

## **Antigua and Barbuda**

### **Theme 1 – Promotion of Safety and Health in the workplace and Worker protection Guaranteeing decent work**

- ❖ In Antigua and Barbuda a national Policy on Occupational Health and Safety does not exist; except for Division D of the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Code that gives effect to ILO Convention 155. A National strategy plan of action on OH S is not in place. It is however anticipated that with the revision of Division D of the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Code many of our deficiencies will be corrected.
- ❖ The Labour Department conducted a training workshop on OHS in which it invited other social partners to participate. The training workshop was sponsored by the OAS; this workshop followed ILO Guidelines on OHS.
- ❖ At the moment there are no decent work indicators related to OHS being implemented in Antigua and Barbuda; however we are currently part of a strategy to introduce a decent work country programme with the assistance of the ILO.
- ❖ As it relate to co-ordination in implementing OHS interventions and Policies among ministries there is none; no institutional mechanism exists for inter-ministerial coordination to take place.
- ❖ There is a tripartite body, the National Labour Board that reviews the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Code periodically. In addition there is a Drafting Committee that drafts decisions revised clauses for the Labour Code.

### **Theme 2 – Expansion and strengthening of scheme to prevent and control occupational Hazards.**

- The Antigua and Barbuda Labour Department in its efforts to monitor and protect the public with respect to OHS issues has recently acquired Health and Safety equipment in order to assist the inspectors when they visit workplaces. Furthermore, the Labour Department in its effort to sensitize the working population on health and safety concerns observed World Health and Safety day where it displayed various Health and Safety equipment along with various persons speaking on the topic of Health and Safety in the workplace. Additionally workshops are conducted at various work places and we appear on the media to maximize the effects of our awareness objective.
- Institutions in Antigua and Barbuda normally employ Health and Safety Officers who are responsible for the training of workers and implementing safety standards.
- The Labour Inspections Units does regular checks on business places to ensure compliance with division D of the Antigua and Barbuda Labour Code, which sets the standards for occupational Health and Safety in the nation.

### **Theme 3 – HIV/AIDS in the workplace**

- Antigua and Barbuda has a national HIV/AIDS policy. This document was designed by, the National HIV/AIDS Advisory Committee in collaboration with CRF Consulting.
- The Government of Antigua and Barbuda has recognized that HIV/AIDS has become a national issue hence a national response was undertaken. This policy has been agreed upon by various sectors. There are plan a foot to further expand on the current policy with greater input from a wider cross section of interest groups.