

# CELEBRATING SILVER JUBILEE SAARC CHARTER DAY

## RESOLUTION OF HOMENET SOUTH ASIA DECENT WORK FOR HOME-BASED WORKERS

8<sup>th</sup> December 2010; Dhaka, Bangladesh

On the occasion of SAARC Charter Day, HomeNet South Asia, the representative network of home-based workers of South Asia, meeting in Dhaka on 8<sup>th</sup> December, 2010 at the *Conference for a Strategic Vision of Homebased Workers in South Asia*,

### NOTES

that the **objectives of the SAARC Charter** include the promotion of the welfare of the peoples of SOUTH ASIA and to improve their quality of life; to accelerate economic growth, social progress and cultural development in the region and to provide all individuals the opportunity to live in dignity and to realise their full potentials; to promote and strengthen collective self-reliance among the countries of South Asia; and to contribute to mutual trust, understanding and appreciation of one another's problems;

### NOTES

that the **SAARC Development Goals (SDGs)** include

- the eradication of hunger poverty (Goal 1)
- to ensure a robust pro-poor growth process (Goal 4),
- to reduce social and institutional vulnerabilities of the poor, women, and children (Goal 6)
- to ensure effective participation of poor and of women in anti-poverty policies and programmes (Goal 8)

### NOTES

that **home-based workers have always been an important part of the economy in South Asia**. We include traditional artisans, weavers, embroiderers, potters, leather workers as well as piece rate workers making aggarbattis, garments and even electronic components. We have been invisible to policy makers as we work within our homes, and remain one of the poorest and most disadvantaged groups. There are about 50 million home based workers in South Asia;

that in the SAARC countries, **a majority of women workers are home-based**: for example, in Bangladesh 71% of all women (non-agricultural) workers are home based, in contrast to only 20% of all male workers; in Pakistan, 65% of these women workers are home based, in contrast to only 4% of all male workers;

that **women home-based workers have taken the lead in bringing together the SAARC family**. We have come together across SAARC countries, to make our work and our issues visible and to take an active role to organize and bring ourselves out of poverty;

that we have formed ourselves into a regional organization: **HomeNet South Asia** with HomeNet organizations in Bangladesh, India, Nepal,

### NOTES

Awaz Foundation Pakistan

Ela R Bhui

Goshis HNSA

Shilpa Singh HNSA

SAPNA JOSHI Homenet South Asia

Renana Jhabroli SEWA & HNSA

Saimun Homenet Pakistan Sabah Pakistan

Vallu HNSA

HNSA

Pakistan and Sri Lanka. We have begun to enter the markets together through **Sabah**: the SAARC Business Association of Home-Based Workers. Our aim is to highlight our issues internationally and seek inclusion in economic growth and social protection for home-based workers. Our objectives include the creation of a joint "Made in Saarc" brand;

the crucial role of SAARC mentioned in the **Kathmandu Declaration** of 20<sup>th</sup> October 2000, to address the issues of home-based workers in the region and take measures to enable us to deal with the risks and opportunities of globalisation and our role towards providing a sustainable livelihood for home-based workers.

RESOLVES to request that SAARC encourage its member States to implement the Kathmandu Declaration.

RESOLVES to request that SAARC urges member states to introduce and implement national policies to promote the work of home-based workers and ensure access to social protection.

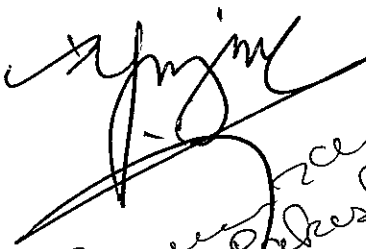
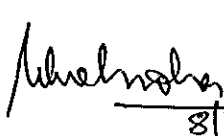
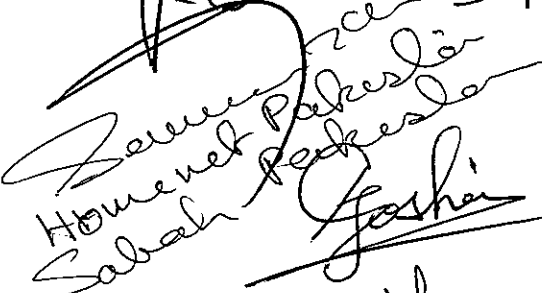
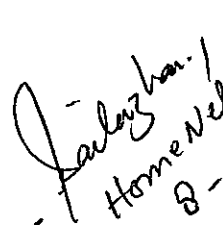


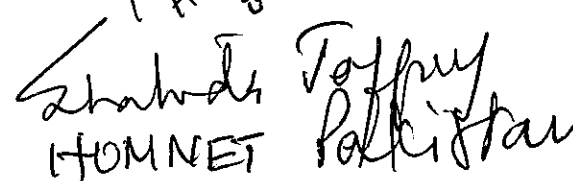
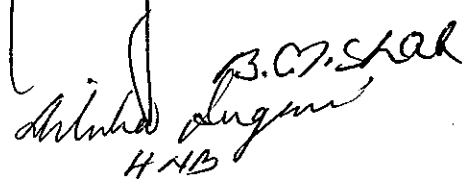
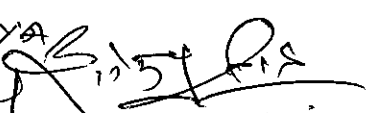
RESOLVES to request that SAARC urges member states to ratify ILO Convention 177 and adopt the measures contained within ILO Recommendation 184

RESOLVES to request that SAARC supports the removal of poverty and build solidarity by promoting the "Made in SAARC" brand of products produced by the members of the SAARC Business Association of Home-Based Workers to access world markets with a strong identities, skills and values of South Asian home-based workers.

PLEDGES to work together to empower the women of South Asia, and to work with SAARC, in order to remove poverty in our homes, to build solidarity in our region and to come into the mainstream of development.

SIGNED

ORGANISATION

	National Commission for Women & Children SABAH - BHUTAN.	 8/12/10
 Zameer Farhat HomeNet Pakistan Sabah Pakistan	<u>Farhat Ishtiaq</u> HNSA.	 Farhat Ishtiaq HomeNet Pakistan 8-12-2010
	SEWA	
 Marty Aze	WIEGO	 Shahida Tappu HOMNET Pakistan
 Mina Begum HNB	HNSA. OM THAPALIYA HomeNet Nepal	 8/12/10

ISHWAR DHUNGANA

Home Net Nepal

SN

Shanti KC

Anita Krishnan

Ramkali Khadka

Usha Bhandari

Asper

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DAVE SPONGER  
WIEGO.

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HNI

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P.M.U.S.

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Sabah-Pakistan

FARIDA E. ARIF.  
SABAH BANGLADESH

vice-chairperson: [Signature]  
8/12/10

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Chairperson Khanya

Coordinator: [Signature]

Dhaneswari Behra

MSO Secretary: [Signature]  
8/12/2010

Ghazanfar Nawab

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DCI

Amal -  
HNSA 8/12/10