

REGIONAL WORKSHOP on RCEP, LABOUR & PUBLIC SERVICES

Session 2: Mapping MNCs in Asia

The aim of this session is to collectively create a mapping of key Multinational Companies in our sectors of interest in Asia. This will allow us to identify the key players that stand to gain from RCEP. We will then be able to investigate their actual involvement and interest in the negotiations and provide an analysis of the impacts this might have on Quality Public Services in Asia.

In order to create this map, each participant is requested to choose a sector, do a mapping of the key private players in his/her country, and develop a short profile of the companies. This information will be shared and compiled during the sectoral group work of Session 2, on Day 1. It will then be used for further research and campaigning.

What follows is a guide to do the mapping and develop the profiles.

Step 1: Choose a sector among the following:

- Electricity Distribution
- Water and Sanitation
- Hospitals
- Social Insurance (including life insurance, social security, etc)

Step 2: List the 5 largest private companies in this sector.

Step 3: For each company, prepare the profile following the guiding questions below.

Mapping MNCs in Asia: Guiding Questions

1. Where is the company from?

Is it legally registered in the country or abroad or both? Is it a joint venture or a subsidiary or did it acquire a local company? Is the company listed in the stock exchange? In the country or somewhere else? Are the promoters locals or from abroad (and from where)? When was it set up in your country?

2. What are the key areas of operation of this company?

Is it active across several sectors - if yes, which sectors? Does it specialise in specific areas within the sector - if yes, which areas? Is it active throughout the country, including in rural areas, or only in major cities; if it is in rural areas are there any particular features of its operations in rural areas? Does it operate abroad also? Where?

3. What is the size of this company?

Are there estimates of the total market value of the company? The total workforce? The total population it provides services to?

4. What are the track records of this company with regard to labour rights?

What are the employment conditions? Is there contract work or other informal work? Are workers paid wages and dues as per the law? Are there free unions in this company? Is there a history of labour strikes or issues - any notable cases or instances?

5. What are the track records of the company with regard to the public interest?

Are the services provided of good quality and are there complaints in this regard? Are there people who can not access the services provided by this company and why? Is the company known to have violated any

laws? Is there an estimate of the taxes paid to the government by the company? is there an estimate of how much foreign exchange is sent abroad or to its headquarters? Have there been any agitations against the company?

6. What is the relationship of the company with the government?

Are there any contracts or partnerships with the government? Is there evidence of strong lobbying of the government by the company including the legislature? Is there any allegation of corruption? Is there any case going on between the government and company and who filed it? Has the company taken a public positions on privatisation of services or on the ongoing Mega FTA negotiations (RCEP, TPP, TISA)?

Any thing else relevant or important about this company?

Something striking you would like to share?