On 17-18 January 2012, KSBSI in cooperation with the ILO Jakarta held a national workshop on Domestic Workers. The workshop was attended by KSBSI, KSPSI, SPSI Reformasi, SBMI, Jala PRT, LBH Jakarta, and several other trade union federations. Speakers from the Ministry of Labor was absent without excuse.

This workshop was organized with the intent to finalize the draft law on domestic workers to be submitted to the Parliament. The draft law on domestic workers, despite being one of the priority legislation that will be discussed by the Parliament, has been pending since 1 year ago. This year, the draft is back to be one of the priorities to be discussed in the Parliament. According to Lita from Jala PRT, we must continue to pressure the Parliament to start discussion on the draft this year because next year the political parties in the Parliament will be busy on the preparation of the election and the draft may not be a priority anymore. She noticed that until now only a few parliament members supported this draft against more than 500 other parliament members.

Mudhofir, the new President of KSBSI, at the beginning of the workshop opening said that we should be optimist because all the Confederation of Trade Unions fully supporting the adoption of the bill on Domestic Workers. Moreover, with the recent formation of the Joint Secretariat between 4 Trade Union Confederations in Indonesia, namely; KSBSI, KSPSI ‘Pasar minggu’, KSPSI ‘Kalibata’ and KSPI, pressure to the Parliament can be more powerful.

Bonasahat from ILO Jakarta, explained the contents of the ILO Convention 189 and Recommendation number 201 on Domestic Workers recently adopted by the ILO. Important elements in the Convention;
1. Collective Bargaining
2. Minimum Age
3. Employment contract
4. Coverage of employment contract
5. Migrant Domestic Workers
6. Working condition: Working time (daily & weekly rest, annual leave, waiting time, etc)
7. Wages & allowances
8. Privacy & inspection
9. Agency/ labor supplier
10. Respect to Convention and Recommendation

The Convention needs at least 2 countries to be in effect before ratification. Therefore, we can use the standard of the Convention 189 for discussion on the draft law of Domestic Workers and furthermore on the amendment of the Bill nr. 39/2004 on migrant workers since the Parliament of Indonesia plan to adopt the UN Convention on Migration. For that purpose, ILO can give support and technical assistance.

Lita from Jala PRT gave 3 crucial points in the draft;
1. Decent and equal wage for Domestic Workers
2. Dispute settlement by using mediation process up to labor court.
3. Community based labor inspection

After that, participants finalize the draft and develop an action plan for the adoption of the draft law on domestic Workers.

9 concrete action plans;
1. SMS/ Text message campaign to the members of Parliament commission IX on Labor to keep pressure to the parliament to start discussion on the draft law on Domestic Workers
2. Picketing at Parliament building 2 times a week
3. Visiting mass media organize by JALA PRT
4. Press Conference for every Confederation and Joint secretariat of Confederations
5. Petition collected on 1 February 2012
6. Planned meeting with First lady of Indonesia
7. Rally on Indonesia Domestic Workers day 15 February 2012 carrying “broom stick” to the Parliament and Labor Ministry
8. Supporting class action on violation against Domestic Workers
9. Include Domestic Workers issue on Mayday/ Labor day Rally