

# GLOBAL APPEAL 2021

To End Stigma and Discrimination against Persons Affected by Leprosy  
Endorsed by the International Trade Union Confederation

As the International Trade Union Confederation, our mission is to promote and defend the rights and interests of all working people.  
Although leprosy is completely curable, prejudice and discrimination based on old perceptions linger.

The stigma of leprosy can result in ostracism and job loss.

Even family members of a person affected by leprosy may find doors closed to them, despite being eager and willing to work.

International labor standards uphold the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

ITUC supports the efforts of persons affected by leprosy who want to earn a living.

We believe in equality and non-discrimination.

We uphold the right of every individual seeking work to be treated with dignity, fairness and respect.



**Ms. Sharan Burrow**  
General Secretary,  
International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)



**Yohei Sasakawa**  
WHO Goodwill Ambassador  
for Leprosy Elimination  
Chairman, The Nippon Foundation

Signed on behalf of the ITUC and its 332 national member organisations representing 200 million workers in 163 countries and territories.

Afghanistan	Albania	Algeria	Angola	Antigua and Barbuda	Argentina	Armenia	Australia	Austria	Azerbaijan			
Bahrain	Bangladesh	Barbados	Belarus	Belgium	Belize	Benin	Bermuda	Bonaire	Bosnia-Herzegovina			
Botswana	Brazil	Bulgaria	Burkina Faso	Burundi	Cambodia	Cameroon	Canada	Cape Verde	Central African Republic			
Chad	Chile	Colombia	Comoros	Congo	Congo, DRO	Cook Islands	Costa Rica	Côte d'Ivoire	Croatia			
Curaçao	Cyprus	Czech Republic	Denmark	Djibouti	Dominica	Dominican Republic	Ecuador	Egypt	El Salvador			
Eritrea	Estonia	Ethiopia	Fiji	Finland	France	French Polynesia	Gabon	Georgia	Germany			
Ghana	Great Britain	Greece	Grenada	Guatemala	Guinea	Guinea-Bissau	Haiti	Honduras	Hong Kong SAR, China			
Hungary	Iceland	India	Indonesia	Iraq	Ireland	Israel	Italy	Japan	Jordan			
Kazakhstan	Kenya	Kiribati	Korea, South	Kosovo	Kuwait	Latvia, Republic of	Lesotho	Liberia	Liechtenstein			
Lithuania, Republic of	Luxembourg	Macedonia, The Former Yugoslav Rep. of	Madagascar	Malawi	Malaysia	Mali	Malta	Mauritania	Mauritius			
Mexico	Moldova	Mongolia	Montenegro, Republic of	Morocco	Mozambique	Myanmar	Namibia	Nepal	Netherlands			
New Caledonia	New Zealand	Nicaragua	Niger	Nigeria	Norway	Oman	Pakistan	Palestine	Panama			
Paraguay	Peru	Philippines	Poland	Portugal	Romania	Russian Federation	Rwanda	Saint Lucia	Samoa			
San Marino	Sao Tome and Principe	Senegal	Serbia	Sierra Leone	Singapore	Slovakia	Somalia	South Africa	Spain			
Sri Lanka	Sudan	Surinam	Swaziland	Sweden	Switzerland	Taiwan, ROC	Tanzania	Thailand	Togo			
Tonga	Trinidad and Tobago	Tunisia	Turkey	Uganda	Ukraine	USA	Vanuatu	Vatican	Venezuela	Yemen	Zambia	Zimbabwe

**The Global Appeal** is an annual message to raise awareness of leprosy and to call for an end to the discrimination against persons affected by leprosy.  
First launched in 2006 by Yohei Sasakawa, WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Leprosy Elimination and chairman of The Nippon Foundation, it is issued every January to coincide with World Leprosy Day, and endorsed each year by world leaders and organizations in different fields.  
Launched online on January 31, 2021, Global Appeal in its 16th year is endorsed by the International Trade Union Confederation.  
gasasakawa.org

**Sasakawa Leprosy (Hansen's Disease) Initiative** is a strategic alliance that links together the WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Leprosy Elimination, Sasakawa Health Foundation, and The Nippon Foundation for achieving a leprosy-free world.