

# **ACTION PLAN 2014-2015**

**WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS**

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**Presidential Council 2014**

**February 14-15, Rome, Italy**



## **A. CENTRAL ACTIVITIES**

- 1. WFTU International Action Day October 3rd.** The proposed thematic for this year's International Action Day is **unemployment**. As a result of the world financial crisis of the capitalist system, the unemployment is rising in all capitalist countries. **Unemployment is an issue that can unite workers all over the world, in order to organize under the banners, the slogans and the principles of the WFTU various militant activities with the aim to mobilize the unemployed workers, to include these workers in the trade unions and promote the constant work of the unions to work with the unemployed. The mobilizations and activities will demand steady and stable jobs for all,** the elimination of the causes that generate the unemployment. They will also aim to find ways to fight for the survival of the unemployed.
- 2. 70th anniversary of the founding of the WFTU in 2015.** The celebratory activities should start in October 2014 and last until October 2015. We must continue our efforts to print books and other publications that have to do with the WFTU history, organize celebrations in all continents, reissue important publications, film relevant movies. In addition, we must continue our efforts to gather, save and make good use of the WFTU archives.

**The aim of this effort is to educate the workers and mainly the younger generations about the need for trade union action, the value of class struggle, the constant effort for strong, militant, internationalist trade unions; unions that will be schools of class struggle for the younger generations.** We should also record and save the testimonials of militants on national and international level.

On the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the WFTU we propose the creation of a WFTU Special Prize for people or organizations with outstanding action and struggle. The name and the process of the award will be decided by the Presidential Council Meeting, that will take place in Rome, Italy, on February 14-15 2014. We must complete the collection of biographies for "our heroes", according to what we decided at the 2013 Presidential Council Meeting in Peru.

- 3. Mayday 2014.** Militant celebrations. We should highlight the issue of unemployment. Promotion of the main resolution of the 16th World Trade Union Congress titled "Athens Pact".
- 4. WFTU radio shows, video, webtv.** We need the active participation of all WFTU affiliated unions in the production and distribution of radio shows and videos in WFTU working languages and other local languages, with the aim to create the WFTU webtv and webradio. (There will be a separate document – proposal).
- 5. Functioning of the WFTU offices in Geneva.** It is important to ensure the stable and permanent functioning of the Geneva office. This will help our constant and productive intervention at the ILO. Today, there are serious shortcomings. Today, the coordination of the office has been assumed by two comrades, militant trade unionists who live in Switzerland, Esteban Munoz and Nikos Giokas.

6. **Working Women Congress.** WFTU Working Women World Congress is expected to be held during the 2nd half of 2014 in Asia.
  7. **New WFTU website.** The website of the WFTU is going through radical transformation, in order to serve the need for coordination of the international class oriented trade union movement and the needs of the working people all over the world for information. The new website will be able to support WFTU web tv and radio. (There will be separate document)
  8. **Our tactics concerning the elections of the ILO Governing Body in 2014, in Geneva.** It's the task of the Secretariat to analyze, examine and plan our intervention.
  9. **“WFTU Immigrants Help Desk”.** We should examine the possibility of the creation of a Migrant Workers Committee in Europe, that will have to do with the problems immigrants are facing and will organize the immigrants according to the principles of the class oriented trade union movement.
  10. **Forum of ACFTU, ICATU, OATUU, WFTU in Beijing, China.** We strengthen our bilateral and multilateral relations with these big trade union organizations. As in every year, the Trade Union Forum of Beijing is a chance for essential exchange of opinions among our organizations, on subjects that concern the workers on an international level.
  11. **Tighter cooperation between the WFTU and its TUIs.** Strengthening of the TUIs and support to Congresses of the sectoral trade union internationals that belong to the WFTU family. Discussion on the proposals, necessity and possibilities to establish new TUIs, e.g. Services, Culture, local government workers etc.
  12. In cooperation with the Education TUI (FISE): International Campaign for the children in Palestine, Rwanda, Zimbabwe and other African countries, gathering notebooks, pens, pencils etc.
  13. **Official Presentation of the WFTU Anthem.** We remind that the committee named by the 16th World Trade Union Congress met and decided on the lyrics. Now, a well known Nepali composer works on the orchestration. The anthem of the WFTU must express the Global character of our organization. Musical instruments, musicians and singers representing all regions should be involved and it should be sung in various languages.
14. **2015 WFTU Presidential Council:**

## **TRADE UNION TRAINING**

The modern needs of the international class oriented trade union movement demand trade union cadres who are well informed and educated. According to the demands of our affiliates all over the world, we should organize Trade Union Training in every region and sector. Also we should prepare:

15. Courses at the WFTU HQ in Athens, Greece. (There will be a separate document)
16. Seminars in cooperation with the **ILO**
  - **March 9-10, Russian Federation:** Labour rights and Migrant Workers
  - **May 26-27, Niger:** Working conditions of young workers
  - **June 23-24, Bolivia:** Health and safety in miners workers in altitude
  - **August 6-7, Brazil:** Wage policies and informal work
  - **October 15-16 Bahrain:** Promote gender equality/ empower women
  - **November 11-12, Malaysia:** Prevention of occupational accidents and diseases
17. Seminars in cooperation with the **UNSECO**.
18. Seminars in cooperation with the **ICATU** (International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions)
19. Seminars in cooperation with the **OATUU** (Organisation of African Trade Union Unity)

## **TUI CONGRESSES**

20. **Founding Congress of the TUI of Pensioners and Retired Persons:** Held on February 5-6, 2014.
21. **TUI Public Services Congress.** We must define the time and place of the Congress and start with its preparation. We propose to hold the Congress in Nepal, September 2014.
22. **TUI Transport Congress:** The Congress is already late. We must immediately make a definitive decision regarding the place and time of the Congress.

## **B. REGIONAL ACTIVITIES**

### **AFRICA**

23. **February 27, South Africa:** Activity on Asbestos
24. **April 10-11, South Africa:** African WFTU Working Youth Meeting, scheduled for 2014, in preparation of the III WFTU World Meeting of Working Youth, scheduled for 2015 in South Africa.
25. **August 12, South Africa:** WFTU Gender Seminar Conference
26. **DR Congo:** Trade union training seminars in Lubumbashi and Katanga.

27. **Senegal:** Regional Seminar
28. **Trade union training seminars in:** Mauritania, Gambia, Sierra Leone, Togo.
29. **WFTU Delegation composed by African Women Unionists to visit China.**
30. **Annual Meeting of the RO of English Speaking Africa:**
31. **Annual Meeting of the RO of French Speaking Africa:**

## **ASIA – PACIFIC**

32. **Vietnam:** Regional Congress of Working Women
33. **Solidarity campaign with the workers of Malaysia** for democratic and trade union liberties. Stop all persecution against the trade unionists of NUBE.
34. **Kazakhstan.** Solidarity campaign against the persecution of unionist of the Zhanartu trade union, demanding trade union liberties for the workers of Kazakhstan.
35. **India:** International Trade Union Seminar “The Working Class and their role in the modern world”.
36. **Pakistan:** Meeting of affiliates and friends of the WFTU on the issue of Trade Union Liberties.
37. **Bangladesh:** Meeting Meeting of affiliates and friends of the WFTU on the issue of immigration.
38. **Subregional office in Malaysia:** Regional meeting in 2014.
39. **APRO Annual Regional Meeting:**

## **EUROPE**

40. **Poland:** International Conference on Unemployment, Trade Union Rights in Europe, restriction of the right to strike.
41. **France:** European Working Women Congress.
42. **WFTU Office, Geneva, Switzerland:** Seminar on International Organizations
43. **April 2014:** Joint meeting with the RMT of Britain, in London on the recent developments in Europe and the EU.
44. **September 2014, Cyprus:** 2o Camping of the WFTU Youth. For a 2nd year PEO of Cyprus will host the successful activity that was organized for the first time in 2013. Young unionists from the Arab Countries and Africa will meet, rest and get in touch with the international class oriented trade union movement.

**45. October 3rd 2014:** International Trade Union Conference on Unemployment in Lisbon, Portugal.

**46. EUROPE Regional Meeting:**

## **LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

**47. Solidarity campaign with the Cuban Revolution and the Cuban People.** Campaigns against the criminal embargo of the USA and the EU against the Island of the Revolution. Strengthening of the international trade union solidarity for the liberation of All 5 Cuban heroes, held in the US prisons.

**48. Solidarity campaign with the trade union movement, the workers and people of Colombia.** We propose a campaign for the liberation of trade unionists imprisoned in Colombian prisons and a special WFTU solidarity activity in Geneva during the 103rd International Labor Conference.

**49. Campaign against CHEVRON**

**50. April 2014:** WFTU Latin American Working Youth Conference in Peru. After proposal by cde Manuel Ramos, WFTU Youth Secretariat Coordinator, the CGTP of Peru will host the Meeting in Lima.

**51. July 2014:** Antiimperialist Workers Conference in Bolivia. During the meeting between the WFTU General Secretary cde George Mavrikos and the President of the Plurinational State of Bolivia Evo Morales, the two men decided the organization of a Works Antiimperialist Workers Conference.

**52. July 2014, Lima, Peru:** Latin American Conference of Metal Workers. Hosted by the Metal Union of the CGTP of Peru.

**53. November 2014, Lima, Peru:** Latin American Meeting of workers in Finance sector.

**54. Annual regional meeting of the LAC Regional Office:** May 30th 2014.

## **CENTRAL AMERICA**

**55. Nicaragua.** According to document – proposal sent to us by the CST JBE of Nicaragua, an important Federation and WFTU affiliate, we propose the following activities. 1. Youth Meeting and Migration Work. 2. Struggle against the transnational corporations.

**56. Meeting of the Central America Sub-regional office:**

## **MIDDLE EAST – ARAB WORLD**

- 57. **Bahrain:** World Working Women Congress Preparatory Meeting.
- 58. **Cairo, Egypt:** Mediterranean conference on health and safety.
- 59. **Solidarity with the Syrian people:** in cooperation with the WFTU Middle East Regional Office.
- 60. **Arab Trade Union Meeting:** to be held in Athens, Greece, at the WFTU HQ, inviting trade unions of all Arab countries. The main topic should be: “Recent developments and the priorities of the Arab workers”.
- 61. **April 17th 2014, Day of the imprisoned in Palestine.** Event of international solidarity with the struggle of the Palestinian People. Common cultural activities.
- 62. **Mayday 2014:** Common event of WFTU and GUPW in Ramallah, Palestine.

## **North America**

- 63. **WFTU Tour in Canada and the US** in order to inform the workers of the region about the WFTU, its history, its action, its present and future.
- 64. **Meeting of trade unionists from North America and Europe**
- 65. **Annual Meeting of WFTU North:**

## **C. INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

- 66. **February 3-7, FAO, Rome, Italy:** “Resumed Session of the Technical Consultation on International Guidelines for Securing Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries
- 67. **February 11-21, UN, New York, USA:** UN 52nd Session of the Commission for Social Development. WFTU Representative: Dr. Frank Goldsmith
- 68. **March 10-21, UN, New York, USA:** UN 58th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women. WFTU Representatives: Vijayalakshmi Bagalur Venkata (AITUC), Hemalata Kandikuppa (CITU), Barbara Storace, Frank Goldsmith.
- 69. **March 10-14, FAO, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia:** Regional Conference for Asia and the Pacific
- 70. **March 13-27, ILO, Geneva, Switzerland:** 320th Session of the Governing Body
- 71. **April 2-3, ILO, Geneva, Switzerland:** ILO Global Dialogue Forum on Challenges to collective bargaining in the public service
- 72. **May 8-28, ILO, Geneva, Switzerland:** ILO International Course



**73. May 12-16, UN, Geneva, Switzerland:** 15th session of the Working Group on the Right to Development

**74. May 14-15, ILO, Geneva, Switzerland:** Global Dialogue Forum on Employment Relationships in the Media & Culture Sector.

**75. May 28 – June 12, ILO, Geneva, Switzerland:** 103rd International Labor Conference.

- **Informal Presidential Council and Council of Friends**
- **Solidarity Activities**

## **D. FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE WFTU**

**76.** The WFTU financial situation is very bad. The Financial Control Committee describes in their report a detailed picture. For 2013 only 23 affiliates paid their fees. The sum paid by those affiliates was: ....

We are in a critical situation. While our activity is increased, our initiatives are more, our presence in all continents is stronger, at the same moment our finances are falling short. We understand that our affiliates are poor. But, there are affiliates with the ability to support , and pay their fees every year.

It's a constitutional obligation of all affiliates to pay their annual fees. The total sum of fees owed to the WFTU by affiliates is very big.

**JANUARY 2014**

**THE SECRETARIAT**



**Action Plan 2014-2015**  
**February 14-15, Rome, Italy**

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