



## How OSH activities can support the development of productivity and well-being at work

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The Seoul Declaration on Safety and Health at Work was adopted on 29 June 2008 as a blueprint for constructing a global culture of safety and health at work. This declaration was the culmination of the first high-level Safety and Health Summit, which gathered government ministers, CEOs of major multinational companies, social security leaders and senior safety and health experts, and representatives of employers and workers from around the world.

The Declaration emphasizes that the right to a safe and healthy working environment should be recognized as a fundamental human right. It recognizes that improving occupational safety and health has a positive impact, not only on working conditions but on productivity and economic and social development as well. The prevention of occupational risks and the promotion of workers' health go hand in hand with good business performance.

The Seoul Declaration encourages all Governments to consider the ratification of the ILO Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health Convention – as well as other relevant ILO Conventions on safety and health at work – and to ensure that their provisions are implemented to systematically improve OS&H on a national level.

Occupational safety and health organizations have a significant role in promoting prevention and in providing treatment, support and rehabilitation services. OSH specialists alone cannot bring about cultural change at workplaces, but they could and should promote – alongside with health issues – the connections between well-being and productivity, and the importance of "tripartite" cooperation between the OHS, employers and workers.

Employers are called on to ensure that prevention is an integral part of everyday activities at work, to establish effective OS&H management systems, and to guarantee that workers are consulted, trained, informed and involved in this process. Workers should be willing and able to follow safety and health procedures in practice, participate in training and awareness-raising activities, and to bring their own contribution to the cooperative triangle.