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The quality and level of Safety and Health at Work and working conditions present in a wider context, the cultural, social and economic development of a society. The improvement of Health and Safety at Work is ensured through the implementation of preventive measures.

Preventing risks means to profit and not to make expenses. Profit for the business because it contributes in the quality, efficiency, productivity and success of the company, profit for the employee because it contributes for their health, protection and welfare.

Improving the safety and health at work is one of the priorities of the Albanian Government aiming to increase employment in order to create decent working conditions, in an economy based on the employment and increase of productivity.

National policies are being implemented through legislative measures, as well as providing their implementation latter from the State Labor Inspectorate. State Labour Inspectorate is the institution who plays a decisive role in making safer, healthy and productive working places. Safety and Health at Work has an important economic affection for a company, place and community. The protection of Health and Safety at Work is turned into a criterion of competition and credibility for a company.

Actually, Labour Inspectorate is organized in a Central Directorate and in 12 Regional Branches of the Regions. Labor Inspectorate has undergone some changes as a result of the Law no 10433, dated on 16.06.2011 "On the Inspection in Albanian Republic", which is related to:

- 1- New inspection methodology. Under the surveyance of Center Inspectorate, the whole inspecting body was trained for the adaption of the new inspecting methodology.
- 2- "e-inspection" portal, who provides online inspections.

Labour Inspectorate has worked and continues to work with rigorozity for:

- Minimization of informal employment considering it very serious problem of economy, where actually, the whole inspecting body is included in the action against informality
- Creation of a data base for active subjects that exercise the activity in the Albanian territory
- Identification of entities that are risked for issues related to the health and safety at work.
- Defining clear priorities for the entities planification which will be subject of the control for:
 - Working conditions that prevent accidents and professional diseases
 - Informal employment
 - Employment based on the law for risked groups (children under 18 years old, people with disabilities, pregnant women, etc)

Labour Inspectorate is working on the development of the social dialogue, encouraging of collective negotiations, mediation in time of labor conflicts etc, in central, regional and enterprise level.

Creation of a cooperative climate with the business by considering it as a very important partner in achieving our objectives, through roundtables, hearing and meetings with them.

All the undertaken measures by Labour Inspectorate have given their results where the indicators of our job are always increasing year by year.

During the first nine months of 2015, the awareness of employers is increased significantly in taking measures regarding the health and safety at work where concretely, compared to the first 9 months of 2014, we reached an increase of the number of the Councils for Health and Safety at Work, where for the first 9 nine months of 2014, 421 Councils for Health and Safety at Work were registered, meanwhile, for the

same period of this year, we have 518 Councils for Health and Safety at Work, we have an increased number of entities that are covered with medical service, where for the first nine months of 2014 about 776 entities with enterprise doctor were registered while for 9 months of 2015 about 897 entities with enterprise doctors were registered, as a result of the orientation of the process of inspections and awareness meetings with the business in order to improve the labor conditions in entities that pose a risk for the safety and health of employees.

The number of entities that use individual protective equipment is 1327 compared to the same period of 2014 where this number was 986, while the number of entities that use collective protective equipment is 1513, compared to the same period of 2014 where the number was 1236, we have also a significant increase of the number of entities that use collective and individual protective equipment as a result of the increase of inspection number in entities that pose risk for the health and safety at work of the employees as well as the awareness and sensitization meetings with the business in order to improve the working conditions, especially for the usage of protective individual and collective equipment to decrease the number of accidents and professional diseases.

About 121 accidents at work were registered during 2014 where among them, 33 resulted in death and for the 9 months of 2015 we have registered only 88 accidents at work where 22 of them resulted fatal. It is noted an increase of accidents at work that do not result fatal as a consequence of awareness of employers for not hiding even the slight injuries at work but they report them as a legal obligation to report to Labour Inspectorate every accident at work that happened at the entities.

The credibility towards Labour Inspectorate is increased, which is concretized in the quadrupling of the number of complaints, where 2014 is registered as the year with the highest number of complaints since the creation of this institution. The received complaints were increased with 76 percent compared to a year ago where 65 percent of them were resolved in favor of employees.

As we all know, now Albania is entering in a gasification era with the construction of Trans Adriatic Pipeline (TAP). Safety is one of the most important priorities in the sector of gas. The construction of TAP in Albania, besides the important contribution for the Albanian economy, it will offer a better opportunity to Albania to improve the standards of safety in general as a principal responsibility towards the environment and citizens.

Labor Inspectorate considers TAP as an important partner, where now the cooperation between the institution and TAP has started and will continue, in the framework of the creation for Safe and Healthy Conditions for employees, but it is worth mentioning that this will be achieved better through the cooperation of analog institutions that operate in the field of Safety and Health at Work as well as with the organizations of employers and employees with the Labor Inspectorate in order to fully accomplish our joint purpose.

Even though lots of things were made, such as categorization of entities with high risk in report with issues of safety and health at work, but by not separating this situation from that of informality, strengthening the labor inspection, development of campaigns to increase awareness on Health and Safety at Work etc, we have almost an accomplished legal framework and very advanced regarding the safety and health at work, compared to the technology and that what the business offers today, there is still much work to be done in achieving new regulations for the creation of safe and healthy workplaces for employees. Our institution will continue its work with maximal seriousness for the implementation of the legislation in order to achieve its objectives, but always seeing the business as the main partner by creating a climate of cooperation with it.

Tirana, 8/10/2015