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### **How does ILO lend hand to Vietnam's occupation health and safety?**

VOVNews: Ms. Greve, What main activities will ILO organise around the world for this year's World Day for Safety and Health?

Ms. Greve: The offices around the world are planning different kinds of activities with their counterparts. For example: our office in the Caribbean is planning an information campaign, a book display and a series of articles and media events. In Japan, there will be a public forum on occupational safety and health, the environment and development, and links between. In Russia, there will be a radio debate and an exhibition in a library. In Vietnam we are going to review the outcomes of the national safety week and to see from that information we should devise plans for the following years.

VOVNews: Would you outline some activities ILO will support in Vietnam this year?

Ms. Greve: What we are expecting to do is to make a second edition of a CD-Rom on occupational safety and health (OSH) which ties to the Website that was created by one of our projects. We are going to produce 2,000 copies of the second edition. We have already printed 2,000 before this. We hope to make it available to enterprises and also to commune officers, health centres, and OSH centres. We hope to distribute it as widely as we can. They will make available a large volume of information on OSH, including ILO standards and guidelines. But more importantly, they also make available the regulations and laws of Vietnam on OSH issues. We are also pulling together a number of photographs of OSH issues to try to set up a photo library which will go on the data base on our own Website.

VOVNews: You mentioned the ILO standards on occupational safety and health. What has ILO done so far to help Vietnam apply these standards?

Ms. Greve: We have done a number of things in support of these. In the first instance: We have brought the standards here to Vietnam, translated them into Vietnamese. We have had forums and debates on them, so that people understand their usefulness in Vietnam. Vietnam has ratified one of the major standards which is Convention 155 on OSH in general. The new convention 184 on occupational safety and health in agriculture was translated last year. We had some meetings to introduce it here. And we hope that it will be incorporated in the work of the government, perhaps also eventually to be ratified. What we also have done is translated and made available some of our other guidelines and codes of practice. We have been helping to set up in the context of project financed by Fininda of Finland. We have also set up the national day.

VOVNews: At this year's National Safety Week in Vietnam, what are you going to do in co-ordination with relevant Vietnamese agencies?

Ms. Greve: In the context of the meeting where we will be reviewing the outcomes of the National Safety Week and where the government and the other relevant parties we will look at future activities for OSH from now to the next national safety week. We will be commemorating, and dedicating the first part of that meeting to world safety and health day. We will draw attention to the theme of world safety day, which is promoting safety and health culture in the globalised world and also calling attention to occupational safety and health issues in Vietnam and to occupational accidents in Vietnam. The second thing is that we will hopefully at that meeting unveil the second, extended edition of our CD-Rom to give out to participants there. We will distribute it more widely as well. The third is that we will be working on photo library of OSH, illustrative photographs.

VOVNews: What is your evaluation of Vietnam's National Safety Week?

Ms. Greve: National Safety Week serves a very useful purpose in that it calls attention to the issue. It calls attention of policy makers to the issues because the policy makers at the highest level participate. Usually the Deputy Prime Minister is there, and there are senior officials, ministers from health, labour and other senior officials from the trade unions and employers' organisations. The event gets people discussing a series of topics of the National Safety Week. This year it focuses on agriculture and small enterprises, which are very important to Vietnam. So the purpose is to call for attention to the issue, to have people talk about it, to have practitioners look at it, to have them exchange information from province to province to share problems and experience.