

# REPORT 2013

## WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS

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**PART A: Monthly report of WFTU activities**

**PART B: Hosting of foreign delegations**

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## Presidential Council 2014

February 14-15, Rome 2014

Dear comrades and friends

For one more year the Action of WFTU and its member-organizations was rich with many initiatives that reaffirm the upward course of the class-oriented family in worldwide level. Our action shows dynamism and perspective.

All activities are important ones. All activities are positive ones. But we consider as necessary to underline the founding **of two new Sub-regional offices, one in Asia in Malaysia and the other in Gabon for the French-speaking counties of Africa.**

Please see below in calendar format the initiatives and activities undertaken by the WFTU in 2013. This summary includes only the most important activities and those international activities in which the Central Offices of the WFTU were the basic organizer or participated. In addition, many other initiatives were organized by our Regional Offices, by our TUI's – our branch organizations – and by the National Organizations which are affiliates and friends of the WFTU.

From this summary report, the growth and development of the WFTU and its class- oriented trade union activities during 2013 can clearly be seen.

As a result of all this action, 47 national or branch trade union organizations from all over the world requested their affiliation to the WFTU in 2013.

We ask for your understanding if we missed to include some activity.

## **PART A**

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### **JANUARY**

- **4-6:** 20th Congress of the All India United Trade Union Centre (AIUTUC) held in Karnataka, India. WFTU was represented by comrade George Pontikos, Head of International Relations Department of PAME.
- **16-18:** Congress of General Union of Palestinian Teachers held in Ramallah, Palestine. WFTU and FISE was by comrade Alexandra Lymperi, Teacher of Journalism and Mass Media Communication.
- **18-20:** 23rd Congress of the Federation of Construction Workers of Greece held in Athens, Greece. WFTU was represented by comrade Manuel Montero Bistilleiro, member of WFTU Secretariat from CTC Cuba.
- **23:** United Nations 1st Multi-stakeholder Advisory Group held in New York city. WFTU was represented by Dr. Frank GOLDSMITH, Main Representative of WFTU in New York.

### **FEBRUARY**

- **4-6:** 2nd Pan African WFTU Affiliates and Friends Meeting held in Khartoum, Sudan. Trade Unionists from Africa representing 37 countries and the WFTU leadership held a successful meeting. Sudan Workers Trade Union Federation (SWTUF) hosted this important workers gathering. The large attendance, the open, democratic dialogue, the criticism and self-criticism, the quality of the debates and the resolutions confirm the rising course of the WFTU and its dynamic presence in Africa. WFTU General Secretary, George Mavrikos addressed the opening speech of this important meeting.

According to the deliberations in the 2nd Pan-African WFTU affiliates meeting the participants commit themselves to the following action plan for the years 2013-2014:

- Evaluating positively the English-speaking African Office functioning in Johannesburg, South Africa under the support of our South African brothers we will strengthen our efforts for the better coordination and work of the office in the English-speaking countries of Africa. Underlining the long inactivity of the French-Speaking WFTU Office in Dakar, Senegal we decide to relocate the office to Gabon under the coordination of our comrade member of the WFTU Presidential Council Cde Etienne Moussavou.
- To observe May Day as the day to honor the workers struggles and the history of the trade union movement with appropriate activities and rallies.
- To organize on May 25th, the Africa Day, an Africa Action Day for the cancellation of the debts of the African Countries

and against the policies of the IMF and all Breton Woods institutions with activities and rallies in all African countries.

- To campaign actively against catastrophic ecological practices of the multinationals and monopolies.
- To observe the International Action Day 2013 according to the call of the WFTU Presidential Council to meet on March 2013.
- To convene a young workers meeting of all WFTU affiliates in the African continent in Johannesburg in July 2013, to discuss imperialism, unemployment and imperialism's adventurous geopolitical conflicts to secure its domination of the continent's mineral, energy and other resources.
- To open an education-training center for trade unionists in Cairo, Egypt under the support of the Egyptian Trade Union Federation (ETUF)
- To conduct seminars and trade union education in various countries of Africa to strengthen the class-oriented trade union movement and especially the young generation of trade unionists.
- To appoint two solidarity missions to Mali and the Central African Republic that will observe, report back and assist the WFTU Secretariat to release a concrete analysis informing us on the developments in those countries and position us around concrete solidarity actions.

To establish a WFTU solidarity committee with the African migrants in Europe which will dedicate special attention to the organizing of these workers and the reflection of their demands in the trade union organizations.

- **9-12:** 27th Conference of AIBEA held in Cochin India. WFTU was represented by its General Secretary comrade George Mavrikos.
- **18-20:** Meeting of Finance Control Committee held in the WFTU Headquarters in Athens.Com. George Mavrikos, General Secretary of WFTU participated in the meeting.
- **20-21:** The Global Dialogue Forum on the Effects of the Global Economic Crisis on the Civil Aviation Industry was held at the International Labour Office in Geneva, Switzerland. WFTU was represented by comrade Motajo Abdul Kareem, Member of WFTU Presidential Council from Nigeria.
- **23-24:** XV Congress of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation held in Moscow, Russian Federation. WFTU was represented by its General Secretary comrade George Mavrikos, comrade Pieris Pieri, Coordinator of WFTU Europe Regional Office and comrade Timur Narykov, interpreter.
- **27-28:** United Nations Seminar on Assistance to the Palestinian People "Challenges and opportunities in the new reality of the State under the occupation" held in Rome, Italy. WFTU was represented by Mohammed Iqnaibi, WFTU Representative for Palestine, Adviser on Arab Issues.

## MARCH

- **7-8:** 7th WFTU Presidential Council Meeting held in Lima, Peru hosted by the CGTP. The world trade union leaders discussed the acute problems of the international working class and organized the coordinated and united response of the class-oriented trade union movement. Trade Unions leaders from 31 countries of the five continents were participating in the leading body of the WFTU and arrived in Lima to participate in the works and to deliberate on the ways to strengthen the class-oriented trade union movement in the times of the deepening capitalist crisis that is affecting the globe.

The WFTU Presidential Council meeting discussed the rich Report of the Organization's activities in the year 2012, the developments in the global economy and its main strategic sectors as well as their impact on the lives and working conditions of the working people as well as the programming of the action plan of the WFTU for the year 2013. Some millions of members also were added in the WFTU power with the ratification of new large organizations having applied for membership.

The works of the Presidential Council Meeting were inaugurated on March 6th, in a massive open ceremony which paid tribute to the President of Venezuela Rafael Hugo Chavez Frias and expressed the solidarity of the WFTU affiliates to the Venezuelan people.

- **7-8:** WFTU organized a seminar on "Privatization and Social Security" in cooperation with ILO in Lima, Peru. CGTP, Peru hosted this activity.

- **7-28:** 317th Session of Governing Body of ILO held in Geneva, Switzerland. WFTU was represented by comrade Manuel Montero Bistilleiro, WFTU Secretariat Member, Maximos Aligisakis and Nikolas Ghiokas, WFTU Representatives as well as by Mr. Yaqoob Yousif Mohd, Mr. Osama Salman and Mr. Ali AlBinali from Bahrain.
- **8:** International Women's Day celebrated with grand manner in many countries.
- **25 March – 4 April:** In the framework of mutual cooperation between WFTU and ACFU China, a 12-member WFTU Women Delegation composed by trade unionists from the Arab World representing affiliates of WFTU, travelled to Beijing China for a week program of trade union training.

## APRIL

- **4-8:** 14th All-India Conference of the Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU) held in Kannur, Kerala in India. Comrade George Mavrikos, WFTU General Secretary addressed his speech front of 2000 elected delegates representing million of Indian workers. WFTU General Secretary and CITU Leadership addressed the massive militant rally that followed the end of works of CITU 14th Conference.

The National Council of the All India Trade Union Congress (AITUC) was being held in the Capital of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram around the very same time and invited the General Secretary, WFTU to this (newly elected) National General Council Meeting of AITUC, as the WFTU Gen. Secretary was not able to attend the AITUC's National Conference held in Mumbai (Bombay) a few months ago. WFTU Gen. Secretary, however, sent a Solidarity Message, as he again could not attend the AITUC's National General Council meeting, due to paucity of time.

- **9-11:** Under the slogan "For Good Governance, social security and dignity of labour in the New Constitution, Trade Unions with political rights" the 9th National Conference of the Nepal Government Employees Organization (NEGEO), the largest affiliate of CONEP was held in Kathmandu, Nepal. The WFTU was represented by comrade Lulamile Sotaka, Member of the Presidential Council, President of the TUI of Public Services and Coordinator of the English-speaking Africa Office, by comrade Premal Khumar Kanal, member of the Presidential Council representing CONEP and the Head of WFTU Media Department, comrade Alexandra Lympéri.
- **15-22:** 40th Arab Labour Organisation (ALO) Conference held in Algiers, Algeria. WFTU was represented by Mohammed Iqnaibi, WFTU Representative for Palestine, Adviser on Arab Issues and comrade Alexandra Lympéri, Head of WFTU Media Department.
- **25-29:** International Conference of World Peace Council in Solidarity with the Syrian People took place in Istanbul and Antioch, Turkey. WFTU was represented by comrade George Pontikos, Head of International Relations Department of PAME.
- **27:** International Symposium of POPCRU held in Zambia. The WFTU was represented by comrade Lulamile Sotaka, Coordinator of the English-speaking Africa Office
- **29:** WFTU Regional Meeting for Latin America and the Caribbean. WFTU Secretariat was represented by Valentin Pacho, Deputy General Secretary.
- **30:** 4th International Youth Meeting in Solidarity with the Cuban 5. WFTU Was represented by Manuel Ramos, Coordinator of the WFTU Youth Secretariat.

## MAY

- **1:** In the occasion of the International Workers Day, May Day 2013, George Mavrikos, General Secretary of the World Federation of Trade Unions was on the side of the Cypriot working people as per resolution of the WFTU Secretariat to express the solidarity of the International Working Class with the struggles of the working people in Cyprus who were currently in the epicenter of the typhoon of the anti-labour policy imposed by the European Union, the International Monetary Fund and the international capital. The WFTU General Secretary addressed in Nicosia the demonstration and rally of the WFTU-affiliate PEO Cyprus who was currently leading the struggles of the working people in Cyprus.

From the WFTU Secretariat comrade Gilda Chacon Bravo, WFTU Secretariat Member from CTC Cuba participated in the Athens MayDay demonstration, organized by the PAME and Valentin Pacho Quispe, Deputy General Secretary, participated in the Mayday celebrations organized in Havana, Cuba.

WFTU affiliates around the world observed the May Day.

- **2:** International Event of Solidarity with Cuba held in Havana, Cuba. WFTU was represented by Valentin Pacho

Quispe, Deputy General Secretary.

- **6-7:** WFTU Deputy General Secretary Valentin Pacho Quispe, responsible for the WFTU TUIs, visits Mexico and holds meetings with Pensioners Trade Unions, in order to promote the Founding Congress of the WFTU TUI of Pensioners and Retired.
- **13-14:** WFTU International Trade Union Conference held in the European Parliament in Brussels, Belgium under the slogan "Economic immigrants: we demand full social security and labor rights and dignified salaries". 50 trade unionists from 23 countries participated in this important event. The main background note of this Conference was presented by Com. H. Mahadevan, WFTU, Dy. General Secretary and the Conference adopted a "Declaration" on the subject placing certain specific demands concerning Economic Immigrants.
- **15-17:** The Global Dialogue Forum for the Promotion of the Work in Fishing Convention 2007 (No.188) was held at the International Labour Office in Geneva, Switzerland. WFTU was represented by comrade Vo Van Nhat, Deputy Director of the International Department of VGCL, Vietnam.
- **15 May - 5 June:** International Internship Course of ILO on Labour and Social Policies for Decent Work held in Geneva, Switzerland. WFTU was represented by Ms. Lucy Anyang from Uganda Journalists Union.
- **20-21:** Implementing the resolution of the successful 2nd Pan-African WFTU Affiliates meeting held in Sudan on February 2013, a delegation of WFTU was sent to the suffering Mali to express the solidarity of the WFTU affiliates and friends to the Malian people.

The mandate of the delegation was to examine the living and working conditions of the people of Mali, to hold bilateral discussions with the trade union movement and to publicize its findings in order to strengthen the international solidarity and support to the struggles of the Malian people.

The delegation formed by cde Abdou ISSAKA, representative of the French speaking African affiliates and member of the Youth Secretariat of the WFTU from Niger as well as cde Alexandra Liberi, representative from the Central Offices of the WFTU were warmly welcomed in Bamako, Mali.

During its mission, the WFTU delegation they visited the Headquarters of the Malian Confederation UNTM, which were attacked during the coup in March 2012, where they had a two-hour fruitful discussion with the General Secretary, cde Siaka Diakite and the Deputy General Secretary Tibou Telly, General Secretary of Education Union.

- **23-24:** With the warm hosting of CEPPWAWU, the TUI Energy Executive Committee Meeting was held in Johannesburg, South Africa which concluded into a rich Action Plan for the year 2013. In his introductory speech, the General Secretary of the TUI Energy comrade Simon Mofokeng made a full analysis on the situation for the workers in the sector, the international working class and the developments in the energy sector which is of strategic importance.
- **25-26:** 6th Congress of CIG Galicia held in Vigo. WFTU was represented by WFTU Deputy General Secretary comrade Valentin Pacho Quispe.

## JUNE

- **3:** A meeting between the Secretariat of the TUI Transport and the WFTU Secretariat was held in Athens, Greece. After discussion that was conducted in a fraternal spirit it was decided that a World Trade Union Congress of the Transport Sector should be held. The Congress will be held in Lisbon, Portugal, before the end of 2013.
- **4:** WFTU Preparatory Meeting of WFTU affiliates and friends for the 102 International Labour Conference held in Geneva, Switzerland.
- **5-20:** WFTU participated in the 102nd International Labor Conference, taking place at the seat of the ILO in Geneva, Switzerland. The WFTU delegation, coordinated by Valentin Pacho Quispe, Deputy General Secretary, held various meetings and events during the days of the ILC. (see below)
- **6-7:** The WFTU Affiliates in Bangladesh joined together in a Workshop of the WFTU to discuss and organize the struggle for the protection of the working people and the demanding of safety measures at the workplaces against the murderous policy of the multinationals who in seek of profit do not care about the human lives.

The organizing of the workers from the ground, the coordination in national and sectoral level and the international fraternal solidarity is the only secure way to pave a future for the working people in Bangladesh that will not include predetermined accidents, deadly earthquake and flooding impacts.

- **7-8:** 1st National Congress of USB Italy held in Pescara, Italy. WFTU was represented by WFTU General Secretary

George Mavrikos. In the framework of the Congress, WFTU organized a seminar on “Collective bargaining” in cooperation with ILO.

- **12:** WFTU Meeting on Health and Safety held in ILO Geneva in the framework of the 102th International Labour Conference, the main document was presented by comrade Ibon Zubiela, of LAB Basques country.
- **14:** WFTU Meeting on Multinationals held in ILO Geneva in the framework of the 102th International Labour Conference, the main documented paper was presented by comrade H. Mahadevan, Deputy General Secretary, Head of the WFTU Asia Pacific Regional Office.
- **15:** Following the ideas of the WFTU International Conference on the problems of labor migration, which took place in Brussels in May, 2013, the joint workshop of different Trade Unions and scientists on the problems of labor migration in Russia was held in Moscow. Nothing of the kind took place during the last 23 years.

The initiative belonging to the WFTU affiliates Trade Unions of labor migrants and “Zashita” and was supported by other institutes and trade unions.

More than 60 trade unionists and scientists, including a trade unionist from Canada had a 9-hour discussion on the problems of labor migration, the legislation, the position of migrant workers in Russia and the struggle for their labor and social rights, the ways of involving the labor migrants in the trade unions in different sectors.

- **15-21:** 38th Session of Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) Conference held in Rome, Italy. WFTU was represented by Rita Martufi, WFTU Permanent Representative in FAO.
- **17:** WFTU's Informal Presidential Council and Council of Friends.

Meeting on “Collective Bargaining” held in Geneva in the framework of the 102th International Labour Conference and presented by comrade Pierpaolo Leonardi, General Secretary of USB Italy.

- **18:** WFTU General Secretary addressed the Plenary Session in the framework of the 102th International Labour Conference.
- WFTU meeting on the role of the IMF and the World Bank held in Geneva, the document paper was prepared by comrades CH Venkatachalam, comrade Solomon of NUBE Malaysia and comrade Gilda Chacon and it was presented by comrade Gilda Chacon, member of WFTU Secretariat.
- **26-29:** 10th National Congress of the National Education Health & Allied Workers' Union (NEHAWU) held in Johannesburg, South Africa. WFTU was represented by Comrade C.H. Venkatachalam, President of the WFTU Financial Control Committee, General Secretary of TUI BIFU and General Secretary of All India Bank Employees Association (AIBEA).

## JULY

- **1:** WFTU-Egypt Trade Union Federation (ETUF): International Conference for the rights of economic migrants was held in Cairo, Egypt with the presence of the General Secretary of the WFTU, the President of ETUF Mohammed Guebally, the General Secretary of ICATU Rajab Maatoug and representatives from China, Sudan, Cyprus, Greece, Russia and other countries.
- **3-5:** International Seminar Ecuador. The WFTU was represented by Joaquin Romero Mejia, Member of the Presidential Council and Ramon Cardona, head of the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean.
- **12:** The World Federation of Trade Unions; Bangladesh Committee organized a national seminar on proposed amendments of country's Labour Law-2006 at Reporters Unity Auditorium, Dhaka, Bangladesh. This seminar was attended by eminent lawyers, intellectuals and trade union leaders from different sectors of the country. Speakers at the seminar seriously urged to the government to amend Labour Law-2006 to ensure workers rights and interest accordingly. WFTU was represented by comrade Wajed ul Islam Khan, Member of the WFTU Presidential Council and General Secretary of the

Bangladesh Trade Union Centre and Coordinator of the SKOP (Joint Committee of the main Bangladesh Central Unions).

- **23:** UITBB Secretariat Meeting in Lisbon. WFTU Secretariat was represented by Artur Sequeira.
- **28-31:** 11th National Congress of Vietnamese Trade Unions held in Hanoi, Vietnam. WFTU was represented by comrade H. Mahadevan, WFTU Deputy General Secretary and head of the WFTU Regional office Asia Pacific.

## AUGUST

- **10-12:** With the presence of the General Secretary of the Trade Union International of Energy of the gallant class oriented movement the WFTU Comrade Simon Mofokeng and representatives from Nepal and Vietnam, the 7th Electricity Employees' Federation of India Conference was held in Kanchipuram, Tamil Nadu, and India. This Historic participation of the TUI Energy and other alliance partners came as results taken by the TUI Energy Executive of supporting and building a united TUI Energy in different regions. The Conference was full of debates, engagements and it was a clear sign of the intensification of the workers struggles on electricity and energy challenges and more importantly it was also that it demonstrated a common interest and international Solidarity.
- **16-20:** 2nd International Summer University of SNAPEST Algeria took place in Algeria. WFTU was represented by Yacine Ben Chikha, WFTU Counselor on African Affairs.
- **21-22:** International Seminar by the Center of Trade Union Studies of Brazil in Sao Paulo, on the international Panorama. Valentin Pacho Quispe, Deputy General Secretary, greeted the seminar and participated on behalf of the WFTU.
- **22-24:** 3rd Congress of CTB Brazil held in Sao Paolo, Brazil. The WFTU delegation was headed by WFTU General Secretary comrade George Mavrikos and included Valentin Pacho Quispe, Deputy General Secretary and Ramon Cardona, head of the Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean.
- **23-25:** AL WAFAA International Meeting held in South Lebanon. WFTU was represented by Ilias Baltas
- **26:** A high level meeting held in the capital of Bolivia between the WFTU delegation and the President of Bolivia, Evo Morales. The WFTU leadership was represented by its General Secretary George Mavrikos and the Regional Secretary of Latin America and the Caribbean, Ramon Cardona. During the long meeting a significant exchange of positions took place on contemporary and crucial issues concerning the working people and the need for the intensification of the workers struggles against capitalism and imperialism. Important meetings also took place with the Executive Committee of COB and the Federation of Teachers.

## SEPTEMBER

- 3-5: 9th International Forum on Economic Globalization and trade Unions held in Beijing China hosted by ACFTU under the theme "Equal Opportunities, Common Development". The WFTU participated in its works with a high level delegation headed by its President Mohammed Shabban Azouz, George Mavrikos, WFTU General Secretary, Swadesh Dev Roye, WFTU Deputy General Secretary, comrade Adnan Azzouz, Member of GFTU Syria, comrade Mostafa Rostom from ETUF, Egypt and Anda Anastasaki, WFTU HQ General Coordinator.
- 9-11: 3rd International Preparatory Meeting for the 18th WFYS held in India, New Delhi. WFTU was represented by comrade M.B.Bharthruhari, member of National General Council of Centre of Indian Trade Unions.
- 9-15: 1st Camping for the WFTU Youth took place in Larnaca, Cyprus, hosted by the comrades of PEO. Young representatives from 23 trade unions of 20 countries participating in the WFTU Youth Camping demonstrated on September 11, along with the people of Cyprus in a large anti-imperialist rally at the US Embassy in Nicosia. The trade unionists had the opportunity to hold a meeting with Sotiroula Haralampous, member of the Executive Committee of PEO and discuss about the Cypriot issue and the Cypriot economy.

They participated in a massive rally in Larnaca, they have visited the Central Offices of PEO in Nicosia where they followed a speech of comrade Pambis Kyritsis, Vice President of WFTU and General Secretary of PEO Cyprus.

The participants also exchanged experience concerning the workers' and youth movement in their countries while discussing about the positions and strategy of the WFTU. The young Trade Unionists had the chance to attend the main seminar on the History of the WFTU. The main presentation was made by cde George Mavrikos, General Secretary of the WFTU. The seminar was welcomed by cde Pampis Kiritsis, General Secretary of the host organization, PEO Cyprus and Vice President of the WFTU.

- 11-13: In the framework of the intensified trade union educational programs of the WFTU, comrade Quim Boix, member of the WFTU Presidential Council visited the Democratic Republic of Congo to present the lectures and materials of the WFTU Trade Union School to the affiliates of the WFTU in the country. Such trade union training concerns significant issues of the contemporary class-oriented movement, the history of the international trade union movement, its strategy and tactics, core issues about what kind of movement we want today to confront the anti-labour attack against the workers' rights.
- 13: An international workshop for labour migrants was organized in Odessa, Ukraine hosted by the Ukrainian Trade Union for Labour Migrants. With the participation of the Russian Trade Union of Labour Migrants and other Ukrainian Trade Unions and Organizations the workshop was conducted under the theme: "Labour Migration in the Modern

World. Migrant workers and trade unions. The trade unions of migrant workers: the goals, challenges, opportunities". The WFTU was represented by Head of Media and Communications Department, cde Alexandra Liberi.

- 17-21: The WFTU Central Offices organized in Athens, Greece a trade union course for young trade unionists from Denmark in the spirit of the resolutions of the VI Presidential Council to enhance the trade union education.
- 23: 1st NGO/UNESCO International Forum held in Paris, France. WFTU was represented by Vasiliki Moukanou, psychologist scientist and Alternative Representative of WFTU in UNESCO.

## OCTOBER

- **3:** A successful International Action Day was organized by the WFTU, its affiliates and friends on the vital demands of "food, water, medicine, books, housing for all". Strikes, demonstrations, activities were organized with the participation of hundreds of thousands of workers around the world. Significant informative materials and publications with this content and demands was distributed and discussed all over the world.
- **5-6:** 16th Regular Congress of FIR held in Sofia, Bulgaria. WFTU was represented by Gilda Chacon, WFTU Secretariat Member from CTC Cuba.
- **16-31:** 319th Session of ILO Governing Body held in Geneva, Switzerland. WFTU was represented by Maximos Aligisakis, Professor of Political Studies in the University of Geneva and Tasia Koutsoupi, economist-scientist.
- **19:** WFTU and PAME jointly organized in Athens, Greece a solidarity event with the struggle of the Bangladeshi workers for better wages, labour and social rights. The event was attended by Bangladeshi migrant workers living and struggling in Greece.
- **24-25:** The WFTU Asia & Pacific Meeting held in NUBE Training Centre in Port Dickson Malaysia. 132 Union leaders of affiliated and friendly Trade Unions from 15 countries attended the Meeting and gathered in order to discuss, to analyze the problems of the workers of the region and result to conclusions about the positions and the action plan of the World Federation of Trade Unions and its members in the region. The Regional Meeting adopted a Declaration, known as "Malaysian Declaration", which placed a Common Charter of Demands of the WFTU affiliates & friendly organizations in the Asia – Pacific Region as well as certain program of Action to be undertaken in the Region.

A Trade Union Seminar for young trade unionists was organized on October 24th with the participation of the regional trade union leaders who were arriving for the WFTU's Asia Pacific Regional Meeting. An inspiring speech was presented by WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos on the history of the WFTU from 1945-2013, "a history of struggles". The WFTU Asia-Pacific Meeting kicked off today on October 25th, with a spectacular opening ceremony. Following a welcoming speech by NUBE General Secretary, J. Solomon, a keynote speech by the WFTU General Secretary was delivered to the delegates representing the Asia-Pacific class-oriented trade union movement.

The WFTU Asia Pacific meeting discussed and collectively has decided the founding of a new Sub-Regional Office headed by comrade Solomon General Secretary of NUBE Malaysia and seat Malaysia. It is needed the office to function and be active.

- **24-26:** 2nd Congress of TUI Metal Mining held in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil with the participation of 15 countries and elected new leadership headed by the FITMETAL of Brazil. WFTU Secretariat was represented by Valentin Pacho Quispe, Deputy General Secretary.
- **28-29:** The FISE - WFTU International Conference on Education entitled "The role of teachers today, today's school, public education, democracy in education" was held with great success at the European Parliament in Brussels, Belgium. The FISE Conference was presided by the leadership of this WFTU TUI, General Secretary Orlando Perez (from Venezuela) and President Hassan Ismail (Lebanon), elected by the FISE Congress that was held in Caracas Venezuela in September 2012. The Conference counts with the presence of trade unionists from 16 countries from all over the world. The participants debated on the role of teachers and education workers today and on initiatives that will help coordinate the struggle of education workers all over the world. This was after many years, the first important activity of FISE.
- **28-30:** OATUU's Conference of Solidarity with the Struggle of the People of Western Sahara held in Abuja, Nigeria. WFTU was represented by comrade Abdul Kareem Motajo, WFTU Presidential Council Member from Nigeria.
- **28-31:** In collaboration between WFTU, UNESCO and Gabon unions CGT / FL, CSG, TDSB, CDSA, CODETRAG, it was held in Libreville, Gabon, the Regional Seminar gathering Francophone Africa trade unions under the general theme: AFRICA EDUCATION ,THE KEY TO REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT. Comrade Etienne Moussavou from Gabon is the Coordinator of the New WFTU African French Speaking Office seat in Libreville, Gabon.
- **29-31:** 8th UNESCO youth Forum took place in UNESCO HQ in Paris, France. WFTU was represented by comrade



Julien Huck, General Secretary TUI Agro alimentary.

- **30:** WFTU International Conference on asbestos and its consequences to workers held in Athens, Greece. 20 participants from .... countries, specialists, occupational doctors and Labor inspectors of the Ministry of Labor of Greece took the floor at this important activity.

## NOVEMBER

- **3-6:** NUMSA International Colloquium on Building an Alternative Development Paradigm in a Changing Global Political Economic Context held in Johannesburg, South Africa. WFTU was represented by Alexandra Lymperi, Head of the WFTU Mass Media and Communications Department.
- **4-8:** ILO Tripartite Technical Meeting on Labour Migration held in Geneva, Switzerland. WFTU was represented by our Swiss comrade Esteban Munoz.
- **5-20:** 37th Session of General Conference of UNESCO held in Paris, France. WFTU was represented by Apostolos Sotiropoulos, WFTU Permanent Representative in UNESCO.
- **19-23:** Third NTUI General Assembly held in Kerala, India. WFTU Secretariat sent a greeting message.
- **21-23:** Regional Conference of Trade Unions of the Financial Sector in Southeastern Europe held in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. WFTU was represented by Alexandra Lymperi, Economist and Head of the WFTU Mass Media and Communications Department.
- **23-24:** The National Union of Fighters of the National Resistance and the Democratic Army of Greece (PEAEA - DSE) held its 13th Congress in Athens, Greece. The WFTU was represented by comrades Apostolos Sotiropoulos, WFTU Representative with the UNESCO and Moustapha Faye from Senegal, a WFTU trade union cadre.
- **24:** The WFTU attended the seminar on the subject "The Imperialist Aggression in the Eastern Mediterranean in the middle of the capitalist economic crisis, the risk of a global war and the stance of the organizations of the Women's International Democratic Federation (WIDF)", that was organized by the Women's Federation of Greece (OGE), in Athens, Greece. Also attending the seminar were representatives of women's organizations from Europe and the Arab countries, the World Peace Council, representative of the WFDY and the Greek Committee for International Detente and Peace. The WFTU was represented by Gilda Chacón Bravo, Representative of the CTC Cuba in the WFTU Secretariat.
- **29:** WFTU Delegation composed by comrade George Mavrikos, Gilda Chacon and Moustapha Faye met with the Executive Committee of the Naval Federation of Greece (PNO) and they concluded in a common agreement to intervene in the ILO and to other international Fora.

## DECEMBER

- **3-5:** VGCL/WFTU Asia - Pacific Regional Workshop on Collective bargaining agreement and membership development held in Hanoi, Vietnam. WFTU was represented by Swadesh Dev Roye, WFTU Deputy General Secretary from CITU India and Alexandra Liberi, Head of the WFTU Mass Media and Communications Department.
- **6- 9:** Cambodia. Bilateral Meeting between the WFTU and the Cambodian Council of National Unions. WFTU was represented by Alexandra Liberi, head of the Media Department.
- **10-11:** WFTU Seminar on Occupational Safety in Pakistan. WFTU was represented by Alexandra Lymperi, Head of the WFTU Media Department.
- **14-16:** Congress of the National Congress of Petroleum & Gas Workers Federation of India and Executive Committee Meeting of the TUI Energy. WFTU was represented by cde Alexandra Liberi.
- **7-13:** World Festival of Youth and Students. The WFTU participated in this important international anti-imperialist youth event, organized by the World Federation of Democratic Youth. The WFTU 7 person Youth Delegation -headed by Manuel Ramos, Coordinator of the WFTU Youth Secretariat- was composed of Moustapha Faye from Senegal, Arlen Celeste Soza Mairena from Nicaragua, Lulamile Sibanda from South Africa, Giovanni Rafael Mendez from El Salvador, Oscar Cloete from South Africa and Ilias Baltas. Quim Boix I Lluch, Member of the WFTU Presidential Council and Edgar Sarango Correa from CTE Ecuador were also present and represented the WFTU in several events of the Festival. On December 11th, the CTE of Ecuador hosted at the CTE Trade Union School in Quito a warm and militant meeting between the WFTU delegation and international delegations from 15 countries, participating in the Festival.
- **10-13:** ILO ACTRAV Symposium on "Income Inequality, Labour Market Institutions and Workers' Power" took place in Geneva, Switzerland. WFTU was represented by our Swiss comrades trade unionists Estaban Munoz and Zelada

Sebastian.

- **14:** WFTU delegation participated in the protest in front of the Embassy of Cyprus in Athens as solidarity with the struggle of Cypriot people.
- **16-18 :** the French speaking Office moved on in its second activity just a few days after its foundation with a seminar in Niger on the importance of education. Comrade Abdou Issaka, member of WFTU Youth Secretariat and general Secretary of Agricultural Trade unions of Niger organized and hosted the seminar with the participation of neighboring countries such as Mali and Senegal. The WFTU French speaking Regional office was represented by comrade Etienne Lambert from Gabon.
- **17:** WFTU delegation protest in front of the Embassy of Kazakhstan in Athens, as solidarity with “Zhanartu” and its struggle for trade union rights.
- **17-20:** ODT Congress on Immigration held in Rabat, Morocco, WFTU was represented by comrade Moustapha Faye from Senegal, a WFTU trade union cadre.
- **22-23:** Seminar on Occupational Safety and Health in Ramallah. WFTU was represented by Mohammed Iqnaibi, WFTU Representative for Palestine, Adviser on Arab Issues.
- **30:** WFTU Seminar in Kingali Rwanda on rural development in cooperation with our affiliate STAVER to promote the presence of WFTU in the country and underline the role of our affiliate.

## **PART B**

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### **Hosting of Foreign Delegations:**

#### **JANUARY**

- **14-16:** A three-member delegation of the General Union of Iraq Workers comrade Qasim Hamad Hammood, President, comrade Basim Abed Masar and comrade Hussein Hassan Hussein visited the Central Offices of the World Federation of Trade Unions and held bilateral meetings with the WFTU Secretariat.

In a warm fraternal environment the General Union of Iraq Workers and WFTU agreed to strengthen their relations and to fulfill a common action plan in the near future. During its staying in Athens General Union of Iraq Workers had a rich program of trade union and political meetings and discussions.

- **22:** A delegation of Japanese trade unionists visited the WFTU Headquarters. In a warm fraternal environment the Japanese trade unionists and WFTU agreed to strengthen their relations.

#### **FEBRUARY**

- **17-20:** Marcha Patriótica of Colombia. A high level Delegation of the Social and Political Movement Marcha Patriótica of Colombia, composed by Javier Calderon, of the International Department of the Organization and Joaquin Romero Mejia, member of the leadership of Marcha Patriótica and member of the WFTU Presidential Council.

#### **APRIL**

- **22-25:** On WFTU's invitation a delegation of migrant trade unionists from the Republics of former Soviet Union visited WFTU Central Offices in Athens. The delegation had a meeting with the Migrant's Secretariat of PAME and with WFTU leadership. The two delegations have agreed on a joint action plan for the defense of economic migrant rights and for the counterattack against racist and neo-fascist phenomena in Europe and the world.

#### **MAY**

- **17:** A high-level meeting between the ICATU leadership and WFTU Secretariat was hosted at the Central Offices of the WFTU in Athens, Greece. Bro. Rajab Maatouk General Secretary of ICATU and met with WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos, Deputy General Secretary Valentin Pacho and Gilda Chacon, Member of WFTU Secretariat and Mohammed Iqnaibi of GUPW Palestine, and discussed in a high fraternal spirit.

ICATU and WFTU discussed on the developments in the Arab World and internationally, the role of the two organizations and their strong cooperation. A rich program of common activities in the Arab world and other regions was concluded.

- **27-31:** At the invitation of the World Federation of Trade Unions, the General Secretary and three members of the leadership of the Rail Workers Trade Unions of Versailles and Trappes, France, visited Athens in order to hold bilateral talks with the leadership of the WFTU and PAME.

As part of their visit, the trade unionists visited the factory of the Greek Railways (OSE) in Piraeus and they discussed with the workers. From the sharing of experience, it was confirmed that the main problems are the same: privatization of public railways, austerity and an offensive against labor relations.

The French delegation invited a delegation of PAME Rail workers to visit them in Paris, aiming at the coordination of the class - oriented forces in the rail industry.

## JUNE

- **9-12:** A crucial meeting between the COSATU leadership and WFTU Secretariat was held in very positive and fraternal mood during a two-days visit of the South African delegation in Athens, Greece.

Headed by the General Secretary of COSATU, Zwelinzima Vavi the delegation of COSATU consisted of comrades Tyoty James, 1st Deputy President, Simon Mofokeng, General Secretary of CEPPWAWU and President of TUI Energy, Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba, President of NEHAWU and Vice-President of WFTU, Katishi Masemola, FAWU General Secretary, Bones Skulu, SACCAWU General Secretary and Thandi Shimange, POPCRU 1st Deputy President.

The delegation meet with the WFTU General Secretary comrade George Mavrikos, the Deputy General Secretary comrade Swadesh Devroye, George Perros, member of the WFTU Presidential Council and Mohammed Iqnaibi, GUPW Palestine representative in the WFTU.

During their visit the COSATU leadership addressed an open meeting of Greek trade unionists from PAME where comrade Vavi and comrade Masemola had the opportunity to present and analyze the situation in South Africa, the challenges and the struggles of the South African working class to combat the impacts of crisis, unemployment and poverty.

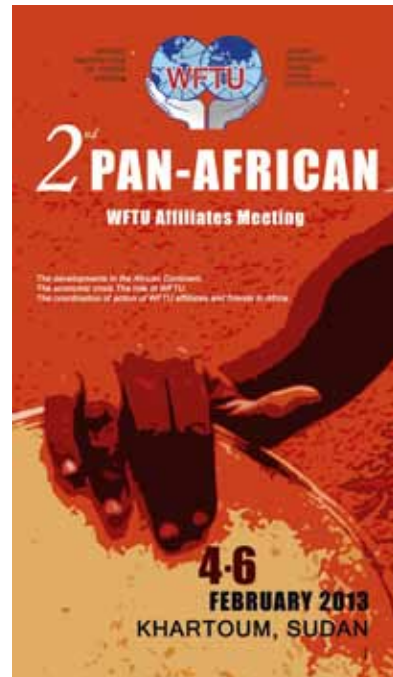
## NOVEMBER

- **11:** A delegation of Pakistan Labour Federation (PLF) composed by Arian Haji Muhammad Saeed, Founder/Secretary General PLF and Mrs Saleem Atia, Chairperson PLF visited WFTU Central Offices.
- **13-15:** At the invitation of the World Federation of Trade Unions, Carlos Moreira, General Secretary of FNIC-CGT, Emmanuel Lépine and Olivier Grevet members of the leadership of FNIC CGT, visited Athens in order to hold bilateral talks with the leadership of the WFTU.
- **24:** A high-level meeting between the leadership of the WFTU and the leadership of ICATU was held in Athens, Greece. The Delegation of the International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions (ICATU) headed by brother Prof. Ibrahim Ghandour of SWTUF Sudan, Ghassan Ghosn General Secretary of CGT of Lebanon, Salej Al Ajaabi National Secretary of UGTA Algeria, Gamal Dessouki Vice President of ETUF and Mostafa Rostom, director of the International Relations of ETUF, and Mohammed Iqnaibi of GUPW Palestine met with the WFTU General Secretary, George Mavrikos, Pambis Kyritsis, General Secretary of PEO Cyprus-Vice President of WFTU, Pierpaolo Leonardi General Secretary of USB Italy and Gilda Chacon member of WFTU Secretariat. The discussion was realized in a stable fraternal spirit and concluded to the birth of a new strong alliance between the two organizations for the strengthening of the Arab and International Trade union movement.
- **23-26:** A three-member delegation of OPZZ comrade Zofia Koszutska, Executive on the International Relations Department of Federation of Food Industry Workers' Trade Unions, Stanislaw Palka, President of Federation of Food Industry Workers' Trade Unions, member of Council of OPZZ and Andrzej Szczepanski, President of Federation of Dairy Industry Trade Unions, member of Presidium of OPZZ visited the Central Offices of the World Federation of Trade Unions and held bilateral meetings with the WFTU Secretariat. In a warm fraternal environment the Polish delegates and WFTU agreed to strengthen their relations and to fulfill a common action plan in the near future.

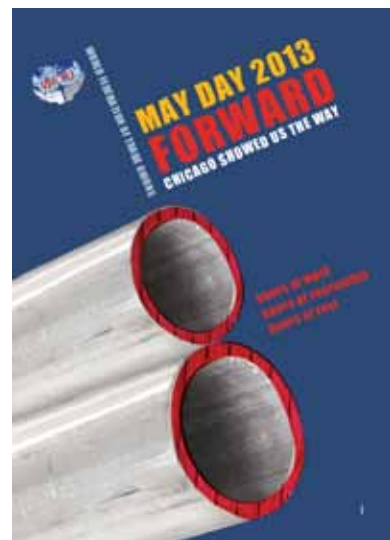
## PART C

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### 1. 2nd PAN-AFRICAN WFTU AFFILIATES MEETING 4-6 February 2013, Khartoum, Sudan



### 2. MAY DAY 2013

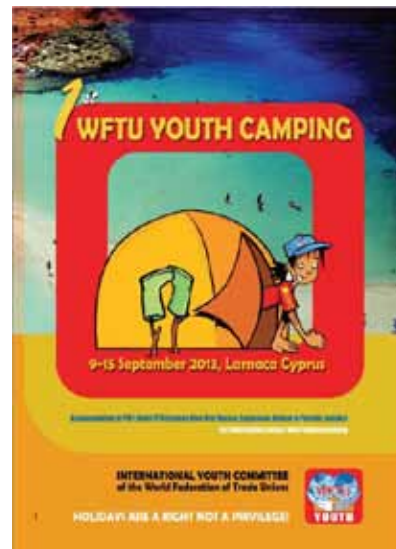


3. **WFTU TRADE UNION SCHOOL**

11 -13 September 2013, Kinshasa, Congo R.D



4. **1st WFTU YOUTH CAMPING 9-15 September 2013, Larnaca, Cyprus**

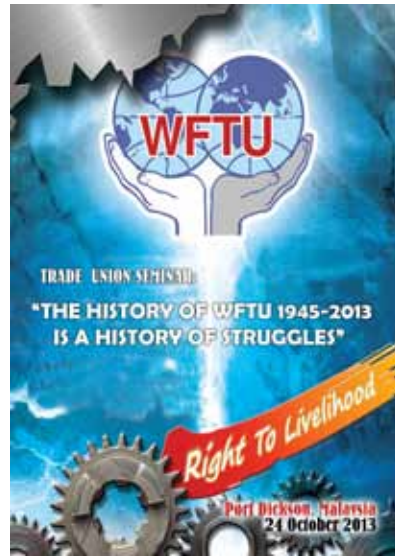


5. **WFTU INTERNATIONAL ACTION DAY**



**6. WFTU APRO Meeting**

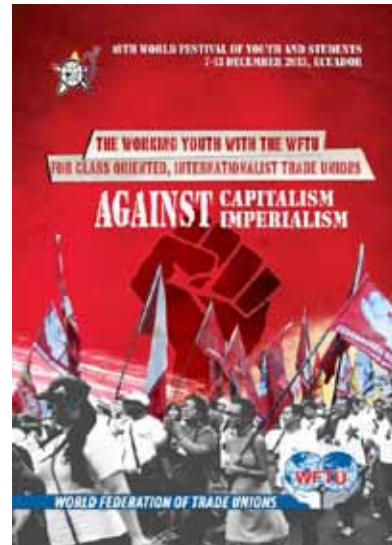
25-26 October 2013, Port Dickinson, Malaysia



**7. WFTU INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ASBESTOS, 30 October 2013, Athens, Greece**



8. WFTU participating in the 18th World Festival Of Youth And Students 7- 15 December 2013



## PART D

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### PUBLICATIONS

1. Electronic Photo-Album for the Action organized during the International Action Day, October 3, 2013





**Report 2013**  
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