

CONTRIBUTION OF ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITY IN PREVENTION OF OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH BURDEN

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Objective

- To establish the contribution of the DOSHS as an enforcement authority in prevention of Occupational Health burden.

Sections of OSHA 2007 that address occupational health

- Risk assessments
- Safety and health policy development and implementation
- Workplace registration
- Safety and health audits

Sections of OSHA 2007 that address occupational health cont.'

- Medical surveillances
- Medical examinations
- Provision of Personal Protective Equipment
- Chemical safety
- Ventilation
- Approval of building plans

Subsidiary regulations that address occupational health.

- Factories and Other places of Work (Health and Safety committee) rules, 2004
- Factories and Other places of Work (Medical examination) rules, 2005
- Factories and Other places of Work (Noise prevention and control) rules, 2005

Subsidiary regulations that address occupational health.

- Factories and Other places of Work (Fire Risk reduction) rules, 2007
- Factories and Other places of Work (Hazardous substances) rules, 2007

Occupational Health Burden

- Despite improvements in workplace technology, practices and exposures over the past, workplace health hazards continue to be a significant cause of ill health and mortality worldwide.

Rushton L., global burden of occupational diseases

Occupational Health Burden cont.'

- In order to reduce the burden of occupational diseases and ill health at work there is need to understand the magnitude of risks or hazards encountered by employees.
- The magnitude of the overall burden depends on which diseases and risk factors and how many are included.

Methods of enforcement

- Occupational safety and health officers
- National policy on Occupational Safety and Health
- Measuring workplace pollutants
- Investigating of occupational diseases, accidents

Methods of enforcement cont.'

- Medical examinations and surveillance in workplaces
- Approval of architectural building plans
- Disseminating information on OSH to employers, employees and others
- Supervision of OSH service providers

Inspection and enforcement systems

- Occupational Safety and Health Officer (OSHO) have powers to visit workplaces by day or by night
- They have power to take any samples in the workplace, photographs for any examination or investigation
- OSHO that is a medical practitioner has powers to carry out medical examinations

Occupational hygiene

- DOSHS has an occupational hygiene division that evaluates workplace pollutants.
- The division receives air quality reports and other workplace hazards reports from OSH professionals.

OSH service providers

- DOSHS has registered service providers under OSHA 2007.
 - Designated Health Practitioners
 - Safety and health advisers
 - Air quality monitors
 - Occupational Safety and Health training institutions
 - Plant examiners

Consultation, coordination and collaboration

- Social partners – NACOSH
 - Federation of Kenya Employers
 - Central Organization of Trade Unions (KENYA)
 - Appointed practitioners.
- Enterprise level
 - Occupational safety and health committees

National information Centre

- DOSHS has an established Occupational Safety and Health Information Centre (CIS)
 - Centre collaborates with International Occupational Safety and Information Centre an organ of ILO
 - Receives information country wide
 - It is a reference point for all academic institutions teaching OSH

Activities by DOSHS through CIS

- Preparing brochures on safety and health issues;
- Compiling safety alert bulletins on OSH issue;
- Developing OSH Data management system;
- Compiling performance reports;
- Commemorating World day for safety;
- Disseminating information on OSH to the public;

Q & A

Thank you