12:00	Valedictory Session 1) Summing up of the conference 2) Some country specific issues that came up for action 3) Discussion & Adoption of Asian Cities Declaration on Homebased Workers 4) Vote of Thanks: Ms. Poonsap Tulaphan, Director, HomeNet Thailand	

12:00-13:00 LUNCH

Departure – Safe Journey back home