



**TRADE UNION OF THE SELF-EMPLOYED AND INFORMAL WORKERS**



## **DECLARATION OF HOME-BASED WORKERS**

**Sofia, 20 JUNE 2016**

At an extraordinary meeting of the 18-th and 19-th of June 2016, we, members of the Association of home-based workers and HomeNet Eastern Europe have discussed our concerns, given that this year marks the 20th anniversary of ILO's Convention 177 and we note the following:

- **In spite of the ILO's Convention 177 on Home-based Work (1996), the Declaration of Kathmandu (2000), ILO's Recommendations of from 2015 to transition from informal to formal economy and various other agreements, the majority of us, home-based workers remain unidentified, unseen, unrecognized, discriminated, our voice is not heard and our rights as workers are being denied.**
- **Home-based work is a global phenomenon that can be found in rich and poor countries and exists in all employment sectors, including agro-based, food manufacturing, services, etc.**
- **Home-based work is an important source of employment, especially for women, who are economically and socially disabled. The majority of home-based workers are women.**
- **We contribute significantly to national and global economies and are connected to the formal economy through retail chains, supply chains and local markets.**
- **We generally are not integrated into the national data collection or development programs and thus, we, our work and our contribution remain invisible and unrecognized.**

- **We have limited access to social security, opportunities for skills development, loans and markets.**
- **For home-based workers, their homes are their working places.**
- **We are not "confined" to our houses because we have to buy supplies for work and sell or deliver products, which leads to additional costs due to lack of accessible public transportation services.**

**That's why we call for:**

The Organizations of home-based workers and their supporting NGOs to raise awareness among home-based workers of their status as workers and employees of the economy; expand their influence at national level and across regions; build global solidarity; raise awareness and advocate for the rights of home-based workers; provide access to services, markets and social protection and their empowerment.

National governments to recognize the contribution of home-based workers to the security of their family income, as well as local and national economies and therefore give them an advantage in initiatives to reduce poverty and empower women, to formulate and enforce national laws and policies for home-based workers, to include them in national statistics, to facilitate their integration into markets, recognize organizations and networks of home-based workers, promote collective bargaining and social dialogue and give voice to home-based workers in making decisions, which affect them.

European institutions to recognize the importance of the contribution of home-based workers to national economies and their growth, to turn to their problems and help in their empowerment, which will significantly reduce poverty. To turn to the representative organizations of home-based workers and solve their problems together with them.

With regards and hope for cooperation:

Jane Barrett – Organizing and Representation Programme Director in WIEGO;

Violeta Zlateva – Chairman of the TUSIW and co-chairman of the HNEE;

Krastyo Petkov - Honorary chairman of the AHBW;

Rozalina Ivanova – Chairman of the Coordination Council;

Ilya Boevski – Co-chairman of the HNEE;

Milica Chavic - Co-chairman of the HNEE;

Lilyana Chepic - Co-chairman of the HNEE;  
Vaska Karafali - Co-chairman of the HNEE;  
Erol Adem - Co-chairman of the HNEE;  
Gergana Gogova – Member of the CC from Sofia;  
Mariana Sirakova - Member of the CC from Sofia;  
Asia Ivanova - Member of the CC from Sofia;  
Valeria Georgieva - Member of the CC from Sofia;  
Teodora Dimitrova - Member of the CC from Sofia;  
Toni Slavkova - Member of the CC from Sofia;  
Lidia Demirova - Member of the CC from Sofia;  
Neli Jancheva - Member of the CC from Sofia;  
Krasimir Dimitrov - Member of the CC from Ruse;  
Stoyanka Simova - Member of the CC from Montana;  
Snejana Dimitrova - Member of the CC from Blagoevgrad;  
Georgi Nedelchev - Member of the CC from Sofia

Подписали:

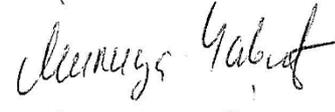
Виолета Златева – председател на УС на Синдиката на самонаетите и неформалните работници и съпредседател на Международната мрежа Хоум Нет Източна Европа и Централна Азия - 

Проф. Кръстьо Петков – почетен председател на Сдружението на надомните работници –

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Джейн Бенетт – Organizing and Representation Programme Director в Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing (WIEGO) – 

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Шайгул Айнян – съпредседател на Хоум Нет от Казахстан – 

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