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Daewoo Corp. Stop Profiting from Forced Labor!

Working with partners of the Cotton Campaign, ILRF helped deliver [a petition](#) with 228,425 signatures to Daewoo International Corporation at its headquarters on Seoul, South Korea on July 10. Daewoo has [publicly admitted](#) that it knows the cotton it purchases from Uzbekistan is made with forced labor, yet is expanding its operations there. To keep the pressure up, ILRF will support a complaint about Daewoo's use of goods made with forced labor to the Organization of Economic Cooperative Development (OECD) brought by our partner in South Korea, Advocates for Public Interest Law. [Read more...](#)



Thailand and Uzbekistan Failing to Halt Trafficking

The United States Department of State released its annual Trafficking in Persons report in June. ILRF applauds the decisions to: 1) [Downgrade Thailand](#) to the lowest ranking, Tier 3, in part for its failure to address serious human trafficking problems among [Thailand's migrant worker population](#); and 2) Maintain [Uzbekistan at Tier 3](#) for a second year, largely because it orchestrates one of the largest state-run forced labor systems in the world during the annual Uzbek cotton harvest.



Thai Labor Activist Harassed with Legal Charges

Researcher and migrant worker rights advocate [Andy Hall](#) faces four defamation charges and two charges under the Computer Crimes Act brought by Natural Fruit Company, a Thai exporter of pineapple juice and dried fruit. Hall helped uncover [poor labor conditions](#), including child labor, illegally low wages and document confiscation, at Natural Fruit factories. If found guilty of all the charges against him, Hall faces up to seven years in prison and about \$9.5 million in damages. [Read more...](#)

Please consider a contribution to his [legal defense fund](#).



Colombian Trade Unionist Under Attack

Carrying forward [USLEAP](#)'s long-standing focus on violence against trade unionists in Latin America, our new [Sindicalistas bajo amenaza](#) ("Trade unionists under threat") series highlights cases where urgent action is needed and features in-depth interviews with the brave men and women who continue to organize workers despite serious risks to their safety. Our latest interview is with Jorge Iván Vélez Calvo, of the Sindicato de las Empresas Municipales de Cali – SINTRAEMCALI (Municipal Workers Union of Cali), who received multiple death threats, including receiving an invitation to his own funeral in the mail. [Read more...](#)



Bangladesh's Trade Benefits with U.S. Still Suspended

Earlier this month, the [Office of the United States Trade Representative](#) said that Bangladesh "must do more to address the worker rights and worker safety issues that led President Obama to suspend the country's Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) trade benefits in June 2013." ILRF supports this decision, particularly given the disturbing increase in violence against union members and the growing number of union registration rejections. [Read more...](#)



Videos from International Labor Rights Defender Awards

For those of you who missed our [International Labor Rights Defenders Awards Ceremony](#), here are two more video clips from the amazing evening. Click these links for the videos featuring speeches by [Yvette Herrera](#), Senior Director of Communications Workers of America, and [Evangeline Argueta](#), Coordinator of the Maquila Worker Organizing Project (CGT Honduras).

If you didn't yet have a chance to honor the work of the awardees with a contribution, you can [make a gift here](#).

