“Workers, Forge The Future: An Info session on Informal and Platform Workers in Asia and the Pacific”

**Side Event: 10th Asia-Pacific Forum for Sustainable Development**
March 30, 2023 (10:00 AM, Bangkok time)

**Organizer**
Asia Pacific Research Network (APRN)

**Co-organizer(s)**
Ecumenical Institute for Labor Rights and Education (EILER) and Kalipunan ng Damayang Mahihirap (KADAMAY)

**Registration**
To register for this side event, please use:

**Background**
Platform workers and the informal economy have become inextricable issues especially in developing nations. The supply chain of goods and services, as well as transport and mobility, rely heavily on platform workers that are generally found in the informal sector. Thus, it is important to discuss the role of platform workers in achieving development goals, especially under SDGs 5, 8, 9, 11, and 17.

This workshop aims to gather representatives from the Asia-Pacific to take a look at how the exploitation of informal workers has shifted for the worse in the
pandemic era. It seeks to spotlight cases that deal with privatization, corporate capture, and the intensification of restrictions instead of protections on the informal economy.

**Key Questions and Outcomes**

This side event will examine the following key guiding questions:

1. How are informal and platform workers being deprived of social protections even further during the COVID pandemic and throughout the recovery period?
2. Informal work can be precarious, and some governments have taken this as an impetus to replace entire livelihoods with corporatized ones. What kind of rights within the city should informal workers enjoy in relation to SDGs 9 and 11?
3. What are your key demands with regard to the situation of informal and platform workers?

**Program**

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<th>Speakers</th>
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<th>Duration</th>
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<tr>
<td>TBA</td>
<td>Opening</td>
<td>10 min 10:00-10:10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Villaney Remengesau</td>
<td>Issues of PWD informal workers in Pacific Islands</td>
<td>10 min 10:10 - 10:20</td>
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<td>Varghese Theckanath</td>
<td>Issues of informal work in India</td>
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<td>TBA</td>
<td>Issues of platform workers in Indonesia</td>
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<td>Facilitator: TBA</td>
<td>Open forum and Q&amp;A</td>
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<td>Closing</td>
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For information, please contact Ms. Julia Pauline Puno, Policy, and Research Officer, at jpuno@aprnet.org.