



## Asian Migrants' Coordinating Body

*Members from Indonesia, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand and the Philippines*

### Press Release

*19 July 2006*

Reference: **Eni Lestari**  
Spokesperson, Tel. No.: 96081475

## **“We will never let up”**

### **Migrants declare readiness to pursue fight to abolish the levy**

*“The call to junk the levy is a just and legitimate demand. Nothing can stop foreign domestic workers from pursuing the campaign.”*

Expressing disappointment over the court’s decision on their appeal against the levy imposed on employers of FDWs, Eni Lestari, spokesperson of the Asian Migrants Coordinating Body (AMCB), today declared that they will raise the case to the Court of Final Appeal.

*“We shall pursue the court battle for our demands. At the same time, we will continue to strengthen and broaden the ranks of migrant workers fighting against the levy and for the rights and wellbeing of FDWs,”* she added.

The AMCB is the biggest group of foreign helpers from Indonesia, Nepal, Thailand, Sri Lanka and the Philippines that is leading the campaign to abolish the levy and increase the minimum allowable wage for FDWs. Lestari herself is one of the petitioners in the court case against the levy.

*“We stand by our position. The levy is nothing but a mere moneymaking taxation scheme of the HK government at the expense of one of the lowest-paid workers in Hong Kong – the FDWs. It must be abolished.”*

Lestari reported that her group shall be drafting plans soon to continue the the campaign against the levy as well as *“intensify the fight to bring back the minimum wage of FDWs .to HK\$3,670.”*

*“Despite their denial of the wage cut’s relation to the levy, it is very clear that the levy our employers are paying came from the HK\$400 that was cut from our wage. The abolition of the levy and the increase on our wage shall give relief to us and to our employers,”* she concluded.#