

# Main Resolution

**WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS**

---

ACTION PLAN 2012

**ACTION! ACTION! ACTION!**



**VI Presidential Council**

**February 9-10, 2012, Johannesburg, South Africa**

The Presidential Council meeting took place ten months after the historic congress of our organisation which strengthened ideologically and systematically the WFTU. Ten months after the 16<sup>th</sup> World Trade Union Congress where the WFTU showed that it's alive and strong, that it represents the international class-oriented trade union movement and it is able to organize open and democratic congresses. Ten months after that, the decisions that we took - **'The Athens Pact'** is not only a question of present interest but also proves the right analyses that we made for today's politico-economic situation and our readiness to organize the struggle in a better way.

**We met in South Africa, in the country with a rich history of struggles and we express our respect and our appreciation to this country and its people. We express our thanks to the leaderships of NUMSA, NEHAWU, CEPWWAWU and POPCRU for their hospitality, their reception and the cover of such Meeting with the participation of high level trade unionist leaders from 38 countries of the five continents. We thank all those who helped us to hold such successful meeting and specially the leadership, the affiliates and the militants of COSATU.**

All events held in Johannesburg were successful. The most emotional of all was the event where the leadership of WFTU honoured veterans of the labour movement and the WFTU. Eric Mtshali (Stalin) made a speech on behalf of all the veterans and their relatives. Also the President of COSATU delivered a greeting message.

Today, there are three basic facts in workers' reality and life.

1. **First of all** - a deepening capitalist crisis together with an effort of the bourgeoisie to lose the minimum possible in the crisis by transferring a big burden to the working class and the popular layers.
2. **Second**, the tension of intra-imperialist conflicts and their expression through the tough aggressiveness of NATO, the EU and their allies.
3. **Third**, we have the struggle of the working class and the popular layers that gets more intense and gives more hope and perspective to the peoples and the workers. The latter fight back and their struggle intensify every day. The example of the great strike in Nigeria with many deaths, the many months of struggle of SME in Mexico, the strike of many days of the heroic steel workers in Greece, the strike of workers in Kazakhstan, the workers in the banana plantations in Panama, the struggle of workers in the Panama Canal, in Portugal, in India, in Thailand, in Italy, in Poland, in Bulgaria, in Belgium, in the metal sector and transnational corporations in South Africa, in the food sector in Colombia, in the mining sector in Peru, in the public sector in England, the youth in Chile, the protest in Wall Street... all these examples prove that big sections of workers in all continents resist the anti-labour policies applied by both neoliberal and social democrat governments. Today, under conditions of deep capitalist crisis, under conditions of decay of the capitalist system, the struggles of workers, of poor peasants, of the youth are the optimistic hope and the only way to generalize the counterattack of workers against the system of capitalist exploitation.

In **'The Athens Pact'** we underlined the following:

*"The 16th Congress of the World Federation of Trade Unions is taking place at a time when the global capitalist system is in the middle of a deep and multifaceted economic crisis of the system itself.*

*Everywhere around us we see markets clogged from goods and wealth beyond imagination concentrated in the pockets of few, we see destruction of wealth-producing forces and depreciation of the main producing force which is the working class. We see rapidly rising unemployment, declining of GDP and world trade and of course an ever-growing poverty and misery for billions of people on the planet, both in developed capitalist countries, as well as (even more) in the so-called developing economies, though the enormous potential of science and technology which could provide a general popular prosperity. And any honest and conscientious worker, every union functionary who respects himself and his colleagues he represents cannot in such circumstances evade or fail to adopt the conclusions of the great thinker of the working class, Karl Marx, that evidently proved that the capitalist mode of production is not eternal and that historically has been exceeded.*

**Main Resolution of the VI Presidential Council Meeting**

*Marx revealed through his work that the economic crisis exposes the basic contradiction of capitalism - the contradiction between the social character of production and the capitalist form of ownership of means of production and the appropriation of its results. In crises the whole mechanism of the capitalist mode of production kneels under the pressure of the productive forces which capitalism itself has created. As aptly stated by Engels, the productive forces rebel against the relations of production which they've surpassed, they left behind ... Means of production means of maintenance, available workers, that is to say all factors of production and social wealth are super abounding".*

In spite of the different methods and the mix of policies that governments intend to implement all over the World, it gets clear to everyone that nobody can run away from the ruthless law of the capitalist system.

The enormous profits of international monopolies in the time of economic growth (that continue to exist in today's crisis) created a large accumulation of capital and concentration means of production in the hands of a few. On the other hand, the anti-labour policies and measures to hit labour rights and social expenditure, the increasing of privatization and profitability of capital with the investments in the respective sectors constitute the framework of the current expression of the international capitalist crisis.

The answer of the capital and its instruments such as the IMF, the World Bank, OECD and others of course focused on strengthening the bank capital, on the attempt to rescue the business operation and investments. This was done by the adoption of more barbarian anti-labour measures, heavy taxation, massive dismissals, cuts in salaries and pensions, attacks on trade union freedoms, further privatization and selling off the public wealth.

The inevitable though catastrophe of means of production, which gets more intense during periods of crisis, makes the capitalists search for new profitable sectors, new markets. The intra-imperialist competition intensifies as the economic pie gets smaller and this gives birth to new imperialist attacks.

The dramatic example of Libya proves this. In a country where the oil is high quality, it's easily mined and with fewer costs the death toll does not mean a thing having in mind the merciless game for spheres of influence and the exploitation of natural resources.

In today's situation the working class and its allies have to choose between two options: Either they will sacrifice their quality of life interminably and even their own life for the profits of the capital, or they will choose the hard way of sacrifices for the struggle against exploitation of man by man.

It's a retreat for the labour movement to get trapped in a dilemma created by bourgeoisie in order to break apart workers' militant and assertive spirit. Our struggle must get more aggressive, more demanding, the wealth that we produce and modern technology make it possible and compulsory more of us to work and in fact to work with higher salaries. The increasing needs of popular layers and workers these days could be covered.

The logic of compromise and defeatism, that wants workers to think having in mind the interests of capitalists and not to demand much in order not to affect any cent of the enormous profits of the rich, must meet our harsh criticism every minute, to be isolated, not to be allowed to dominate in the masses of the working forces.

The WFTU has to create those conditions that by all means will assure the organization of coordinated action of the international working class that suffers from the same attack, that has the same enemies and the same perspective for struggle.

Nowadays, **the expression of internationalist solidarity** is more than necessary. On one hand, the struggle of each trade union organization in its country being class-oriented, confronting the employers with acute forms of struggle and keeping pace with other popular layers are a great contribution to the internationalist duty. On the other hand, the expression of solidarity with the struggle of our comrades in other countries should get stronger. This solidarity should be a subject discussed at factories, at workplaces where workers will be informed, encouraged and will understand that they are not alone in the struggle, that working class unity at international level can bring positive results.

Our efforts should be at such a scale that the various arguments used by governments and the mass media to slander the working class struggles cannot be applied.

Another essential aspect of internationalism and workers solidarity is the sharing of experience, the use and transmission of this experience for struggles to become more assertive, to be better organized and to get better results for the working class.

The big majority of our affiliates and friends respond fast and correctly in the expression of internationalism and solidarity. The example of PEO, KTOS, DEV-IS, KTAMS, KTOEOS and BES that organized in Cyprus a great concert for solidarity with the strike of the steel workers, the permanent work of TUI Metal, the internationalist initiatives of the comrades from Colombia, Mexico, India are positive examples for us all. Few are the organisations that do not show the same interest. Let's help them to improve. To respond.

We as the leadership of today's FSM claim that, under the conditions we live in, the international working class and the people need an international trade union organization which will basically have the following main characteristics:

1. Class orientation and revolutionary thinking, which will emphasize that we're talking about an organization of workers that steadfastly fights against capital and against imperialism. Trade Unions independent from governments and capitalists.
2. Democratic and open dealings with simple people; reforms at all levels, supporting leaders who will come from the basis of society, who will be honest, will respect criticism and self-criticism, and also discipline, leaders who will fight bureaucracy and corruption
3. The kind of unity that will unite all workers, irrespective of sex, color or religion; it will unite workers, poor farmers and the youth in order to include them all in the fight against capital and the monopolist companies; it will unite them in the struggle and teach them not to step back or give up
4. Its international character, workers' solidarity, cooperation and support (both ethical and economic) for each country's working class, for each branch that fights for its freedom, for its trade union and democratic rights, for its life and rights.
5. The use of all kinds of class struggle, from the simplest to the most complex; launching ideas and goals that will demand satisfaction of the present-day needs of all workers, and will at the same time lead to a class struggle to end the exploitation of man by man
6. The use of international organizations to implement the ideas of the workers; coordinating the actions of different movements that are fighting for the same goals
7. Education for the working class, especially so that the workers will love the history of their nation, the traditions, the culture and the history of the international working class movement; providing an education to make the workers cleverer as a class, to believe in the values of the class struggle, and to know the class struggle.

#### **Organizational Improvement, Improvement of Functioning.**

After the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress we see an improvement in the functioning, the organization and the actions of the organizations members and friends of the WFTU. There is also improvement in the functioning of most TUIs and all Regional Offices. It should be also mentioned that many affiliation requests from new members were received at the central offices.

It is important that the congresses of the WFTU affiliated organizations are militant, democratic, open and open. The recent congresses of CGTP in Peru and CNTP in Panama were positive examples for that. Also after the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress we see that our cadres, affiliates and friends in the TUIs promote the WFTU, they are not afraid to talk about the WFTU. Those that should make some progress at this point are just a few. And we should help them to stop this fear.

It is necessary to continuously move on with positive steps in the functioning of our trade union organizations. To maintain a stable and a better contact with the Central Offices, with the Regional Offices and the TUI's. To have a better communication. To correspond properly and quickly. To hit postponing. To have an open, democratic functioning. Our trade unions to be always close to the base, close to workers. To cultivate the class, militant, internationalist and anti-imperialist spirit in the base, inside the workers. At the same time the

#### **Main Resolution of the VI Presidential Council Meeting**

members and the friends of WFTU have the duty to hit bureaucracy, careerism and corruption.

The enemies of the WFTU and those that face hostile the class-oriented trade union movement are deeply worried by the improvement and the progress of the WFTU. Some of those try to slander the WFTU, our affiliates and our friends, to slander our cadres. The WFTU will answer to such attacks with courage and seriousness. We will support our members and friends; we will support our cadres and militants.

- **Joint meetings of WFTU leadership with the heads of Regional Offices and the Sectoral TUI's.**

Every year to try to hold this meeting so that in common to discuss on all joint topics, analytically, concretely and with comradely spirit because we are all members of the same family. For 2012 the meeting will take place in Athens, **on the last week of APRIL** and we call the heads of the Regional Offices, of the Sub-regional Offices and of the TUI's to prepare for their participation with ideas and proposals.

We underline here the fact that three TUIs had little action. They can and they must develop better action in their branches in all continents. Also some TUIs do not promote the WFTU as needed. They do not announce that they belong to the WFTU family. They can and they must improve on this.

We enhance the important role of the TUIs in the life and action of the WFTU together with the Regional Offices.

## **Finances**

**This is the sector with most difficulties.** The basic economic support that the WFTU receives comes only from seven WFTU affiliates and friends. Without the assistance of our friends the situation would be worse.

We want to make a distinction and to thank also the organizations that every year send us their small but constant contribution. Our organizations from El Salvador, from Colombia, Guyana, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh send small amounts of 300 or 500 Euros showing that they support our joint efforts. They send letters saying that we stand together in our struggle. These are small amounts with a very big symbolism!

The problem though still remains and it is a big problem. The needs are also big.

- In the central offices we need another three or four capable and hard-working employees.
- The files and the archives of the WFTU remain in bags scattered in different countries.
- Because we do not own the WFTU offices, we give a lot of money for rents and other expenses.
- At the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress we decided that the Solidarity fund should start working again but there are no funds in order this to happen.
- Many organizations ask for seminars and economic support but the WFTU does not have this possibility.

**Basic task: All members should pay their fees by the end of March. No one should remain indifferent. Until today only three organizations have sent their fees for 2012:**

## **ACTION PLAN for 2012**

**The success of the 16<sup>th</sup> World Trade Union Congress and the demands of the critical period that we live in, make us see our solemn duty to prepare an even more militant, ambitious and effective program for 2012 and everyone to participate in its implementation. In the implementation of the ACTION PLAN EVERYONE-EVERYONE we have the duty to participate. With no exceptions.**

### **1. Unemployment**

Throughout the world the great problem for the working class, for youth and working women is **UNEMPLOYMENT**. The capitalists, under conditions of deep economic crisis, are trying to divide a job among 2-3 part-time employees.

Unemployment, however, cannot be treated with such anti-labor policies. It will grow continuously.

On the basis of the recent data published by the ILO, there are already one billion unemployed poor workers in the World.

- 900 million workers live with "income" lower than 2 Euros per day.

- In Spain there are 5.3 million unemployed workers, 3 million in France, one million in Greece. The total real number of unemployed workers in the European Union exceeds 23 million; the majority of them women and young workers.

So the immediate task for the unions is to support unemployed workers to survive, to make sure that they have food, electricity, medicines, clean water; that they have economic and social support from the government and public institutions.

At the same time we need to uncover the causes of unemployment. To make the working class understand that a final solution within capitalism cannot be given. To understand that the struggle against unemployment is a main basic front for the WFTU.

**2. International Action Day:** The International Action Day of the WFTU for 2012 will be Wednesday October 3, 2012. The success of the previous initiatives and the conditions that we live in put us in front of an additional duty for the success of the day - the organization of initiatives by all our members and friends in their countries in the framework of the Action Day.

The International Day of Action will promote the needs and the demands of workers for everyone to have **food, housing, clean water, free and public health care system and education system, free medicines.** We should reveal by data the million of children dying from hunger and thirst, the millions of people who are starving, who have no medicines while their countries are rich and their natural resources have been plundered by multinationals and monopolies. An international effort will be made to reveal and condemn the reasons for this social phenomenon. The trade unions that are members of the WFTU as well as its friends should lead these actions at every workplace, in all sectors, in all countries, in order that specific initiatives take place. **Information should be gathered, protests to be organized, events to be held as 'courts' at the expense of multinational companies speculating on water, medicines, food, books and others. We should demand solutions to be given with no delay.** The material gathered after the initiative and the actions will be deposited to the UN, ILO, FAO, and UNESCO by big delegations of our affiliates and friends.

**About the prices in foodstuff, about the cartel in supply and distribution of food and seeds:** to attempt in coordination with colleagues from Italy and Europe to organize a dynamic protest in the offices of FAO in Rome Italy.

**3. Trade union education – Research:** In the Presidential Council we have discussed two more times about the need of trade union education and research and the organization of seminars that would train and teach our cadres about our goals, our class line, and our strategy and also would teach workers at different levels. Many organizations-members of the WFTU have their own institutions and trade union schools. Their work is very important and supports the struggle of the working class in their countries. **What we need is cooperation between the institutes.** We need professors, specialists and scientists who would travel and organize the seminars. For this purpose the Secretariat will meet representatives of the institutes to examine the possibilities and discuss the ways to move faster in this direction.

Some of the topics that the national organizations members of the WFTU should organize lessons in are:

- to understand the decisions taken at the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress known as the Athens Pact
- the history of the WFTU since 1945 until today
- sectoral policies in sectors of strategic importance
- education and training of young workers and women.
- to prepare books on the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the WFTU.

**Main Resolution of the VI Presidential Council Meeting**



In 2012 and on we should focus also on the need of Trade Union Education. To organize seminars mostly in countries where many workers will have the possibility to follow them with no need to travel abroad and the cost of the seminar to be raised. We should prefer those who travel to be the teachers so that the cost to be limited. Through Trade Union Education we would also help for the exchange of experiences between continents, between sectors and countries.

#### 4. The WFTU for Africa – Africa for WFTU!

Since its foundation the WFTU has paid much attention and expressed internationalist solidarity to the workers and the people of Africa to help them be organized, to found trade union organizations, to strengthen their ideological and trade union level and to organize hard class struggles against colonialism, against racism, against slavery. Today this struggle is continued and is much more complicated, complex and difficult. The exploitation at the expense of wealth-producing resources of African continent and at the expense of the working class of all countries has been multiplied because of the looting made by monopolies and TNC's.

Together with our members from Africa, we supported all the mobilizations in many countries, like in Nigeria, in Egypt, in Congo, in Somalia, in Gabon, In Swaziland, in Tunisia, in Morocco, in Sahara, in Mozambique, in Kenya, in Zimbabwe, in Tanzania, in Djibouti etc. Together with our members in South Africa, NUMSA, NEHAWU and CEPWAWU we supported their struggles and we expressed our solidarity. We intervened in International Organizations etc.

In today's conditions the WFTU will continue to undertake concrete initiatives for the strengthening of the Trade Unions in Africa, for the strengthening of their class orientation.

The WFTU will implement **programs of Trade Union Education**. It will start the discussion for the **alternative proposal of the class trade union movement for Africa**. It will stand close to the Regional Office in South Africa to succeed **coordination and cooperation** with all our affiliates and friends in the Continent.

We will prepare special publications about South Africa and other countries. It is true that during last years the role of the trade union organizations from the African Continent inside WFTU is strengthened. In the leading bodies of the WFTU the presence of the fighters from Africa is continuously growing. Today 8 people from Africa are participating in the 40-members Presidential Council of WFTU. This is a progress. But we are not satisfied. We need to take more steps. The beginning of functioning of the Regional Office in Johannesburg is one more positive step.

The Regional Office from South Africa is necessary to steadily reveal the role of the imperialists in Africa. The USA and their allies are ruthless. It was proved in Libya, in Sudan and from their pursuing to control the changes taking place in the North African countries. The visit of Christine Lagarde, Managing Director of the IMF, to Nigeria few days ago and her declarations there show that the new target of imperialists will be Nigeria and its wealth.

At the same time, our sectoral organizations must stand steadily in Africa. In Africa, the multinationals, the monopolies, the capitalists are stealing the wealth-producing resources and the action of TUI's has to play an important role at all levels, trade union, political, economic and ideological. Immediately, with no delays, class trade unionists from Africa to undertake crucial leading positions in the TUI's, with a substantial, decisive, leading role. Because the working class of Africa needs the WFTU and at the same time, the WFTU needs the class militant trade unions of Africa. The heart, the arms and the door of WFTU are open to welcome our brothers from South Africa to undertake first roles and at the same time to give to the WFTU a new dynamic and new blood so that all together to make WFTU bolder, more militant and with young spirit. Together with all our affiliates and friends from Africa, to open ways, for the present and future, without exploitation and without social injustice.

#### 5. Imperialist aggressiveness

The basic characteristic of the last period is the tension of intra-imperialist antagonisms expressed through the aggressiveness of USA, NATO and their allies.

In the last period there is a strong imperialist aggression especially against those peoples who are resisting

the plans of USA, NATO and their allies.

In Syria the foreign imperialist aggression continues. Arab countries that have kings and reactionary regimes are used to promote the plans of the imperialists. In Libya the conflicts continue, while in the Persian Gulf the imperialists, the European Union have imposed an embargo on Iran with the excuse of its nuclear program. The USA and the European Union slander socialist Cuba with the pretext of the death of a jailed criminal; Israel continues its attacks on the Gaza Strip against the Palestinian People. The Government of Turkey threatens Cyprus and it uses the "Muslim brothers". In fact, Turkish governments are the most steadfast allies of the USA and Israel in the region.

The position of the WFTU is firm. The people are the only responsible to decide freely and democratically for the present and future. The WFTU is against the plans of imperialists and against imperialist wars and it organizes campaigns for internationalism and solidarity with those people suffering from the imperialists.

The WFTU affiliates and friends in Nigeria and in Africa need to be in struggling readiness because the USA, the transnational corporations and the international capital have plans for the dismemberment of the wealthy Nigeria in two or more States.

**Protection of cultural treasures:** The imperialist wars of the USA and their allies cause of course crimes against humanity, like the 115 thousand people killed in Libya in the war in 2011, like the 1.5 million people killed in Iraq since the beginning of the war to 15 December 2011 when the imperialists officially handed over power to Iraqis. But **at the same moment the invaders were committing and commit crimes destroying and plundering the CULTURAL TREASURES of countries like Iraq, Libya, Afghanistan and others.**

**The rotten moral of the imperialists and all those who take part in the imperialist armies is described in what we saw recently in Afghanistan where Yankees soldiers were "urinated" in the corps of murdered Afghani. This is their moral.**

UNESCO, which is responsible for protecting the cultural treasures is either silent, or not interested, or reacts 'too late' with a publication or an announcement. Is that enough, is that the right way?

In Libya the planes of NATO bombed the historic Phoenician city of **Sabratha**. The **Tripoli's Jamahiriya Museum** was plundered and the stolen things were sent to Europe by sea. The historic Roman city of **Leptis Magna** and others were bombed.

In Iraq the armies of the USA and NATO destroyed and plundered priceless cultural treasures. The journalist **Robert Fisk** and many other journalists, specialists and researchers talk about the greatest crime against humanity as far as cultural treasures are concerned. These people wrote: "15,000 objects were stolen only from the **Museum of Baghdad**, thousands now are in the USA, 600 are in Italy... Many plunders were done **on demand** by collectors who were paying for that..." Fisk wrote: "I was one of the first who entered Baghdad. On the streets there were piles of broken Babylonian pots which were from the Archeological Museum, I also paid attention to the **Islamic Library** of Baghdad that was set on fire..."

The working class and the trade union movement condemned from the beginning these imperialist wars. The WFTU organized many massive militant initiatives on the five continents expressing international solidarity with the people of Iraq, Afghanistan and Libya. The WFTU seriously criticized the UN at all international forums for its attitude and the UNESCO for its 'delay'. We made and we make serious criticism on ITUC (ICFTU) which took an unacceptable position and supported all the imperialist wars.

Until today we have fulfilled our duties. But today we have to organize new initiatives for the stolen cultural treasures to be returned to where they belong. They belong to the people, to all the workers.

For this purpose, as an initiative of the WFTU, we will organize an international committee of trade unionists, specialists and people interested, so that with our struggle against imperialist aggression, we defend the culture, history and cultural heritage that belong to us all. For president of the committee we suggest our colleague and law professor Elsadig Ali.

- 6. February - March 2012, Malaysia:** We'll organize a joint forum of TUI BIFU- Banks together with NUBE - Malaysia with main subject the labor and trade union rights, where serious attacks have been carried out. There would also be a major discussion about trade union and democratic freedoms.

## **Main Resolution of the VI Presidential Council Meeting**



**February 23, International Action Day in Europe of TUI Public Services.**

7. **March 8, 2012 International Women's Day:** Commemoration, through statements, press release, debates, interviews and other initiatives.  
**March 22, 2012 International Conference of Solidarity with the Palestinian People,** in Ramallah.
8. **April 2012, Brussels, Belgium:** We'll organize a seminar about the developments in North Africa, the Mediterranean area and the Middle East as continuation of our initiative of a similar seminar held last year in Strasbourg, France.
9. **May Day 2012** to organize activities related to WFTU, to the outcomes of the XVI Congress, the content of the Athens Pact, the workers class struggles, etc. Our affiliates to use WFTU banners or posters in the rallies, to mention WFTU in their main interventions, to prepare a collateral conference or debate, an article in the newspaper an interview in the TV etc.
10. **Brussels, Belgium:** A seminar with the participation of trade unions from countries of the former Soviet Union. We should strengthen our presence in these countries and our help for the trade unions there which have received a great blow and have weakened after the reversals. The recent big strike in Kazakhstan shows the need. We should search for new contacts and new friends.
11. **Further Initiatives:**
  - **Competitiveness for Energy & Oil roads** - imperialist wars: International Meeting to be held in Athens
  - **Health consequences of altitude in miner workers:** Initiative in Chile and intervention at the ILO
  - **Initiative on child labor – child criminality:** The WFTU to express its opposition to all kind of drugs
  - **Workers in Panama Canal:** The right to strike
  - **Andean region:** major attention to the implementation of the action plan
  - **International Days:** implementation of activities on International Days of HIV/AIDS, on Earth, on Immigrants etc.
  - **Solidarity with Palestinian People**
  - Continuation of the **struggle for the liberation of the 5 Cubans.**
12. **Working youth:**
  - April 29-30,2012:** Second International Conference of Working Youth, in **Cuba**
  - June 2012: Intervention at the ILC,** Committee on Youth Global Employment discussion
13. **Working women:** **India,** Meeting of women from trade unions from South Asia  
**Central America** meeting of working women  
**Formation of WFTU Secretariat of Women**
14. **Regional meetings:**
  - **20-21 February 2012, Athens:** meeting of the European Regional Office
  - January 2012, Sudan:** meeting of WFTU members and friends of Africa in Khartoum, Sudan.
  - 11<sup>th</sup> February 2012, Johannesburg:** opening of the Regional Office Africa
  - April 28, 2012, Havana Cuba:** meeting Latin America and Caribbean.
  - July 2012, Sri Lanka:** in Colombo will be organized a meeting of the WFTU Asia-Pacific Regional Office.
  - July 2012,** Meeting of affiliates and friends of North America.
15. **TUI's:** Our branch organizations are very important. Their Congresses should be well prepared; there should be discussion among the workers. All the branches are of strategic importance. It is needed a close cooperation between the WFTU Secretariat and the Secretariats of the TUIs so that their Congresses reflect the demands of these days. Congresses that are supposed to be held:
  - Congress of TUI Energy**
  - Congress of TUI FISE - congresses on each continent should be organized**
  - Congress of TUI Transport in Portugal**

**-Foundation of a new TUI for Retired people with headquarters in Spain**

For the preparation of the Congresses, to have contact with the Secretariat of the WFTU.

**Attention:** it is not proper that always the same countries participate in the leaderships of TUI's. New countries, young trade unionists and women should participate to have some stable and objective criteria. To examine the importance of every region, of every country, the power and the action of every trade union, the decentralization, the rotation etc.

- 16. International organizations:** Continuation of our good presence at the ILO, UNESCO, FAO and UN in New York. Meetings with the leadership of these organizations. Preparation for the 101<sup>th</sup> Conference of the ILO in June in Geneva. Participation in the Regional Meetings of the ILO and other international organizations.

**Jointly with ACFTU, ICATU and OATUU organize the International Trade Union Forum of Beijing.**

**17. Activities of the WFTU during the 101th ILC in Geneva:**

It is a duty of us all to meet the financial difficulties of the functioning of the Geneva office and to maintain its smooth running. The Secretariat to discuss and examine the matter to meet the financial difficulties.

- WFTU Preparatory meeting
- 7<sup>th</sup> Council of friends of the WFTU
- Informal Presidential Council
- Internationalist initiative

- 18. An attempt of creating a labor-trade union news agency:** Its goal would be to spread labor and trade union news from all across the world to the entire world.

- 19. Seminars in cooperation with ILO** - two per continent. We are in contact with ILO. We will later discuss the subject with the Regional Offices.

**Trade Union seminars in cooperation with VGCL Vietnam:** to hold in Vietnam Seminars on topics "Collective bargaining", "Trade Union organization" etc. for our members from the area of Asia – Pacific.

**Various current issues**

1. New affiliations: 40 affiliation requests have been submitted to the WFTU after the Congress. There is a detailed list with these organizations. For the organizations from Mexico, the Secretariat proposes to make an effort for all the WFTU affiliates and friends to unite in one national central trade union organization.
2. For 28<sup>th</sup> May 2012 are scheduled the elections in ILO for the new DG who will replace Juan Somavia. In March we'll have the official list of candidates. Our position about the role of ILO should be based on the principles of the WFTU. To prepare the draft of Declaration.
3. At the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress we decided that a comrade from Bangladesh should become member of the Presidential Council. At that time six names were proposed. We asked them all to agree to one name. Today, we already have the written proposal of all that suggests comrade Dr. Wajed-ul Islam Khan.
4. In 1955, ten years after the foundation of the WFTU, the great painter Pablo Picasso had painted and dedicated to the WFTU the picture "The song of the rivers". The location of the picture is unknown to us. We suggest the creation of a three-member committee formed by Elsadig Ali – Law Professor, Valentin Pacho and H. Mahadevan that would organize the search for the picture.
5. Some historic institutes and historic archives ask to send them copies of all our materials, documents, lists of representatives and observers... We suggest the Secretariat to be authorized to discuss each request and to decide very carefully if it's in the interest of the WFTU and the interest of the trade union movement to send the copies.
6. The next meeting of the Presidential Council in 2013 to be held in Lima, the capital of Peru, with hostess the CGTP.

**Main Resolution of the VI Presidential Council Meeting**

7. The following Resolutions were issued:
- Greeting message to the working class and the people of South Africa
  - Greeting message to the people and the workers of Africa
  - Solidarity with the people of Swaziland
  - Solidarity with the people of Palestine
  - Solidarity with the people of Syria
  - Solidarity with the workers in Panama canal
  - Solidarity with the Bank Employees in Malaysia
  - Solidarity with Greek workers and PAME
  - Solidarity with LAB for the release of Rafa
  - Solidarity with comrade Julia Amparo Lotan from Guatemala
  - Solidarity with SME Mexico

The WFTU Presidential Council

Johannesburg, South Africa 10.2.2012



**Main Resolution 2011**  
**Johannesburg, South Africa**