### Report of Action 2017 - 2021



### 18th World Trade Union Congress

wftu report of action 2017 - 2021



Dear comrades and friends,

We are presenting the Report of Action for the years 2017 - 2021, according to the resolutions of our 17th World Trade Union Congress and the rich discussions of the WFTU Presidential council meetings that took place physically and virtually all these 5 years.

The rich activity of the 2017-2021 period has strengthened the WFTU and its affiliates, it has strengthened the working class in its struggle for a world without exploitation and imperialist barbarity.

Below we present in calendar format the initiatives and activities undertaken by the WFTU in the period 2017-2021. This summary only includes the most important activities and those international activities in which the Central Offices of the WFTU were the basic organizer or participant. In addition, many other initiatives were organized by our Regional Offices, by our TUIs – 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 the last five years can clearly be seen.

As a result of all this action, many national or branch trade union organizations from all over the world requested their affiliation to the WFTU within this time period.

# Report of Action 2017

### **JANUARY**

8-11: AIBEA 28th National Conference held in Chennai, India. WFTU was represented by Anda Anastasaki, WFTU Head Office General Coordinator.



12: A high level delegation of ODT-Morocco headed by its General Secretary Ali Lofti met in Rabat, Morocco with the WFTU Representative George Bazionis. During the meeting they discussed about the resolutions of the 17th World Trade Union Congress and the initiatives of WFTU in the Region of North Africa.

14: Joint seminar of WFTU and ILO on the topic of "Health and Safety in the Workplaces" held in Niger. The seminar was hosted by the Federation of WFTU Affiliates in Niger FONA-FSM Niger. The participants discussed about the situation of the workers in Niger and the struggle of the trade unions in the country for measures of health and safety. WFTU was represented by George Bazionis, WFTU Communication Officer.

17-19: 4th Francophone Reunion held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso.

17-22: TUI Agroalimentary meeting held in Havana, Cuba.

21: The WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos met with the Ex-General Secretary of the WFTU cde Pierre Gensous. The metal worker Pierre Gensous was elected WFTU General Secretary in its 7th Congress in 1965. It was an interesting meeting with a special symbolic meaning.



23-25: The President of the WFTU ,Comrade Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba who was elected to this enviable office at the 17th Congress of the World Federation of Trade Unions, visited Lagos and Abuja, Nigeria. Comrade Makwayiba met with Nigerian affiliates and other leaders of prospective members and he addressed a Press Conference on various labour issues in general and particularly as Nigeria is planning to host the forthcoming Pan African Congress of the WFTU in July 2017.

25: An important meeting held between the WFTU leadership, represented by its General Secretary, George Mavrikos and its Vice-President, Valentin Pacho with the Palestinian Ambassador, Mr Marwan Emile Toubassi in the Palestinian Embassy of Athens, Greece. Nikolas Theodorakis, Head of PAME International Department, has also been present. During the meeting, there have been discussed various issues concerning Israeli settlements, Israel State oppression against the heroic Palestinian People as well as the recent developments concerning International Community's Resolutions on the Palestinian Issue. WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos, pointed out the international class- oriented trade union movement solidarity with the Palestinian People and the WFTU firm commitment to the Palestinian cause. Furthermore, there were discussed further joint initiatives to be taken in the immediate future for the right of Palestinian people to have their own State, with East Jerusalem as its capital.

28: Seminar of Communist Youth Yugoslavia "Suos" held in Belgrade.

### **FEBRUARY**

3-5: The WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos visited Dhaka, Bangladesh, invited by the WFTU affiliates and friends in the country.





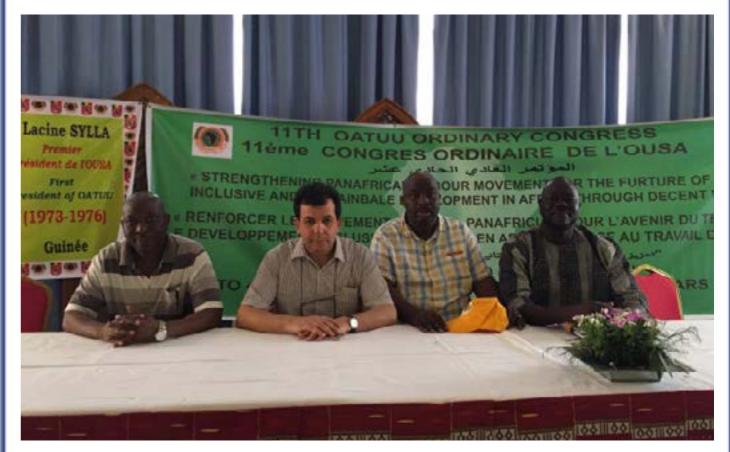
The WFTU General Secretary fulfilled his promise to the workers of Bangladesh during the 17th World Trade Union Congress to visit the country and discuss analytically with all the WFTU affiliates about the common initiatives that can be taken in national and sectoral level. During his visit, the WFTU General Secretary visited the monument dedicated to the 1.100 textile workers of Rana Plaza who lost their lives in 2013, addressed and visited the workers in leather and garment factories, met the minister of labor and the head of the ILO office and gave a press conference to the local media. He also participated an event of homage in Rana Plaza monument and an demonstration with main demand health and safety measu in the workplaces.

18: The WFTU Financial Control Committee held its regular annual meeting in the Central Offices of WFTU in Athens, Greece. During the first meeting of the FCC 5-members recently elected in the 17th World Trade Union Congress, comrade Venkatachalam was re-elected as President. The FCC has thoroughly checked the audits of the WFTU for the year 2016, including the 17th World Trade Union Congress expenses. And it has prepared its Report underlining the necessity to improve the financial capacity of the WFTU to secure the implementation of the Action Plan, by calling all its affiliates to pay their Statutory fees.

20-24: ILO Tourism Meeting

### **MARCH**

3-4: 11th Ordinary Congress of OATUU held in Mali hosted by UNTM. The WFTU was represented by its President Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba, Cheikh Alassane Sene member of the WFTU Presidential Council and the General Coordinator of the WFTU Central Office Anda Anastasaki. In the Congress, 49 out of 53 countries-members of OATUU were present. At the opening ceremony were also present the President of Mali, Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, the prime-minister and many government officials, also were present the mayor of Bamako and ILO Africa.



8-9: The regular WFTU Secretariat Meeting held in Athens, with the presence of the WFTU General Secretary and the Secretariat members from India, Syria, Brazil and Portugal.

13-24: The 61st Session of the Commission on the Status of Women held at United Nations Headquarters in New York. A WFTU women delegation, made up by Carmela Sifuentes from CGTP-Peru, Makhupola Hilda from NEHAWU-South Africa and Anda Anastasaki, General Coordinator of the WFTU Central Offices, took part in the special session of the Commission of the Status of Women (CSW61) of the United Nations, putting forward the militant positions of the WFTU, decided by the 17th World Trade Union Congress. The WFTU utilizes its presence in the international organizations so as to make the voice of workers heard loud everywhere and always.

17: The 49th General Congress of KTOEOS took place in Nicosia, Cyprus. WFTU was represented by Pieris Pieri, Head of WFTU European Regional Office.

25-26: USB Conference Rome, Italy

27-1 APRIL: For the 9th consecutive year, the WFTU was jointly with ACFTU organized a mission of trade union formation in People's Republic of China aiming among others to strengthen the historic bonds between ACFTU and WFTU. The WFTU Women Delegation composed by trade unionists from Africa and Asia and Pacific regions representing affiliates of WFTU.



30: The workers of the World expressed their Internationalist Solidarity with the Palestinian People. The WFTU Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People was honoured with various initiatives all over the world. The WFTU affiliates and friends responded to the WFTU Call. The workers, the ordinary people which took part in the initiatives of the Class Oriented trade unions proved that Palestinian people are not alone, they demanded to STOP the Israeli Settlements, the recognition of a free and independent Palestinian state within the borders of 1967, with East Jerusalem as its capital.

### **APRIL**

- 3-7: 18th Session of the UN Working Group on the Right to Development held in Geneva, Palais des Nations. WFTU was represented by Christoforos Giakoumelos, WFTU Headquarters Representative.
- 3-5: ILO Working Group of the Special Tripartite Committee of the Maritime Labour Convention held in Geneva. WFTU was represented by Dr. Hossam El Dein Mustafa, President of Maritime Workers Union and Mr. Mohamed Hassan Mohamed Khalifa, Interpreter.
- 6-7: The head of the WFTU office in Geneva Nicolas Ghiokas visited Niger.
- 7: A high level WFTU delegation headed by its General Secretary George Mavrikos met with a high level ETUF delegation headed by its president Mohamed Guebaly in Cairo, Egypt. In their meeting they discussed about the situation in Arab World and the development of joint initiatives in the Region.
- 9-13: A three members WFTU delegation composed by Said Elsayed Mohamed Rashwan, Caroline Samir

Boushra Henin from ETUF Egypt and George Bazionis, WFTU Councilor took part in the 44th Session of ALC in Cairo, Egypt. In the framework of the Session the WFTU delegates held bilateral meetings with the affiliates and friends of WFTU and addressed a speech.

19: comrade C H Venkatachalam, General Secretary of AIBEA and President of WFTU Financial Control Committee participated in the 72nd Conference of Government Civil Service Employees Association in Mauritius represented the WFTU.

20-21: The Latin American and Caribbean Conference of the Public Service Unions convened by the TUI- Pubic Services and the WFTU was held in the city of Quito, Ecuador; c. Valentín Pacho, Vice-President, participated in representation of the WFTU.

24-28: ILO Tripartite Meeting on Improving Employment and Working Conditions in Health Services held in Geneva. WFTU was represented by Mr. Ali Abdel Baset Ali, President of General Trade Union of Health Services in Egypt and Mr. Hesham Ahmed Abdel Latif, General Secretary of General Trade Union of Health Services in Egypt.

25: The WFTU Affiliates and friends in Canada held a meeting in Toronto, Canada to discuss the Decisions and Resolutions of the 17th World Trade Union Congress. On behalf of the WFTU Central Offices Christobal Giakoumelos took part in their meetings.

26-29: The WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos visited Mexico City. His visit started when he met with the Mayor of Mexico City Miguel Angel Mancera, during this meeting the WFTU General Secretary was declared Honorary Citizen of Mexico City. The WFTU General was accompanied by Alberto Reyes, Deputy General Secretary of WFTU and Ramon Cardona, Head of the Latin America & the Caribbean Regional Office. The WFTU General Secretary met with the WFTU affiliates and friends in Mexico and he addressed a gathering of 3000 trade-union cadres. The WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos, continuing his visit in Mexico addressed a huge demonstration of more than 35.000 members and friends of Frente Autentico del Campo in Mexico City on the afternoon of April 28th 2017. During the 3rd day of his visit in Mexico the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos visited the city of Morelia Michoacan in Mexico where the workers of the city welcomed him with a militant initiative. In Morelia Michoacan the WFTU General Secretary gave a press conference with the trade unions of teachers and the affiliate and Friends and addressed a speech in the University of the city. Later in the afternoon he was rewarded the prize of Vicente Lombardo Toledano.



30: A successful press conference of the WFTU General Secretary was held in Havana, Cuba. The interview was about the situation in the region of Latin America and the Caribbean, the action and activities of WFTU and the Meeting of the WFTU Presidential Council which will take place in Havana, Cuba. During the interview, the General Secretary of WFTU, George Mavrikos, expressed the internationalist solidarity of WFTU and the class oriented trade union movement to the Cuban People and presented the significant activities of WFTU for the next period. The press conference was covered by all national media of Cuba as well as by international media.

30: A meeting was held between the WFTU General Secretary and a delegation of GFTUK -DPR Korea, headed by its leader, comrade Ju Yong Gil in Havana, Cuba. During the meeting the General Secretary of WFTU and the leadership of GFTUK discussed about future joint activities in favor of the working class of Asia and against the imperialistic aggressiveness. The General Secretary of WFTU expressed the solidarity of WFTU with the people of DPR Korea.

### MAY

1: A numerous delegation of WFTU headed by the WFTU General Secretary, George Mavrikos attended the May Day celebrations held in Havana, Cuba. The participation of the WFTU delegation in the May Day celebrations took place in the framework of the 1st meeting of the WFTU Presidential Council after the successfully conclusions of the 17th World Trade Union Congress the last October. The WFTU decided to organize its Presidential Council Meeting in Havana, Cuba in order to express its solidarity to the Cuban people and highlight the significant role of Latin America and the Caribbean for the class oriented trade union movement.



1: Workers from around the world organized mass strikes, demonstrations, rallies for the 1st of May in every country of the world, celebrations that honored the 131 years since the revolt of the workers in Chicago. Under the banners of WFTU the Workers projected their internationalism and demanded contemporary rights for the working class in each country, better wages, labor and trade union rights and liberties, social security, policies to confront unemployment.

2: An international solidarity meeting was held in Havana, Cuba. More than 1000 delegates from all over the world attended the meeting, expressing their solidarity with the Cuban people. On behalf of WFTU, the WFTU General Secretary, George Mavrikos addressed the meeting, highlighting the solidarity of the class

oriented trade union movement with Cuba. Divanilton Pereira, WFTU Secretariat Member and Dr K. Hemalata, WFTU Presidential Council Member also delivered a speech. The Cuban trade union federation CTC offered an honorary medal to the WFTU General Secretary, George Mavrikos and to the WFTU Vice President, Valentin Pacho for their action and contribution to the international trade union movement.

3-4: The WFTU Presidential Council Meeting took place in Havana, Cuba. 55 participants from 38 countries attended the meeting and discussed about the next activities and goals of the WFTU. During its works more than 40 participants delivered speeches. The participants discussed about the situation of the trade union movement in every continent and adopted resolutions for the priorities, goal, actions and struggles of the WFTU for the next period. After the conclusion of the first day of WFTU Presidential Meeting the participants attended a gathering, organized by the WFTU Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean to inaugurate their new offices. The Presidential Council Meeting was a significant step for the class oriented trade union movement in the direction of militant struggles in order to satisfy the contemporary needs of the working class worldwide.

3-4: The WFTU participated in the UNESCO NGO FORUM 2017, represented by Christoforos Giakoumelos. This year's event was organized in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia with the slogan "Youth and their Social Impact". In his address to the UNESCO partners, in the framework of "Speaker Corner", the WFTU representative presented the WFTU youth activities and concluded by saying among other that "especially the working youth can really have a great social impact through their fight for a work with rights, for a work that could satisfy their contemporary needs; in any case, only a fight for their lives and labor rights would allow youth to have a positive social impact, capable of changing society".





5: A delegation of the World Federation of Trade Unions visited the Center of the United Medical Cooperation in Havana, Cuba. During the visit, the delegation of WFTU was informed about the role of this Center, that offers the necessary preparation and training for doctors and nurses who participate in solidarity medical missions in foreign countries. The delegation expressed the solidarity and the support of the international class oriented trade union movement to the Cuban medical sector and the people of Cuba.

19-20: The 2017 WFTU APRO took place in the city of Chennai India hosted by AIBEA India with the participation of 13 countries affiliates of WFTU and 45 trade unions from all Asia Pacific area. The meeting was conducted by cde Mahadevan Deputy general secretary of WFTU and director of APRO. In the meeting were also present with important speeches cde Swadesh Dev Roye, deputy general secretary of the WFTU and the presidential council members from the area. The WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos delivered a speech giving the full picture of the international trade union movement. The WFTU General Secretary pointed the daily tasks and challenges of the working class, he underlined the need of strengthening the APRO with many activities in all countries and the importance of the trade union formation and training. The WFTU General Secretary in his speech gave the guidelines in disseminating the declarations of the 17th World Trade Union Congress.



25: The WFTU confirmed its relentless support to the struggles of the Palestinian political prisoners and the Palestinian people, in WFTU headquarters in Athens, Greece. The heroic people of Palestine can rely on the firm and non - negotiable solidarity of the WFTU until the definitive victory of the Palestinian people against the Israeli occupation and imperialist crimes.

25-26: LAB 9th Congress in Gasteiz, Basque Country: On behalf of the WFTU, the Austrian Oliver Jonischkeit saluted the Congress. Garbine Aranburu has become the new Secretary General of LAB after Ainhoa Etxaide.

25-28: FITMETAL Congress Brazil.

25-5 JUNE: The annual ILO International Training Course on Labour and Social Policies for Decent Work held in Geneva. The World Federation of Trade Unions was represented by Ms. Vahitha Parveen Ismail from AIBEA India.

27-28: CIG 7th Congress, Spanish State: The WFTU was represented by Quim Boix, WFTU Coordinator in Spanish State. Artur Sequeira, WFTU Secretariat member, was also present.

30: The WFTU and Nakliyat is Union, organized a massive protest against the banning of the strike of glass workers, the new resolution aiming at extorting the seniority indemnity right and unlawful dismissals in the capital of Turkey, Ankara. The protest started with the participation of workers and union leaders. Claiming that we propagandize terrorism, the police forces tried to stop us carrying the banners of Nuriye Gulmen and Semih Ozak?a, who are the symbols of the struggle against the unlawful dismissals with decree law as a result of declared state of emergency.



### JUNE

4: The WFTU Preparatory Meeting for the 106th ILC took place in Geneva with great success. All the WFTU affiliated organisations that were taking part in the 106th Session of ILC took part with high level delegations. During the meeting, among the other delegates, took the floor Nicolas Ghiokas Representative of WFTU in ILO, Esteban Munoz on behalf of the WFTU office in Geneva and Vahida Nizam from AITUC-India.

7: The internationalist event of solidarity with the people of socialist Cuba took place in Brussels with the participation of 30 trade unionists from 11 countries. The central slogan of the Conference was "Stop to the blockade against Cuba- Return of the territory of Guantanamo to the Cuban people." All speakers from the five continents were committed to strengthening their internationalism and solidarity with the Cuban Revolution. The trade unionists from all over the world participating in the International Trade Union Meeting adopted a common resolution about the development of their action in solidarity with the Cuban people. The presence of Carmen Rosa Lopez Rodriguez from CTC, Cuba and the presence of the Ambassador of Cuba in Belgium, Mrs. Norma Goicochea Estenoz, were of great importance for this Conference. The Conference was hosted by the non-attached member of the European Parliament Sotirios Zarianopoulos, MP of the Communist Party of Greece, and the hospitality was excellent.

8-9: The NUM Central Committee meeting took place in Pretoria and WFTU was represented by Nikolas Theodorakis. The Central Committee (CC) of the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) met in Pretoria. Over 700 delegates from the branches of the NUM throughout South Africa were attending. The Central Committee discussions were focused on the organisational, economic, political and international matters facing the NUM.

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9-11: The WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos participated in the 2nd USB National Congress in Tivoli, Rome. A delegation of the WFTU, composed by comrades from Greece, Cuba, Basque Country and Cyprus, visited the workers of the Italian Institute of Environmental Protection and Research (ISPRA), leading an occupation lasting three weeks, bringing them the solidarity of the WFTU. The WFTU General Secretary delivered a Greeting Speech in the Congress and he took part in the International Meeting titled: "17° World Trade Union Congress - Struggle - Internationalism - Unity. The challenges of class oriented trade unions" with the presence of all international delegations.

12: The WFTU General Secretary addressed the 106th ILC Plenary Session in Geneva. The WFTU Presidential Council meeting took place in Geneva, Switzerland in the framework of 106th International Labour Conference. The affiliated organisations of WFTU and its friends took part massively and discussed about the strengthening of WFTU in every continent of the world and their future initiatives. In addition, c. Valentin Pacho joined the delegation of the WFTU and participated in the Commission for the Application of Standards representing the WFTU.



13: The WFTU Meeting on the Economic immigration and refugees took place in Geneva, Switzerland in the framework of the 106th International Labour Conference with high participation of the WFTU affiliates and friends. The main Speech was delivered by the WFTU Vice-President Pampis Kyritsis from Pancyprian Federation of Labour (PEO). One minute of silence kept in the memory of all immigrants and refugees who lost their life in the sea trying to reach Greece and Italy.

14-16: PANAMA UIS Agroalimentary 1st conference.

24: The WFTU participated in the great manifestation of PAME, Greece that took place in Thessaloniki, Greece in the framework of the two-day anti-imperialist initiative of PAME under the slogan: "With the workers of all countries for a world without exploitation, wars, refugees." The WFTU General Secretary, George Mavrikos, greeted this great rally. On 25th of June, the initiative continued with an international Trade Union Meeting

where trade unions from the Balkan and the Mediterranean region were taking part. The President of the Trade Union Organization" SLOGA", Serbia, Zeljiko Veselinovic, delivered a speech on the behalf of the foreign trade unionists' delegation. Earlier, WFTU Vice-president Valentin Pacho Quispe laid a wreath on behalf of WFTU at the monument of the Worker, honoring the workers of Thessaloniki and their great history and struggles.



26-27: The 11th National Congress of NEHAWU took place in Johannesburg, South Africa. The WFTU was present in the congress with a high level delegation headed by Hariharan Mahadevan from AITUC-India WFTU Deputy General Secretary, Vincent Kapenga member of the WFTU Presidential Council from CTP-D.R. Congo, Anda Anastasaki General Coordinator of WFTU Central Offices and on behalf of WFTU TUI PS&A, its president Artur Sequeira member of the WFTU Secretariat. In the Congress hundreds of delegates were taking part and very important resolutions for the future of the class-oriented trade union movement in S. Africa were taken.



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### **JULY**

3-4: The TUI HOTOUR which represents the workers in tourism and hospitality sectors in different countries all over the world, in cooperation with WFTU, were organizing an International Trade Union Conference on "Dignified Work for Tourism &Hospitality Workers in Cairo, Egypt, in order to discuss about dignified work and the workers' rights in this important sector. The General Trade Union of Hotel and Tourism Workers in Egypt was the host organization and delegates from various countries attended this meaningful initiative. The WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos addressed the floor and TUI HOTOUR General Secretary Mamdouh Mohamdy also delivered a speech. In the Conference were also present the President of ETUF, Mohammed Guebally, the General Secretary of ICATU, Ghassan Ghosn, and Mr. Mohamed Safaan, Minister of Manpower of Egypt.

25-27: The 3rd Panafrican Conference of the WFTU took place in Abuja, Nigeria. More than 200 national and international delegates met to debate on the challenges of the African Workers. Delegates from 41 out of 47 countries of Africa, with enthusiasm and militancy declared present to this important Conference, hosted by the WFTU AFFILIATED trade unions in Nigeria and friendly organisations. The president of the Trade union Congress of Nigeria, the President of the Nigeria Labour Congress, Success Leke, member of WFTU Presidential Council and the WFTU General Secretary took the floor.





26: On this very symbolic date for the Cuban people, the World Federation of Trade Unions organized various events and activities in the Cuban embassies to declare their internationalist solidarity in the framework of the Campaign of International Solidarity with Cuba, announced during the International Trade Union Meeting in Brussels on 7th and 8th June 2017. WFTU affiliates and friends in 126 countries around the world were fighting for the end of the criminal blockade against Cuba and for the immediate return of the Guantanamo territory to the Cuban people!

### **AUGUST**

23: NEHAWU and WFTU round table discussion took place at NEHAWU House with the participation of trade union cadres of S. Africa and neighboring countries. The theme of the discussion was "One year after the WFTU 17th World Trade Union Congress", the participants discussed about the positive steps of WFTU after the 17th World Trade Union Congress and the implementation of the "Nigeria Platform" that was decided in the 3rd Pan African Conference in Abuja, Nigeria. Nikolas Theodorakis, Head of International Department of PAME and official of WFTU took part on behalf of the WFTU.

24: The 4th National Congress of CTB-Brazil took place in Salvador, Brazil. The WFTU was represented by a high-level delegation headed by its president Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba. On the first day of the Congress took place an International Seminar on the International Capitalistic Crisis and the role of the workers' movement with the participation of the delegates from 26 countries, where the WFTU President addressed a speech with the WFTU positions on the subject.

### **SEPTEMBER**

7-8: The Third Latin American Conference of Banking, Insurance and Finance Workers' Trade Unions was held in Panama City, Panama, convened by the TUI-Banks & Insurances -BIFU and the WFTU; In the representation of the World Federation of Trade Unions, c. Valentín Pacho participated in his responsibility as Vice-President.

8-10: The 1st National Congress of the Tunisia Labor Organization took place in Tunis, Tunisia. On the behalf of WFTU, Maria Barouti from WFTU Central Offices addressed the Congress, talking about WFTU and its role in support of the struggling workers of the region, expressing its internationalist solidarity with them and pointing out the necessity of strengthening the class oriented struggles through the militant trade union movement.

11-12: The WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos took part in the International Trade Union Conference on "Solidarity with Syrian People and Workers against Terrorism, Blockade and Imperial Intervention Policies", in Damascus, Syria, accompanied by George Perros WFTU Vice-President.



### **OCTOBER**

3: The affiliates of WFTU around the world celebrated the WFTU International Action Day for Migrants and Refugees. The WFTU celebrated its foundation day and International Action day which was dedicated this year to the Immigrants and Refugees, visited the refugee camp in the area of Ritsona, 100 km far from Athens, Greece and met with the Syrian Refugees families. The WFTU delegation headed by its General Secretary George Mavrikos and the WFTU Vice President Haidar Ibrahim, Head of General Union of Palestine Workers and the Vice President of WFTU TUI Education-FISE, Soula Lampoudi met with the Syrian refugees and offered notebooks and basket balls, footballs etc to the children of all ages.

9-10: The annual WFTU TUI Meeting took place in Kolkata, India. The works of the meeting opened with the welcome speech of CITU President, dr. K. Hemalata. The WFTU General Secretary, George Mavrikos, delivered an introductory speech, underlining the significant struggles of the WFTU sectoral organizations over the last period and pointed out the crucial role of the TUIs for the implementation of the WFTU goals for the satisfaction of the contemporary needs of the working class. During the first session, the Head of the WFTU Asia and Pacific Regional Office and WFTU Deputy General Secretary Hariharan Mahadevan and the General Convenor of WFTU Sectoral Organizations (TUIs) and WFTU Deputy General Secretary, Swadesh Dev Roye, took the floor and addressed the meeting. During the meeting delegates from all the sectors discussed for the

situation and conditions that the workers face to the various sectors and how the international class oriented trade union movement be organized for its counter-attack in favor of the working class and the cover of the interests of the workers. The WFTU - TUIs meeting concluded with the unanimous adoption of the "Kolkata Conclusion". A workers meeting with participation of hundreds workers was held on 10th October 2017, on the occasion of the annual WFTU TUI meeting.



14-20: The WFTU took part in the 19th World Festival of Youth and Students organized by World Federation of Democratic Youth in Sochi, Russia. The WFTU General Secretary Mavrikos in his addressing speech the WFTU GS focused on the challenges of the working youth today and highlighted the importance of the WFTU World Working Youth Congress to take place in Rome in a few days tacking with all contemporary issues faced by the young workers worldwide. The WFTU representative Petros Petrou addressed the participants of the demonstration organized in the framework of the festival to honour the 100 years of the October Revolution. The WFTU also participated to the press conference of the 19th World Festival of Youth and Students and provided significant information about the history and the struggles of the WFTU, reaffirming that the international class oriented trade union movement will continue its relentless struggles for the satisfaction of the contemporary needs of the working class.

18-20: The WFTU delegation participated to the ILO Workers' Symposium on "The Future of Work We Want: Workers' perspective" organized by ACTRAV in the ILO Headquarters. The delegation composed by Anda Anastasaki, WFTU Headquarters General Coordinator. and Christoforos Giakoumelos presented the position of the WFTU in the contemporary and changing world of work.

24-27: The FAO 9th Session of the Sub-Committee on Aquaculture of the Committee on Fisheries, held at FAO headquarters in Rome. WFTU was represented by Blair Federico Bertaccini, Member of the WFTU North America Office.

25-27: The International Trade Union Conference on Healthcare Industry jointly organized by the WFTU and FNIC-CGT took place in Paris, France. FNIC-CGT General Secretary, Emmanuel Lepine, inaugurated the works of the International Symposium held in Montreuil, in CGT France Headquarters. WFTU General Secretary, George Mavrikos took the floor and pointed out the most important tasks that the international class-oriented trade union movement has to assume, for the better coordination of pharmaceutical industry workers all over the world. Trade union delegates from more than 22 different countries participated the meeting as well as hundred of national delegates from every corner of France.

26-27: Cut Galicia 6th Congress, Vigo, Spanish State: The WFTU was represented by Koldo Saenz, member of the EUROF (WFTU European Office).

28-9 NOVEMBER: The 331st Session of the ILO Governing Body took place in Geneva. WFTU was repre-

sented by Dr.Hossam El Din Mustafa Kamal Mohamed, President of Maritime Workers Union in Egypt, Mr. Khaled Abdel latif Eish, President of Food Industries Union in Egypt, Mr. Mohamed hassan khalifa, Interpreter.

### NOVEMBER.

2-3: The 3rd WFTU World Youth Congress took place in Rome Italy hosted by USB Italy. In the Congress 120 delegates from 50 countries participated bringing the spirit of youth struggles from their countries and the decision to fight to win back the right to work and life. The WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos, the Secretariat Members Alberto Reyes from FAT PANAMA and Abdelmalik El Naneem from SWTUF SUDAN and the host Pierpaolo Leornardi Member of the Presidential Council Member and General Secretary of USB Italy were representing the leadership of the WFTU. During the WWYC the delegates had the opportunity to share opinions and experiences about the organization of activities of young workers for the promotion of their rights through their participation in the class oriented trade union movement. The WFTU G.S. G. Mavrikos also addressed the Congress, underlining the importance of action and participation of youngsters in the ranks of the WFTU. He also explained the principle of internationalist solidarity and how it was expressed in practice during the course of the WFTU, pointing out that the history of class struggles is an instrument for the future of the young generation. The WWYC also elected the new WFTU Youth Coordination Committee composed by young and militant trade unionists from the five continents.





4: Homage and Memorial Event took place in Foggia, South Italy to honor the famous trade union leader Giuseppe Di Vittorio, on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of his death. Giuseppe Di Vittorio was elected president of the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU) in July 1949 during the 2nd WFTU Congress in Milan, Italy. In this Congress trade unions from 61 countries representing 71 million workers took part. In the event took part and addressed the WFTU General Secretary of WFTU, George Mavrikos and Pierpaolo Leonardi on behalf of the leadership of USB-Italy.



5: WFTU and USB organised an Immigrants gathering in Foggia, Italy the province where Giuseppe Di Vittorio (WFTU President 1949-1957) was born. The WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos attended the gathering accompanied by Pierpaolo Leonardi, WFTU Presidential Council member and other trade-unionists from USB-Italy.

6: WFTU participated the events commemorating the 100 years since the Great October Socialist Revolution in Leningrad and in Moscow, represented by Vincent Kapenga, Member of the WFTU Presidential Council from PR Congo and Vahidha Nizam, representing the leadership of AITUC India.



7: In Peru, the Centennial of the October Socialist Revolution was commemorated, a central act organized by the CGTP and the WFTU. Comrade Valentin Pacho, Vice President, was in charge of the central speech on behalf of the WFTU.

16-19: The WFTU General Secretary, George Mavrikos, attended the 27th congress of PEO (Pancyprian Federation of Labour) that took place in Nicosia, Cyprus. The WFTU General Secretary addressed to the 750 delegates from all the sectors and cities of Cyprus and to the 39 foreign delegates during the opening ceremony.

### **DECEMBER**

6-8: The WFTU Working Women Asia Pacific Meeting took place in Hanoi, Vietnam hosted by VGCL-Vietnam. Women trade unionists from every part of the Asia Pacific Region took part in the meeting anlysing the situation of working women in the region. The WFTU was represented by Anda Anastasaki, General Coordinator of the WFTU Central Offices.

6-7: The 4th Forum of Trade Unions of Nile Basin Countries took place in Egypt hosted by ETUF Egypt and SWTUF Sudan in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, under the slogan "Strengthening the Future Cooperation among the workers of Nile Basin Countries". The President of the Nile Basin Countries Trade Unions Federation, Mr. Gebaly Al-Maraghy, its General Secretary, Mr. Youssef Abdel Kareem, the General Secretary of OATUU, Mr. Arezki Mezhod and representatives from almost all the Nile basin countries participated in the Conference. On behalf of WFTU, Maria Barouti, Arab countries responsible from WFTU Central Offices, addressed the Conference, highlighting the WFTU position on the importance of cooperation and militant initiatives for the

pro-people utilization of the River Nile waters and for the improvement of the life of workers in Nile Basin Countries.

6-8: The WFTU Regional Office for French-Speaking Africa and the UGTD, organized in Djibouti an International Conference of Affiliates and Friends of the WFTU in French¬speaking Africa on the topic of health and safety in work places. The office also held its meeting on December 5 at the UGTD office in Djibouti and discussed future activities to strengthen the WFTU.

9: The WFTU General Secretary visited Czech Republic in the occasion of the 7th Congress of OCMS (trade union association of Bohemia Moravia and Silesia). The WFTU General Secretary addressed the delegates and offered a symbolic gift to Stanislav Grospic, OSCMS President.

13-15: The WFTU International Seminar with Trade Unions from South Europe and Mediterranean Region took place in Marseille, France hosted by CGT Bouches-du-Rhône. The WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos took part in the Seminar and addressed the participants and the more than 50 international delegates representing trade unions from the countries of South Europe and Mediterranean.

15-21: The WFTU Affiliates and friends in all the Countries of the World responding to the call of the World Federation of Trade Unions were organizing solidarity initiatives and events declaring that "Palestine is not Alone!".



20: The International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions, ICATU, organized an Emergency Central Council Meeting at the Headquarters of the General Labour Union of Lebanon, in Beirut, to condemn the unjust American decision to declare Jerusalem as the capital of Israel. The WFTU General Secretary, George Mavrikos, participated and addressed the Council, where representatives of almost all Arab countries Federations also participate in solidarity with the people of Palestine.

22: A meeting was held at the Headquarters of the Trade Union Organization SLOGA in Belgrade, Serbia, between the WFTU General Secretary, George Mavrikos, and representatives of the former workers of the Knjaz Milos Company in Aranjelovac, Serbia. The former workers of the Knjaz Milos Company have been protesting over the last years against the anti-workers policies they face. During the meeting, the WFTU General Secretary was informed on their situation and future action of support was discussed.

23: The Serbian Trade Union Organization Sloga, member of WFTU, celebrated in Belgrade its 10th anniversary, in the presence of the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos, and PAME Head of International Relations, Nikolas Theodorakis. The WFTU General Secretary addressed the ceremony, conveying the internationalist solidarity of the WFTU to the people of Serbia who suffer from the anti-workers policies and highlighted that the WFTU will be stably on their side as it was in the past during the NATO intervention in Yugoslavia. At the end of the celebration an event of solidarity with the people of Palestine also took place.

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### **JANUARY**

- 6: Young Trade Unionists from different countries responded to the call of the WFTU Working Youth Committee and took pictures on groups with the WFTU banner in Solidarity with the Palestinian People and Ahed Tamimi.
- 9: The WFTU participated and greeted the Congress of the CGT of railway workers of Versailles which was held at Versailles, France. The speech of the WFTU delegate, Petros Petrou underlined the historical strong bonds between the WFTU and French working class as well as the need for further strengthening of the coordination among the class-oriented trade unions in Europe and worldwide in the direction of class unity, internationalism, solidarity and class struggles.
- 15-18: The Pre-Congress of Women of French Speaking Africa held in Dakar, Senegal. The WFTU General Secretary, George Mavrikos participated in the conference and he addressed the delegates from all the French Speaking Countries of Africa. During his speech he underlined: "The WFTU since its formation was and will be on the side of the struggling people of Africa".





- 22: On January 22nd, a delegation of WFTU, FISE and PAME protested against Imperialist Interventions and Violence in Yemen in front of the Saudi Arabian Embassy in Athens, Greece. The delegation submitted a resolution of protest against the Imperialist crime and in solidarity with the people of Yemen.
- 22: The WFTU Working Youth Committee announced a solidarity campaign with Palestinian political prisoners and Ahed Tamimi. Hundreds of young Trade Unionists from different countries responded to the call of

the WFTU Working Youth Committee and took pictures on groups with the WFTU banner in Solidarity with the Palestinian People and Ahed Tamimi.

22-26: ILO Meeting of Experts to adopt a Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Shipbuilding and ship repair, Geneva. WFTU was represented by Dr. Hossam El Din Mustafa Kamal Mohamed, President of Maritime Workers Union, Mr. Salah El Din Saad Youssif El Kazaz, Treasurer and Mr. Mohamed Hassan Mohamed Khalifa, Interpreter.

27: On January 27-28 the 1st Annual Meeting of the WFTU Working Youth took place in the Central Offices of WFTU in Athens, Greece with the participation of delegates from Denmark, Russia, Cyprus, Greece, Vietnam, Palestine, France, Italy and South Africa under the coordination of Emil Olsen, the newly elected coordinator of Working Youth Committee. On behalf of the WFTU Secretariat Divanilton Pereira, Deputy General Secretary participated in the meeting. The WYC decided its action plan for 2018 based on the direction of the World Working Youth Congress which had taken place a few months ago in Rome, Italy. In the framework of the WFTU Youth Committee meeting, a seminar on Social Classes was successfully held. The WFTU General Secretary, George Mavrikos, delivered an introductory speech to the young trade unionists, underlining the importance of the class analysis of society for the struggles of the present and future. The youngsters showed a keen interest for the WFTU view on social classes nowadays and made important inputs, based on the experience in their countries as well. This seminar has been the inauguration of the WFTU trade union training year for 2018.





### **FEBRUARY**

3: The WFTU Financial Control Committee concluded its audits meeting of 2017 in the WFTU Central Offices in Athens, Greece on February 3rd, 2018. The FCC submitted its report to the Presidential Council which took place in the end of the same month in Tehran, Iran.

16: Comrade Bereng Soke from NEHAWU and the WFTU Regional Office South Africa visited the WFTU head office and met with the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos. Their discussion was based on the long-term service of comrade Soke which started on February 16th in the WFTU Central offices regarding the WFTU training program and internationalist solidarity.

19: On 19th of February, the WFTU participated in the opening ceremony of the 17th COB Ordinary National Congress in Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia; its slogan was: "Faced with the reactionary offensive..revolutionary unity". In a spirit of internationalism and solidarity, c. Valentin Pacho, WFTU Vice President, addressed the Bolivian delegates, reaffirming the support of the big WFTU trade union family against the imperialist interference. At the same time, the COB leaders and affiliates thanked the WFTU for the support it gave them during their union fights. The works of the Congress continued during the whole week. Earlier in the morning, c. Valentin Pacho participated in a work meeting with the Federations leaders of the historic Bolivian central organization in order to wish them every success in their works.

26-27: The WFTU 2018 Presidential Council Meeting took place with great success on 26-27 February 2018 in Tehran, Iran. More than 45 international delegates from the 5 continents, attended the 2018 annual meeting of the WFTU Precedential Council, examining the rich action of the international class-oriented trade union movement during 2017 and adopted the WFTU action plan for 2018. During the works of the meeting tens of participants took the floor and analyzed the situation in every region and continent of the world, discussing on the role, the priorities and the goals of the WFTU. The works of the Presidential Council Meeting strengthened even more the international class-oriented trade union movement and its militant and class direction, struggling for the contemporary needs of the working class in every continent.



### **MARCH**

1: A 3-days training seminar of ACFTU and WFTU "one belt-one road" capacity building for young trade unionists from Latin American countries, took place on 1-2 March 2018, in China. The ACFTU was represented by brother An Jianhua Director General of the International Department of ACFTU. The WFTU delegation was headed by Alberto Reyes Member of the WFTU Secretariat from FAT Panama and Anda Anastasaki Head offices General Coordinator and composed by: Nicolas Maximiliano (Argentina-SAMC), Luiza Bezerra (Brasil-CTB), Ana Marisel (Chile-CUT FENATIA), John Alexander (Colombia-SUTIMAC), Amdres Alberto (Costa Rica – UNDECA), Christian David (Ecuador – CTE), Alan Esau (Mexico – UNTA), Samuel Jimenez (Mexico – CODUC), Angelic Giselle (Panama – CNTP) and Omar Alonzo (Peru-CGTP). During the second day of the training seminar program, the WFTU youth delegation met with brother Jiang Guanping Vice-chairman ACFTU and exchanged opinions and experiences during a banquet offered by the ACFTU. Also, the Latin American youth trade unionists visited the Beijing Municipal Federation of Trade Unions.

4: The WFTU affiliated organization NEHAWU from South Africa organized a joint Seminar with WFTU in the framework of trade union training activities that were decided for the year 2018. The WFTU was represented by comrade Nikola Theodorakis, Head of the International Department of PAME.

4-5: The 18th Congress of FISE started on 4th of March 2018 in Mexico City, México, hosted by CNTE Mexico with an impressive opening ceremony and the participation of hundreds of delegates coming from 22 countries of the five continents. During the opening ceremony, comrade Valentin Pacho , WFTU Vice President greeted the Congress , representing the WFTU and read the greeting message of WFTU General Secretary cde George Mavrikos. The General Secretary of CNTE, section 18 of Michoacan, Victor Manuel Zavala and other leaders of CNTE Mexico, as well as the FISE President, comrade Hassan Ismail and FISE Vice President, Comrade Chrysoula Lampoudi, also conveyed their wishes and optimism for the success of the 18th Congress of FISE.

The local and international delegates had a rich exchange of experience, discussed on the educational system and the problems of teachers in their countries and proposed ways and initiatives so that FISE becomes stronger for the benefit of teachers and for an education that serves the peoples' needs. The Congress concluded with the election of the new leadership of FISE.



8-10: The World Working Women congress of the WFTU took place 8-10 March 2018, in Panama city, Panama, paying tribute to the 8th March Day; a very special day for women who fought for equal rights in work, society and life. Dozens of woman delegates from every corner of the world participated in the debates and the planning of the future actions of the WFTU in the struggles for the rights of the female workers. The Congress which was hosted by the Central Nacional de Trabajadores de Panama "CNTP", was inaugurated with the greeting message of the General Secretary of the "CNTP" and WFTU Vice-President, cde Alfredo Grael Anino, and continued with the interventions of the various countries. The second day of the World Working Women Congress started on the 9th of March with the song of the International and the speech of the WFTU General Secretary, cde George Mavrikos, who presented the principal activities of WFTU for this year and the importance of the participation of the working women in the life and action of their trade unions and of WFTU. The Congress continued with the presentations of the working women situation on each continent, presented by the following comrades:

Africa: Macanda Tryphina Nyameca, South Africa – NEHAWU

Arab Countries: Sousan Abdelsalam, Palestine, GUPW

Latin America: Mehia Echevaria Perpetua Dionisia, Perú - CGTP

Asia: Vahitha Ismail Parveen, India – AITUC

Caribbean: Carmen Lizarraga, Panama - CNTP

Europe: Rodriguez Celador Maria Teresa, Spain- AST

USA: Cherrene Kay Horazuk – AFSCME-USA

Among the cultural events of the Congress was the projection of a documentary about the life of the great Panamanian woman militant Marta Matamoros, WFTU Vice-President, who dedicated her life in the struggle for the rights of the working women. The WFTU Working Women Congress was honored by the presence of another emblematic figure of the CNTP and of WFTU, cde Norma Cano. The World Working Women Congress concluded its works by the presentation of its conclusions and by the election of the new WFTU Working Women's Committe, composed of the following comrades/ countries:

- 1. Brazil: Celina Areas, CTB
- 2. Brazil: Maria Pimentel, CGTB
- 3. Colombia: Gloria Maria Restrepo Ramirez, SINTRAHGM

- 4. Costa Rica: Ana Marcela Hernadez Gonzalez, UNDECA
- 5. Cuba: CTC
- 6. Panama: CNTP
- 7. Peru: Mejia Echevarria Perpetua Dionisia, CGTP
- 8. U.S.A.: Cherrene Cay Horazuk, AFSCME
- 9. India: Ismail Vahitha Parveen, AITUC
- 10. Australia:Cain Naomi June, MUA
- 11. Senegal: Awa Sy, UTS
- 12. South Africa: Khanye Mathalepo Grace, NUM
- 13. Palestine: Sousan Abdelsalam, GUPW
- 14. Austria: Tamas Cristina-Annamaria, Left Bloc in the ATUF
- 15. France: Dorothée Unterberger, FNAF
- 16. Greece: Giota Tavoulari, PAME
- 17. Spain: Maria Teresa Rodriguez Clador, AST
- 18. Morocco: Sanaa Boushabi, OASMMECA

Cde Khanye Mathalepo Grace from South Africa is the new coordinator of the committee.





8: The WFTU delegate Paola Palmieri from USB ITALY participated to the events celebrating 8 March international Working women's day in Istanbul Turkey and the demonstrations, the total program was organized by NAKLIYAT-Is. NAKLIYAT-Is dedicated this important day to the women who were once employed by Real Market and dismissed as a result of a fraudulent bankruptcy without being given their compensation and other rights.

14: The meeting of the WFTU leaders in the region of Latin America and the Caribbean took place in Costa Rica. The WFTU cadres met at the facilities of the UNDECA Centro de Recreo in Alajuela, Costa Rica and discussed in a democratic and collective manner the future steps and the agenda of the great class family of the WFTU for the coming year.



16-17: Comrade Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba WFTU President and President of NEHAWU-South Africa visited Los Angeles for the Labor conference hosted by the local Trade Union Roofers 36. On April 16th the WFTU President was interview by KGL 102.3 Radio station in Los Angeles. The discussion dealt with Labour issues in today's conditions and the problems of workers and gave the way out with counterattack and classorientated struggles. The discussion concluded launching an open call to join the class oriented Labour conference to take place on March 17. The WFTU President, also, inspected workplaces of roofing and waterproofing sector accompanied by cadres and members of Roofers Local 36 in Beverly Hills. On March 17th the WFTU President Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba addressed the meeting of WFTU affiliates and friends in North America hosted by the trade union Roofers Local 36 in Los Angeles. During his speech, the WFTU President presented the resolutions of the 17th World Trade Union Congress.

19-22: A WFTU delegation, headed by Anda Anastasaki, general Coordinator of the WFTU Central Offices, participated in the special session of the Commission of the Status of Women (CSW62) of the United Nations and the meetings and workshops themed: "Strategy on Gender Parity-How to walk the walk" and "Rural Women & Girls Economic Empowerment" that took place during the session. The WFTU delegation presented its Oral Statement on the situation of Women on March 21st.



21: The WFTU Delegation composed by Dr Frank Goldsmith, Blair Bertaccini WFTU North America Office and Anda Anastasaki, WFTU head office Coordinator met on March 20th, 2018 with Mr Marc-André Dorel, Acting Chief, NGO Branch, Office for ECOSOC Support and Coordination, Department of Economic and Social Affairs at the United Nations in New York. The WFTU Delegation presented the status of WFTU as affiliated Organization to the United Nations since 1946, its Action Plan and activities in the five continents and all sectors. During the meeting the WFTU Delegation submitted a memorandum regarding the Visa Denial of the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos by the US Government.

27: The WFTU affiliated organization USB-Italy organized manifestations and distributed its statement against the a system of "cooperatives" operating as intermediaries of job and which are getting rich by subtracting wages and rights from "their" workers, that the multinational Leroy Merlin utilizes. Under the slogan: "NEVER MORE SLAVES!" USB and the WFTU affiliates in countries that the multinational exists organized struggles against this new form of slavery, for social and salary rights, for the respect of the collective agreements.

28-30: The WFTU militant class-oriented affiliate CGT/FNIC implemented its robust rubber sector international conference on 28-30 March 2018, with delegates highly spirited and resolute to confront the barbarous, exploitative capitalist monopoly companies in the rubber sector, to fight for more improvements in the employment conditions of workers in furtherance of a class struggle against capitalism.



### **APRIL**

3: A working meeting took place in Monaco, with the International Commission, the Federal Office and representatives of the Union of Trade Unions of Monaco (USM) and the WFTU delegation, headed by its Secretary General, Comrade George Mavrikos. During the meeting, the delegations discussed and exchanged views on contemporary matters.

10: The World Federation of Trade Unions participated in the 45th Session of ALC which took place in Cairo, Egypt from 8-15 April 2018 with the participation of trade unions from the whole Arab World. The WFTU delegation delivered a speech on 10 April 2018 highlighting the common struggles of the WFTU and Arab peoples and reiterating its support and solidarity with the fair struggles of the workers in the Arab World. Moreover the WFTU delegates from the WFTU headquarters and the WFTU office in Cairo, had several bilateral meetings with the affiliates and friends of WFTU.

12: In a celebration held in Cairo, the former Palestinian General Secretary of the General Union of Palestine Workers, Haidar Ibrahim, was honored on the sidelines of the Arab Labor Organization Conference held in Cairo, under the initiative of the current General Secretary of GUPW, Mahmoud Abu Al-Wafa. Brother Mahmoud Abu Al-Wafa highlighted the important role of Haidar Ibrahim, who is a historical figure for GUPW and more than 25 years vice-President of WFTU, faithful to the principles of class oriented trade union movement and proletarian internationalism. He also affirmed that the younger generation will continue the struggle based on the same principles. Leaders from all Arab delegations participating in the 45th session of ALO, as well as the Secretary General of the International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions Ghassan Ghosn and the Director General of the ALO, took part in the celebration.

13: WFTU participation in the demonstration in Athens against the war preparations in Southeastern Mediterranean.



### Η ΚΥΒΕΡΝΗΣΗ ΣΥΜΜΕΤΕΧ ΚΑΤΑ ΤΩΝ ΛΑ

15: The WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos, addressed the solidarity with Palestinian people event which was organized by PAME in Haidari, Athens. The event took place on the occasion of the commencement of the workers football tournament of PAME. During the event the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos, the Ambassador of Palestine in Greece Marwan Emile Toubassi and the Mayor of Haidari Mixalis Selekos addressed the athletes and the participants.

16: ILO Meeting of Experts to adopt Guidelines on Decent Work in Public Emergency Services, Geneva. WFTU was represented by Ali Abdel Baset Ali and Hesham Ahmed Abdel Latif.

29: ILO Third Meeting of the Special Tripartite Committee of the Maritime Labour Convention, 2006, Geneva. WFTU was represented by Dr. Hossam El Dein Mustafa, President of Maritime Workers Union and Mr. Mohamed Hassan Mohamed Khalifa, Interpreter.

29: A WFTU delegation headed by the WFTU President, comrade Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba, visited Nepal on April 29th, 2018, in order to participate in a 5 - day trade union activities program planned by the WFTU affiliates in Nepal in the framework of the May Day celebrations. During the 5-day visit of the WFTU President in Nepal the following activities took place:

A) A welcome ceremony took place in Kathmandu, Nepal, with the participation of the WFTU Nepalese Affiliates and cadres and from TUIs. Following the welcome ceremony the WFTU delegation and the leaders of the WFTU affiliates had a very constructive meeting about the Nepalese class-oriented trade union movement and the next days' activities, workshops, seminars and demonstrations (April 29th, 2018)

B) The second day's activities of May Day celebrations in Nepal started with the meeting of the TUI public sector country coordination committee with the participation of comrade Michael Makwayiba, WFTU President, Premal Kumar Khanal, WFTU Presidential Council member, Mohan Man Swar, WFTU FCC member, Punya pd. Dhakal, TUI PS Vice President and tens of trade unionists from Nepal public sector and the WFTU affiliates union. (April 30th, 2018)

- C) The WFTU delegation had an interactive meeting with Senior Trade unions leaders and discussed with them on the history and struggles of the international and Nepalese class-oriented trade union movement. (April 30th, 2018)
- D) A meeting with cadres and leaders of TUI BIFU, TUI P&R and TUI UITTB took place. The delegates discussed on the challenges that are faced by the workers at these sectors and the role of the international sectoral organizations of WFTU. (April 30th, 2018)
- E) The WFTU President was interviewed in a national television channel and he analyzed the positions and the principles of the WFTU. (April 30th, 2018)
- F) The WFTU delegation met with Madhav K. Nepal, senior leader and chief of department of foreign affairs of the Communist Party of Nepal (UML) and discussed in comradely spirit the current situation of the trade union movement in Nepal and the wider region. The 3rd day of the visit concluded, after the May Day Rally, with the official inauguration of the WFTU Nepal's office and the Asia Pacific Regional office of WFTU TUI PS by the WFTU President. (May 1st, 2018).
- G) The WFTU President met with the Chairman of CPN (MC), Puspakamala Danala PRACHAND discussing the situation that prevails both in the international trade union movement and in Nepal (May 2nd, 2018).
- H) The WFTU delegation met with Jhala Nath Khanal, Senior leader of the CPN (UML) and former Prime Minister of Nepal and Surendra Panday a CPM (UML) S.C. member and former Finance Minister. Also a meeting took place with Mohan Bikeam Sing, General Secretary of NCP Masal. During the meetings were exchanged thoughts and positions regarding the issues which are faced from the workers (May 2nd, 2018).
- I) The WFTU President was the first speaker of a Trade Union workshop program, held in the capital of Nepal. The 4th day of WFTU visit program in Nepal concluded with the 2nd television interview of the WFTU President (May 2nd, 2018).
- J) The WFTU President's visit in Nepal concluded successfully with the last day seminar meeting organized by the 8 WFTU affiliates trade unions in Nepal. The WFTU President analyzed the Action Plan of the WFTU that was adopted during the 17th World Trade Union Congress and organizational matters of WFTU in Nepal. The seminar took place in the framework of the decision of the World Federation of Trade Union to declare 2018 as a trade union training year (May 3rd, 2018).



### 18th World Trade Union Congress

### MAY

1: The WFTU Trade Union members and friends, from around the world organized mass strikes, demonstrations, rallies for the 1st of May in every country of the world, celebrations that honored the 132 years since the revolt of the workers in Chicago and projected their internationalism and demanded contemporary rights for the working class in each country, better wages, labor and trade union rights and liberties, social security, policies to confront unemployment. The 2018 May Day activities and strikes of the WFTU member and friends were under the slogan "International Workers Day - Day of Strike".





1: Delegations of the WFTU and PAME laid wreaths on the monument of WFTU and on the monument of 200 Greek resistance fighters who were executed on May Day 1944 by the German Nazis.

1: A WFTU delegation, headed by the WFTU President Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba, participated in the great, massive May Day rally which took place in Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal. The WFTU President delivered a speech to the thousands of participants. A speech was also delivered by Premal Kumar Khanal, WFTU Presidential Council member.

9-10: A Workshop of the WFTU and the General Union of Palestine Workers took place on 9-10 May, 2018 in Ramallah, Palestine, under the topic "Mechanisms of Empowerment of Working Women inside trade unions" and with great participation. In the framework of the WFTU initiative "2018 – Year of trade union training". 14: The WFTU participates in a demonstration which took place in front of the embassy of Israel in Athens, Greece on May 14th, in solidarity with the Palestinian people.

14: The WFTU was represented in International Training Course– International Labour Office by Benítez Romero Isabel from Spain.

16-18: A WFTU Delegation composed by Evgenii Kulikov, Presidential Council member and General Secretary of the Union of SPR-Russia and Anda Anastasaki, WFTU Head Office General Coordinator, attended the works of the 31st Session of FAO Regional Conference for Europe (ERC) that took place in Voronezh, Russian Federation, from 16 – 18 May 2018. During the first and official opening day of the conference, Evgenii Kulikov made an intervention on behalf of the WFTU, where he strongly condemned the recent Israeli attack in Gaza, Palestine, and sent a message of firm solidarity to the Palestinian people. In the framework of the meeting the WFTU delegation held a meeting with Aleksandr Okhanov, Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation in the Agency for Fishery in FAO.



18: On May 18th a WFTU Delegation headed by Valentin Pacho, WFTU Vice-President visited the Embassy of Palestine in Athens, Greece and signed the book of condolences for the victims of Israeli attacks in Gaza. The WFTU affirmed its solidarity with the Palestinian people and working class.

18: A WFTU delegation, presided by its Vice-President, Valentin Pacho, participated in the event organized by PAME in Athens, Greece, in solidarity with the Palestinian people. The Peruvian cadre of the WFTU delivered a speech, reaffirming our stable class-oriented solidarity with the people and the working class of Palestine and at the same time denounced the criminal action of the State of Israel.

22: The meeting of the Monitoring Committee of WFTU Asia Pacific Regional Office, took place in Colombo, Sri Lanka on 22 May 2018. During the meeting, the members of the APRO Monitoring Committee discussed on the challenges that are faced by the working class in the region and determined the future plan of the WFTU Asia and Pacific Regional Office. Specially, the discussions were mainly focused on Labour reforms, minimum wage, working place conditions, right to organize and collective bargaining, financial strengthening of the WFTU and the strengthening of WFTU APRO Regional Office.



22: On May 22, 2018 Members of the WFTU Working Youth Committee and Students organized meetings and pickets in front of all USA and Israel embassies in Russia: in Moscow, St.Petersburg, Vladivostok and Ekaterinburg where they submitted a statement against the Murder of tens of Palestinians In Gaza titled "The US is the sponsor of Israeli terrorism!"

27: The activities of WFTU in the framework of the 107th International Labour Conference started with the Preparatory Meeting for the participation in the ILC which took place on May 27th with high participation of international delegates.

### JUNE

1: On June 1st, 2018, in the framework of the 107th International Labour Conference, the WFTU affiliates and friends took part massively in this event, where the member of the WFTU secretariat Hariharan Mahadevan presented the keynote speech.



4: The WFTU President addressed the plenary session of 107th International Labour Conference on Monday 4 June 2018.



4: On June 4th, the WFTU informal Presidential Council and friends meeting took place in the ILO Headquarters. In this context and with the presence of the WFTU President and General Secretary, our big trade union family decided to honor the historical Cuban cadre of the WFTU, Ramon Cardona, for his contribution to the international class trade union movement. During the event, in a spirit of internationalism, a commemorative plaque was delivered to R. Cardona who served many years as WFTU Representative in the Americas region.



20-22: With the participation of 823 national delegates and many foreign delegations, the 16th Num National Congress took place on 20-22June 2018 in Boksburg, South Africa. The WFTU Delegation participated with Emil Olsen, construction worker from Denmark and Coordinator of WFTU Youth Secretariat, Lulamile Sotaka Presidential Council member and Head of the WFTU Regional Office South Africa, Anda Anastasaki, WFTU Head-office General Coordinator and George Bazionis, WFTU Head office. In the framework of the congress, the WFTU Delegation headed by its President had many bilateral meetings with Ghana, Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Namibia, Mozambique and other miner trade unions and cooperation was agreed. Emil Olsen, coordinator of the WFTU working youth committee met also with Benjamin Mogoye, member of the WFTU Working Youth Committee from NEHAWU-South Africa. On the third and last day of the congress on June 22nd Emil Olsen took the floor and addressed the delegates.



24: On June 24, a joint delegation of WFTU, PAME and FISE delivered basic essentials to immigrant rural workers of Nea Manolada, Greece. These essentials supplies were gathered by class-oriented trade unions as a demonstration of solidarity with rural workers who suffer so much by capitalist barbarity.

27-28: The Meeting of the WFTU Women's Committee started on June 27-28 with the participation of 15 women trade union leaders from South Africa, Palestine, India, Peru, Greece, Albania, Austria, Morocco, Tunisia, Senegal, Panama, Cuba, Spain with enthusiasm and determination on the working women's agenda and the steps forward to empower working women and meet their problems. The meeting was chaired by the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos, the elected coordinator Grace Mathapelo from NUM South Africa and Valentin Pacho Vice President of WFTU. The WFTU Women Committee continued its works on 28.06.2018 for the second day with discussion and adoption of their plan of action, which contained various militant activities for the rights of working women all over the world. In the meeting the Ambassador of Palestine in Greece also gave a speech, in which he thanked the WFTU for its long lasting solidarity with the Palestinian people.



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### **JULY**

10: The WFTU General Secretary met with the WFTU Spanish State affiliates in AST offices in Madrid on July 10th, 2018. There have been decided and discussed the activities of the class-oriented forces for the empowerment of the workers' rights against the Social Agreement signed by the bourgeoisie and the reformist unions' leaderships. The debates and the works of the meeting concluded with important derivations for the strengthening and coordination of the class union movement in the Spanish State. After the meeting the WFTU General Secretary laid a wreath at the International Brigades MoIent.

16: On July 16th the WFTU Legal Committee meeting started its works in Athens under the slogan "Justice in the Service of the International Working Class Interests". Twenty lawyers form all the five continents of the world were gathered in Athens and discussed about the strengthening of the class struggle and the contribution of the militant lawyers in this cause. The keynote speech was delivered by Janaka Adikari, member of the WFTU Presidential Council. In the meeting the WFTU leadership was represented by the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos and the WFTU Vice-President Valentin Pacho.



18: A WFTU delegation, presided by its Vice-President, V. Pacho visited the ETUF Central Offices in Cairo, Egypt, in the framework of the 3rd TUI Metal and Mining Congress to be held in the two days to come in Egypt. The discussion was held in a fraternal spirit where the ETUF leader, M. Ghebaly and V. Pacho exchanged views on topical issues of the world class-oriented trade union movement and about the further collaboration of the two organizations.

19-20: Delegates from all countries of every corner of the world met in the Egyptian capital to discuss and plan democratically, in an organized and class-oriented manner the next steps of metal sector unions in every corner of the globe. During the opening ceremony, the Vice President of the WFTU, Valentin Pacho, delivered

a speech, reiterating the vision and the class actions of the WFTU family. The other speakers, Khaled el Feki, President of the Egyptian Metal Federation, Pradip Das, President of the TUI and Francisco Sousa, Secretary General of the TUI, pointed out the need for class organization of miners and metallurgists from all continents as a pivotal deed.



### **AUGUST**

23-24: The WFTU President Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba, participated and addressed the WFTU Conference for the Eurasian Trade Unions that took place on 23-24 August 2018, with the participation of trade unions from the Eurasian countries. The conference took place in Moscow, Russia, under the theme: "The challenges met by the workers in the Eurasian countries and the role of the trade-union movement". During the two-day conference, the affiliates and friends of the WFTU discussed on the situation that the workers in the region are faced with, and determined the goals and the priorities of the class-oriented trade union movement for the next period. The conference was concluded with the establishment of the Eurasia Regional Office of WFTU and a ten-member Secretariat was elected including trade unions of Russia, Kazakhstan, Ukraine, and Donbass.

27-30: With the participation of 270 delegates, the 5th National Congress of CEPPWAWU took place in East London under the slogan: "Build and Revive working class power towards worker control for socialism". The WFTU was represented by cde David Sipunzi, General Secretary of NUM South Africa and member of the WFTU Presidential Council, Lulamile Sotaka, Head of the WFTU Regional Office in South Africa and Anda Anastasaki, WFTU Head Office Coordinator.



### **SEPTEMBER**

11-12: The WFTU International Trade Union Congress of Energy and Chemistry Industry Workers took place on 11-12 September, 2018, in Trivandrum, India with the presence of WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos, the leadership of CITU, local leaders and many delegates from the sector. More than 150 delegates from 30 countries of the 5 continents participated to this congress. After two days, with militant spirit, class analysis and productive discussions the congress adopted the resolutions and elected the new leadership of the TUI during the last session of the Congress.



12: A mass trade union event took place in Trivandrum, India, on the occasion of the Congress of Energy and Chemistry, with the participation of the congress delegates and one hundred workers from the area of Kerala. During the mass event, the leadership of the WFTU and TUI Chemistry-Energy Industry Workers addressed the participants, underlying the results of the Congress discussions and the basic fundamental principles of the World Federation of Trade Unions.

14: The FISE Asian Regional Meeting for teachers took place in Colombo, Sri Lanka, with the presence of the WFTU General Secretary and two FISE vice-Presidents, under the theme "The Resolutions of the FISE Congress that took place with great success in Mexico and the priorities for the trade unions in education". During the meeting, 35 elected delegates from Asia discussed the challenges that are faced by the teachers in the region and the role of the class trade union in the implementation of the Mexico resolutions in the Asian continent.

16: On September 16th, a delegation of the WFTU participated in the debate organized by the Federation of Trade and Services of the CGT, within the framework of the "Humanité" newspaper Festival, which was held in Paris, France, from September 14 to 16. During the debate, the delegates of the WFTU took the floor, highlighting the historic common trajectory of the working class in France with the international class-oriented trade union movement.

17-20: A WFTU delegation headed by its General Secretary, c. George Mavrikos participated in the 13th CO-SATU Congress, where the COSATU organizations NEHAWU, NUM, POPCRU and CEPPWAWU had a mass representation. During the third day of the Congress works, the WFTU General Secretary, George Mavrikos, addressed the Congress, and welcomed COSATU home, at a historical moment for the South African and the world militant trade Union movement, when COSATU decided for full membership with WFTU. In addition, the WFTU delegation composed by its GS, cde G. Mavrikos and by cde Lulamile Sotaka, coordinator of WFTU regional office of English speaking Africa and WFTU Presidential Council member, met with the delegation of South African trade union ULEMASA, recently affiliated to WFTU, and discussed on the situation of Embassies and other international organizations employees in the country. Moreover, a meeting among WFTU President Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba, WFTU General Secretary c. George Mavrikos and cadres from

trade unions NEHAWU, NUM, POPCRU and CEPPWAWU as well as various bilateral meetings with other trade unions were realized.



23-26: Celebrating the VGCL CONGRESS the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos met on September 23rd, 2018 with Mr Nguyen Xuan Phuc Prime Minister of VIETNAM in the Presidential Palace in Hanoi. During discussions there was exchange of views in all political and trade union issues and it was agreed further cooperation. The WFTU General Secretary official visit continued with its participation on the 12th VGCL Congress which kicked of on September 25th, 2018, with the presentation of the report by the VGCL President and Vice President of WFTU Brother Bui Van Cuong. The visit of the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos was completed on September 26th, 2018, with the expression of condolences in the funeral of President of Vietnam.



24: The World Federation of Trade Unions, represented by its Presidential Council Member, Ali Riza Kucukosmanoglu participated in the 50th Anniversary Congress of Pakistan Labor Federation. The World Federation of Trade Unions expressed its solidarity with the Pakistan people and reaffirmed its support to class-oriented struggles of the working class of Pakistan.

27: The 5th Southern Cone Regional Meeting of the Working Youth of WFTU started its works on September 26th, 2018 in Caracas, Venezuela with the presence of the WFTU Secretariat Member, Alberto Enrique Reyes. The militant young workers of the whole region discussed on the role of the youth and the class-oriented trade union movement in Latin America, guided by the resolution of the World Working Youth Congress which took place the previous year in Rome, Italy. The meeting concluded on September 29th, 2018 with the adoption of the regional action plan of the working youth.

### **OCTOBER**

1-3: The WFTU and its Affiliates in South Africa COSATU, NEHAWU, NUM, POPCRU and CEPPWAWU militantly greeted the 2018 International Action Day by organizing a 2 days Seminar on October 1-2 and a militant demonstration on October 3rd under the main slogan: "Ensure social security and free healthcare for all". The Seminar was addressed by the WFTU President cde. Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba, and cadres of all the affiliates of WFTU in the country who actively took the floor.



The keynote speeches were addressed by Anda Anastasaki, WFTU Head Office General Coordinator on the topics of the International Relations and Organizations and Giakoumelos Christoforos from the WFTU Head Office on the topic "Working class today".

The national Treasurer of COSATU cde Freda Oosthuysen, the deputy GS of POPCRU cde Nomalanga Mabokela, the National Treasurer of NEHAWU cde Gilda Kamotso, the WFTU Women's Coordinator Grace Mathapelo Kayne of NUM, a big delegation of CEPPWAWU and many other first line cadres have participated actively in the debates and enriched the discussions.

The themes of the 2-days Seminar were the following:

- Working Class Today
- Proletarian Internationalism
- International Organizations
- International Relations
- 2-5: A WFTU Delegation participated in the 19th American ILO Regional Meeting in Panama City, Panama.
- 3: The WFTU Affiliates and friends celebrated the WFTU foundation on October 3rd 1945 by dedicating this

day, the 2018 International Action Day to the modern demand for social security. The affiliates and friends of WFTU responded to the call of the WFTU Secretariat to organize strikes, demonstrations and other activities to honor the 2018 International Action Day under the main slogan: "Ensure social security and free healthcare for all"

6: The WFTU and FNIC-CGT in France organized an event of honor for Louis Saillant and Pierre Gensous in Paris, France. The event took place as a part of the effort of our affiliates to honor the history of the class trade union movement and the two first General Secretaries of WFTU who came from France. The WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos, Artur Sequeira, member of the Secretariat and other national and international cadres of WFTU as well as members of the families of the historical WFTU leaders participated in the event. During the event trade unionists from Italy, Portugal, Czech Republic and France took the floor. More specific the event was addressed by:

- The WFTU Presidential Council Member and TUI PS General Secretary, Pierpaolo Leonardi from Italy.
- The WFTU Secretariat Observer-Member and TUI PS President, Artur Sequeira, from Portugal.
- Martin Pec from Czech Republic the WFTU affricated member OSCMS.
- The General Secretary of WFTU TUI Chemistry Energy Eric Sellini from CGT-FNIC, France.
- The wife of Pierre Gensous took part in the event and received an honorary plaque from the WFTU General Secretary.

21: The WFTU General Secretary addressed the special Official Funeral of the late cde Eric "Stalin" Mtshali in Durban, South Africa.





22-26: The TUI Public Services organized "International Week of Fight against privatizations". Marches, demonstrations and others initiatives were implemented by the WFTU affiliates.

25: 334th Session of the ILO Governing Body, Geneva. WFTU was represented by the following delegation:

- Dr.Hossam El Din Mustafa Kamal Mohamed, President of Maritime Workers Union in Egypt,
- Mr. Khalid Adel Latif Eish, President of Food & Beverage Union in Egypt
- Mr. Mohamed hassan khalifa, Interpreter
- Mr. Mohamed Salem Morad, President of the General Trade union of Agriculture Workers in Egypt,
- Mr . Eid Mersal, Treasurer of the General Trade union of Agriculture Workers in Egypt,
- Mr.Mohamed Helaly, International Relation Coordinators of the General Trade union of Agriculture Workers in Egypt,
- Mr. Hesham AbdelAziz Hassan Radwan, President of the General Trade Union of Education and Scientific Research in Egypt
- Mr. Ahmed Shawky Mohamed Abdelghafar, International Relation Coordinators of the General Trade Union of Education and Scientific Research in Egypt.
- 28-29: The AITUC All India Working Women Forum 3rd National Conference took place on 28 & 29 October 2018 in Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India. The WFTU participated with its Women's Committee Coordinator Grace Mathapelo Kayne.

### **NOVEMBER**

1-2: The WFTU – ETUF organized a Joint Conference in Cairo, under the topic: "The Trade Union Movement in Africa in the 21st century: Priorities and Necessities". Trade Unionists from 20 African countries participated in this Conference, exchanging points of views and experiences. They also discussed on their future action and coordination, for the improvement of African workers' living and working conditions. On the behalf of WFTU, Abdelmalik El Naneem, member of the WFTU Secretariat from SWTUF-Sudan, addressed the Conference. The General Secretary of the Organization of African Trade Union Unity, brother Arezki Mezhoud, and the General Secretary of the International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions, brother Ghassan Ghosn, as well as Egyptian officials took part in the Conference. The program concluded on November 2 with cultural activities.

11: The International Arab Federation of Textile, Spinning and Garment Industry workers held its meeting in Cairo, Egypt on November 10th. In the meeting many delegates of the Arab countries took part as well as the General Secretary of ICATU Ghassan Ghosn. The WFTU was represented in the meeting by George Bazionis, Communication Officer who underlined in his greeting speech the importance of the Sector and called the delegates to strengthen the newly-founded TUI Textiles-Garment – Leather.

12-13: The Conference of Maritime Transport Workers of African and Mediterranean Countries took place on 12-13 November, 2018 in Djibouti, hosted by the General Union of Djiboutian Workers, bringing together national and international trade unionists from dozens of countries of Africa and the Mediterranean. During the 2-days Conference, participants from the sector of dockworkers and seafarers had the opportunity to discuss on the situation in this very crucial sector for the economy and development of coastal countries, and to chart a path of coordination for the reinforcement of their future struggles. A WFTU delegation, headed by its General Secretary, George Mavrikos, and by the Responsible of the Geneva Office of WFTU, Nicolas Ghiokas, participated in the event. In addition to rich discussions and exchanges, the program also included cultural activities. The Conference of Maritime Transport workers and dockers of WFTU – UGTD concluded its works with the adoption of the conclusions and the intervention of the General Secretary of WFTU, G. Mavrikos. In his speech, comrade Mavrikos invited the participants of the Conference to the TUI Transport Congress that will take place in March 2019 in Istanbul, Turkey. In the framework of the Conference, a delegation of the Conference met with the Minister of Labour of Djibouti, Mr. Hassan Idriss Samrieh. The dockworkers and maritime workers committed to continue their struggles and international cooperation for the interests of the workers of the sector.



19-20: ILO Subcommittee of Wages of seafarers, Geneva. The WFTU was represented by Dr. Hossam El Din Mustafa Kamal Mohamed, President of Maritime Workers Union in Egypt, Mr. Mohamed Hassan Mohamed Khalifa, Interpreter and cde Athanasios Evangelakis from the Greek trade union of Maritime Workers PEMEN. 26-27: The WFTU was represented in 10th International Forum of NGOs in official partnership with UNE-SCO, Moscow, Russian Federation by Evgenii Kulikov, WFTU Presidential Council Member from Russian Federation.

### **DECEMBER**

17-19: The WFTU was represented in International Conference of NGOs in official partnership with UNESCO

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### **JANUARY**

15-20: Training mission of African Trade Unions at ACFTU, China. The Eleventh session of the joint WF-TU-ACFTU trade union training program "The belt and Road initiative and trade union work" took place in Beijing. The WFTU Delegation was headed by the WFTU President Mike Makwayiba Mzwandile and the COSATU President Zingiswa Losi.

24-25: European Regional Office (EUROF) meeting in Porto Portugal. The secretariat of the WFTU European Office held its meeting in Porto, Portugal on January 24-25.



### **FEBRUARY**

16-17: 2nd Trade Union Balkan Forum, Thessaloniki, Greece. The second Balkan Trade Union Forum took place in Thessaloniki, Greece, hosted by the Panhellenic Federation of Workers in Bottled Drinks industry. Trade Union Organizations of most of the Balkan countries gathered to discuss about the contemporary problems that workers of the Balkan countries face and the situation of the trade union movement in the region. The slogan of the Forum "mosaic of peoples – mosaic of peace", highlights the importance of peace, solidarity and cooperation among the Balkan workers. The WFTU General Secretary, comrade G. Mavrikos was present at this Meeting of the Balkan trade unions.



16: Award giving for the Essay "The WFTU Internationalism among workers in the Balkans and mainly in Greece". Katerina Kastridou from Greece, was awarded for her essay under the title: "The WFTU Internationalism among workers in the Balkans and mainly in Greece". The award was given by colleagues: Felek Hasan, President of Dev-Is – Cyprus, Şomîcu Simion, International Relations Responsible of FNM – Romania, and Petros Petrou, WFTU Councilor and member of the WFTU Open Contest Evaluation Committee, in Thessaloniki, Greece.

25-March 1st: NUM-South Africa: The WFTU affiliate organized a 5 day training seminar with the participation of WFTU. The WFTU general coordinator Anda Anastasaki and the WFTU councilor Christoforos Giakoumelos presented the subjects "International Relations" and "Corruption in Trade Unions".

27-28: Congress of TUI Pensioners (PyJ) in Bogota, Colombia. The 2nd World Congress of the TUI Pensioners and Retirees of the WFTU held in Bogotá, Colombia, on the 27th and 28th of February, under the slogan "Long and dignified life for Pensioners and Retirees". A democratic, class-oriented and militant Congress was held, where more than 200 people from all corners of the world were present. The delegates discussed openly and democratically about the reality of the P&R around the world and adopted resolutions and important decisions for the struggles of the future. The WFTU was represented by its Vice President, cde. Valentín Pacho.





### **MARCH**

1-2: International Congress of the TUI Transport, Turkey. The 14th Congress of TUI Transport, Communication and Fisheries of WFTU was held in Istanbul, Turkey with the participation of 80 delegates from more than 30 countries all over the world. This Congress was an opportunity for all delegates to exchange experiences and strengthen their coordination and class struggles for the interests of workers of these important sectors.





2: The World Federation of Trade Unions, participated in the 4th Congress of Trade Unions of Serbia "Sloga". The WFTU representative addressed the participants and analyzed the prevailed situation of the workers both in Serbia and the Balkans and underlined the necessity for internationalist solidarity of the peoples in the area. Also, he remarked the need for keeping and strengthening the coordination and cooperation of the Balkans' class-oriented trade unions for common initiatives and struggles against their common problems and challenges.

### **APRIL**

3-4: WFTU Presidential Council meeting in Athens, Greece. The works of the of the WFTU Presidential Council Meeting started with great enthusiasm and participation on April 3rd, 2019 in Athens, Greece. The WFTU Delegation headed by the General Secretary George Mavrikos and composed by 10 Vice Presidents and Members of the Presidential Council had an official meeting with the President of Greece Mr Prokopis Pavlopoulos in the Presidential Palace and took part in various militant activities and events.





7: A Delegation of 15 WFTU Cadres, visited Patras, the city with the biggest harbour in Greece and met with the militant Mayor of Patras, Kostas Peletidis.

9: WFTU awarded Vincent Kapenga Kandolo for his essay on "WFTU Internationalism in DR Congo". The WFTU General Secretary, cde George Mavrikos, delivered the special prize to cde. Vincent Kapenga Kandolo for the essay he wrote on "WFTU internationalism in DR Congo", within the framework of the open contest "Write about the WFTU".

10-12: The WFTU was present in the International Conference of plastics and pleasure sailing industries workers, devoted to the question of peace organized by FNIC in France. The National federation of chemical industries (FNIC) CGT, organized an International Conference of plastics and pleasure sailing industries workers, devoted to the question of peace.

20-24: Official visit of the WFTU in Cuba, CTC Congress. The WFTU, represented by its President, Michael Mzwandile Makwayiba and other trade union leaders from the affiliated organizations, participated in the XXI Congress of the CTC of Cuba that took place from April 20 to April 24, 2019 in the city of Havana, Cuba. After the inauguration of the congress, the president of the WFTU laid, on behalf of the 97 million members of the WFTU, a wreath to the monument of the hero of Cuban independence, José Martí.

### **MAY**

1: May Day Celebrations under the slogan: "The wealth belongs to those who produce it". Workers from around the world organized mass strikes, demonstrations, rallies for the 1st of May in every country of the world, un-

der the slogan "The wealth belongs to those who produce it!". These celebrations honored the 133 years since the revolt of the workers in Chicago and promoted the workers' struggles for their contemporary rights.

10: The General Secretary of the WFTU held a rich, free and democratic debate in Paris, France, with French activists from the class-oriented labor movement. There was a deep debate and an exchange of opinions. The debate focused on all current issues that have to do with workers and peoples. There were also discussed the policies of the governments against the workers, the role of the European Union, the role of the reformist trade union leaders of the ETUC and the ITUC as well as the imperialist aggressiveness at world level.

16-19: Seminar with Danish young trade unionists in Athens. 9 Danish comrades from the construction sector attended a trade union training program, organized at the WFTU Head Office in Athens, Greece. The seminar took place in the framework of the WFTU educational agenda for young trade unionists on topical and modern issues of modern trade union movement.





### **IUNE**

12-13: seminar-meeting on "child labor and the role of the WFTU" in Pakistan. On the occasion of World Day Against Child Labour, The World Federation of Trade Unions and its affiliates in Pakistan organized a two day seminar-meeting on "child labor and the role of the WFTU". Tens of delegates from several sectors, participated in the WFTU seminar-meeting in Lahore, Pakistan.

13: France: WFTU Secretary General participated in Congress of the UD CGT 13 in Marseille. 670 delegates from all over the region participated in the congress, analyzing and debating with enthusiasm and workers' spirit on the contemporary challenges of class-oriented unionism, not only at the national level, but also internationally. In that sense, the delegates were invited to vote democratically and by secret ballot on the affiliation of their organization in the big class-oriented trade union family of the WFTU.

26: The WFTU present in the NEHAWU National Policy Conference. The WFTU was represented by C.H. Venkatachalam Coordinator of the WFTU Finance Control Committee and Vincent Kapenga Kandolo, member of the WFTU Presidential Council.



### JULY

13: The preparatory meeting for the TUI Textile, Garment and leather of WFTU took place in Cairo, Egypt. The Preparatory meeting for the establishment of the TUI Textiles, Garment and Leather of the World Federation of Trade Unions started its works in Cairo, Egypt, hosted by the Textile and Spinning Workers Union of Egypt.

30-31: Joint Seminar WFTU-GFIW in Baghdad under the topic: The participation of women in the trade unions and in the workers' movement. The WFTU was represented by Sousan Abdel-Salam, member of the WFTU Women's Committee and Maria Barouti, responsible for the Arab countries from the WFTU Central Offices.



### **AUGUST**

30: PAME (All-Workers Militant Front) and the World Federation of Trade Unions, expressed their solidarity with colleague AMAR LAGHA, General Secretary of the Federation of Commerce and Services of CGT-France. They submitted a resolution of protest to the French Embassy of Athens, demanding an end to the persecution against our colleague. Trade unions – members of the WFTU are organizing similar protests in other countries as well.



### **SEPTEMBER**

- 3-7: The WFTU President visited Vietnam invited by VGCL. The WFTU President Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba visited officially Vietnam invited by the new VGCL President Bro Nguyen Dinh Khang.
- 4-6: A WFTU delegation took part in the NUM Special Congress in Durban. A WFTU delegation headed by Philippe Miroux, member of the executive board of CGT Centrale de Gardanne (France) took part in the NUM Special Congress that took place in Durban.
- 5: A WFTU delegation visited Vietnam and took part in e-learning seminar jointly organised by VGCL and WFTU. The WFTU Delegation was headed by the WFTU President Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba and Anastasaki Anda WFTU Head-office General Coordinator and composed by delegates from Burundi, Congo R.D., Ivory Coast, Gabon, Guinea, Mali and Rwanda.
- 5: A large WFTU delegation headed by the WFTU General Secretary visited the museum of Kemal Türkel, housed in the Offices of Birleşik Metal-İş in Istanbul. Kemal Türkel was the General Secretary of DISK and an active militant of WFTU until the day of his assassination.
- 8-9: 3rd International Forum in Solidarity with Syrian workers. The 3rd International Trade Union Forum for solidarity with the workers and People of Syria against the economic blockade, imperialist interventions and terrorism took place in Damascus, Syria hosted by GFTU Syria and in cooperation with the WFTU and ICATU



- 14: The WFTU General Secretary participated in a debate on the trade union movement in Europe and the world in France. This debate was organized by the members of the WFTU within the framework of the "Humanité" Festival, at the stand of the CGT Federation of Commerce and Services under the theme: "Which concept of international trade unionism to follow?"
- 19-20: Kenya: The OATUU 42nd General Council meeting was organized in Nairobi. The OATUU 42nd General Council meeting was organized in Nairobi, Kenya with the participation of WFTU, ICATU, ILO, ACFTU China and dozens of OATUU affiliates and Friends from the African Continent. On September the 20th, Anda Anastasaki, the WFTU representative in the 42nd General Council of Organization of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU) took the floor and addressed the delegates from all over the African continent.
- 24-25:Nepal: Annual Meeting of the Asian and Pacific Regional Office (APRO). In the meeting participated hundreds of trade unionists from more than 20 countries. The annual Asia Pacific Regional Meeting is the backbone of the coordination of the actions and initiatives of the class-oriented trade union movement in the region.

28-30: Official visit of WFTU General Secretary in Colombia. The WFTU General Secretary, George Mavrikos, met on September 27, with Joaquin Romero, member of the WFTU presidential council as well as with WFTU affiliates and friends from various branches in Bogotá, Colombia to discuss contemporaries matters of the international trade union movement.



### **OCTOBER**

- 2: Latin American Regional Office Meeting in Argentina. Many cadres of the International Class oriented trade union movement took part in the meeting, exchanging experience of struggle in their region. The WFTU General Secretary, George Mavrikos, took also part accompanied by members of the WFTU Secretariat and the Presidential Council.
- 3: WFTU action day against Xenophobia, Racism, Neo-fascism. The WFTU Affiliates and friends celebrated the WFTU foundation on October 3rd 1945 by dedicating this day, the 2019 International Action Day to the struggle against against Xenophobia, Racism and Fascism. The affiliates and friends of WFTU responded to the call of the WFTU Secretariat to organize strikes, demonstrations and other activities to honor the 2019 International Action Day.
- 4: 5th Congress of the Trade Union Federation of Industrial Workers of Albania, FSPISH. The 5th Congress of the Trade Union Federation of Industrial Workers of Albania, FSPISH, opened its works in Tirana, in the presence of many local and international delegates. The WFTU was also represented and greeted the Congress.
- 17: Monaco: The WFTU General Secretary expressing the solidarity of the international working class took part in the strike organised by USM-Monaco. The WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos visited Monaco and took part in the militant activities of USM during the General strike in the Country. The WFTU General Secretary addressed the workers in strike that were gathered outside of hotel "Hermitage" and conveyed the international solidarity of the WFTU and its members to the workers in struggle.





### **NOVEMBER**

6: South Africa: The WFTU President Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba addressed the 9th POPCRU National Congress The WFTU President cde Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba addressed the 9th National POPCRU Congress and delivered to the delegates the following message of the WFTU General Secretary.

16-17: 13th Congress of the TUI of Public Services and Allied Workers. The 13th Congress of the TUI of Public Services and Allied Workers took place in Larnaka, Cyprus. The WFTU General Secretary, comrade George Mavrikos greeted the Congress during the opening ceremony.

20-21: International Seminar on Commerce organized by the CGT Commerce Federation (France) and WFTU. The 2 days International Seminar on Commerce organized by the CGT Commerce Federation and WFTU concluded with great success and participation.



22: The General Coordinator of the WFTU Working Youth Committee, Emil Olsen addressed the NUM national youth conference. The conference took place on 20-22 in Bloemfontein, South Africa with the participation of approximately 300 delegates from all over South Africa.

28: The WFTU General Secretary took part in the 13th Congress of DEV-İŞ

29: WFTU Solidarity Event in Palestine on the occasion of November 29th. A trade union meeting was held in Nablus, with the participation of trade unionists from the sectors of agriculture, public services, chemistry, health, education and construction, coming from various cities like Jerusalem, Ramallah, Jenin, Nablus, Hebron and Tulkarem. The leader of the WFTU Delegation, colleague Ali Riza Küçükosmanoğlu delivered a speech stressing the need for intensifying the internationalist solidarity with the heroic Palestinian People for the recognition of their own free and independent state at 1967 borders and East Jerusalem as its capital.

### **DECEMBER**

2-6: A high level WFTU delegation participated in the 20th Assembly of the World Federation of Democratic Youth in Nicosia, Cyprus. A high level WFTU delegation, headed by its Vice President, comrade Pampis Kyritsis, participated in the 20th Assembly of the World Federation of Democratic Youth which took place in Nicosia, Cyprus.



9-10: 19th International FISE congress. The FISE General Secretary Mariano Garcia from Mexico, FISE Vice Presidents from Asia, Africa and Europe and international delegates as well as local teachers trade unionists and Odisha officials took part in the Congress. The 19th Extraordinary International Congress of FISE continued its works with an international seminar under the theme: Contemporary challenges in the Sector of Education – The role of education and teachers in the trade union movement. The Congress also elected the new President of FISE, Dr. Amiya Kumar Mohanty from AITUC India and the Honorary President of FISE dr. Hassan Ismail from Lebanon.

14-15: The WFTU participated in the 7th National Conference of the National Labour Union in Morocco. The WFTU participated, represented by Anda Anastasaki general coordinator of the WFTU central office, in the 7th national conference of the National Labour Union in Morocco (UNT in Morocco) which was held in Bouznika, on December 14 and 15, 2019.

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### **JANUARY**

9: The WFTU Secretary General, George Mavrikos, stood with the strikers in Marseille, France. The Secretary General of the WFTU, George Mavrikos, following the invitation of the UD CGT 13, participated in the big demonstration in Marseille during the general strike in France. This demonstration was the largest one since the beginning of the mobilizations on December 5. The Secretary General of the WFTU reiterated the internationalist solidarity of the large trade union family of the WFTU to the struggle of the working class in France against the pension reform project.



11: The WFTU attended the Sosyal- Iş Congress in Ankara, Turkey. The WFTU participated in the Congress of Sosyal-Iş Federation in Turkey, which took place from 11 to 12 of January in the Turkish capital, Ankara. The WFTU was represented by a delegation headed by Cédric Hafner, member of the direction of the CGT Commerce and Services Federation. In his speech, cde Hafner pointed out the necessity for the coordination of the Commerce and Services employees around the world, with class solidarity and orientation.

24: The WFTU President took part and addressed the 16th CITU All India Conference in India. The WFTU President Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba visited India on the occasion of the 16th CITU All India conference and took part in all the militant activities organized by the WFTU affiliate CITU.



31: The 17th UITBB Congress opened its works on January 31st in Athens, Greece. The UITBB Congress took place in Athens, Greece, from January 31st until February 2nd, hosted by the Greek Federation of Construction Workers. During the opening of its works the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos took the floor and addressed the delegates. On the second day the delegates of the congress elected a 22-member executive committee and a 7-member secretariat. Comrade Michalis Papanikolaou, from PEO Cyprus, was re-elected as UITBB General Secretary. The congress also elected comrade Daniel Diveiro from SUNCA Uruguay as President of UITBB. In addition the congress delegates elected the regional coordinators of the TUI and approved the next-period action plans with the commitment that they will jointly and comradely work for the even more strengthening of UITBB and the international class oriented trade union movement.

### **FEBRUARY**

2: The 3rd TUI HOTOUR International Congress opened its works in Alexandria, Egypt. With the participation of delegates from all over the world, the 3rd International Congress of the Trade Union International of workers in hotels and tourism (TUI HOTOUR) of the WFTU kicked off in Alexandria, hosted by the Egyptian Trade Union Federation, ETUF, of Egypt. The WFTU was represented by colleague Cali Patouna, WFTU Central Offices Councilor, who conveyed the greeting message of the WFTU General Secretary, comrade G. Mavrikos, during the opening ceremony. The Congress was also attended by brother Mohamed Wahballah, General Secretary of ETUF, Mr. Mohamed Safaan, the Minister of Labour of Egypt and other local officials and trade unionists from the hotels and tourism sector.

3: The Trade Unions of Public Servants in Attica, Greece, organized a honorary event for the WFTU 75th Anniversary. The Trade Unions of Public Servants in Attica organized a honorary event for the WFTU 75th Anniversary where the WFTU General Secretary took the floor and spoke about the militant history and future of WFTU. International delegations from Lebanon and Palestine also took part in the event.



4: Honorary ceremony in the Palestinian Embassy in Athens, Greece. The Ambassador of the Palestinian authority in Greece, Mr Marwan Toubassi, offered the Special Medal of Honor of the President of Palestine Mr. Mahmoud Abbas to honor Mr. George Mavrikos, the General Secretary of the World Federation of Trade Unions for his contribution to the International Trade Union movement and to the Palestinian cause and to Mr. George Perros, Member of the Executive Secretariat of PAME for his steady support and solidarity.

6: A European Meeting under the slogan "For a militant, internationalist, coordinated European Trade Union Movement" took place in Athens, Greece. A European Trade Union Meeting took place in Athens, Greece on the framework of the 75th Anniversary Activities of the World Federation of Trade Unions under the title "For a militant, internationalist, coordinated European Trade Union Movement". Trade Unions from 13 countries

all over the continent participated in this important initiative for the strengthening of the workers' struggles in Europe. Moreover, other WFTU affiliates and friends trade unions which were not able to attend the meeting expressed their support to this importing initiative and the militant efforts of the WFTU.



The delegates discussed the challenges faced by the workers in Europe and underlined the possibilities and the necessity of the intensification of the coordinated joint efforts for the satisfaction of the contemporary needs and interests of the popular strata. Based on the positive steps of the previous period and in line with the glorious 75 years history of the WFTU the class-oriented trade unions of Europe will intensify their common struggle against monopolist and austerity policy, against the imperialist plans and the capitalist exploitation.

7: WFTU solidarity campaign with the working class of Indonesia

The working class of Indonesia and the WFTU members gave a crucial struggle against the labour law reforms (OMNIBUS LAW) which aimed to:

- Widening contract-based employment, outsourcing system and apprenticeship.
- Reducing the permanent workers by simplifying regulation to dismiss workers reducing the minimum wages.
- Elimination of severance pay and other obligation that should be provided by the employers.
- Removal of the implementation of criminal law for employer.
- Removal of the women workers' rights such as menstruation leave and maternity leave.
- Reducing the union's right to represent workers, to bargain and to strike.

The WFTU called upon its members and the workers all over the world to express their solidarity with the working class of Indonesia, participating in the WFTU campaign and to take pictures in groups with the poster that we spread.



9: The WFTU member Nakliyat-Is (Trade Union of Revolutionary Workers of Land, Airway and Railway Workers of Turkey) successfully organized its 12th Ordinary Congress on February 9th, 2020 in Istanbul. The WFTU was represented by brother Mahmoud Abualwafa, member of the WFTU Presidential Council from the National Union of Palestinian Workers, who also delivered a speech at the Congress. International delegates from Palestine, Spain, Russia, Greece and Cyprus also attended, while comrade Ali Riza Küçükosmanoğlu member of the WFTU Presidential Council, was re-elected as the General President unanimously.

11: Meeting of the WFTU Financial Control Committee in Athens, Greece. The WFTU Financial Control Committee met in Athens from February 9 to 12, in order to carry out the financial audit of the year 2019. The head of the Committee, comrade C. H. Venkatachalam as President of the Committee and committee members Ozzi Warwick from Trinidad and Tobago and Mohan Man Swar from Nepal participated in the meeting. 13: The WFTU solidarity campaign with Palestine was inaugurated. The World Federation of Trade Unions strongly condemned the unacceptable plan of Donald Trump, the so-called "deal of the century", which aims to perpetuate the decades-lasting crime of imperialism in the heroic land of Palestine. We called upon the workers and the class-oriented trade union movement to denounce the Trump plan for the middle east, by participating in the WFTU campaign.

13: The WFTU President participated and addressed the 27th Congress of GFTU-Syria. The 27th Congress of the General Federation of Trade Unions of Syria took place in Damascus and the WFTU participated with a high lever delegation headed by the WFTU President Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba and Anda Anastasaki General Coordinator of WFTU Head Office. The WFTU President, Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba addressed the Congress and underlined the long lasting solidarity bonds between WFTU, the Syrian people and GFTU. During the congress also intervened the historic cadre of the Syrian Trade Union movement Shabban Azouz, former president of WFTU and stable militant to the cause of international class oriented trade union movement. In the presence of the WFTU President the WFTU was honoured by the GFTU Leadership and the international delegates.





15: The WFTU General Secretary, George Mavrikos met with the new CGTP-IN leadership in Portugal. Comrade George Mavrikos, WFTU General Secretary, met with the new CGTP-IN/Portugal leadership and with our colleagues in Lisbon, in the framework of the XIV Congress of the CGTP-IN, which took place in Lisbon on 14 and 15 February 2020.

20: The events on the WFTU 75th Anniversary continued in Greece. The WFTU General Secretary, George Mavrikos and the Vice-President of the TUI Public Services, Babis Vortelinos, attended on February 19th, 2020, an event on the 75th Anniversary of the WFTU, organized in Larissa by the Workers' Centre of Larissa and the trade unions of the municipal workers.

### **MARCH**

6-7: The Founding Congress of the TUI Textile-Garment-Leather of the WFTU took place in Cairo, Egypt, hosted by the General Union of Textile and Garment Workers in Egypt.



- 8: Members and friends of the World Federation of Trade Unions, class-oriented trade unions all over the world celebrated International Women's Day by organizing militant marches, protests, conferences, discussions and activities, demanding equal rights and opportunities in work, trade unions, home and all aspects of life.
- 31: Taking photos with the WFTU Banners about the WFTU 75th Anniversary, Nakliyat-Is Turkey sent a militant message for the defense of the workers' life and rights during the Coronavirus Pandemic.

### **APRIL**

- 3: Taking photos with the WFTU Banners about the WFTU 75th Anniversary, the National Labour Federation of Romania sent a militant message for the defense of the workers' life and rights during the Coronavirus Pandemic.
- 7: A WFTU Secretariat Meeting took place through video Conference to decide on militant celebrations of May Day 2020, on the situation of workers in all Continents due to the Coronavirus Pandemic and other topical issues.

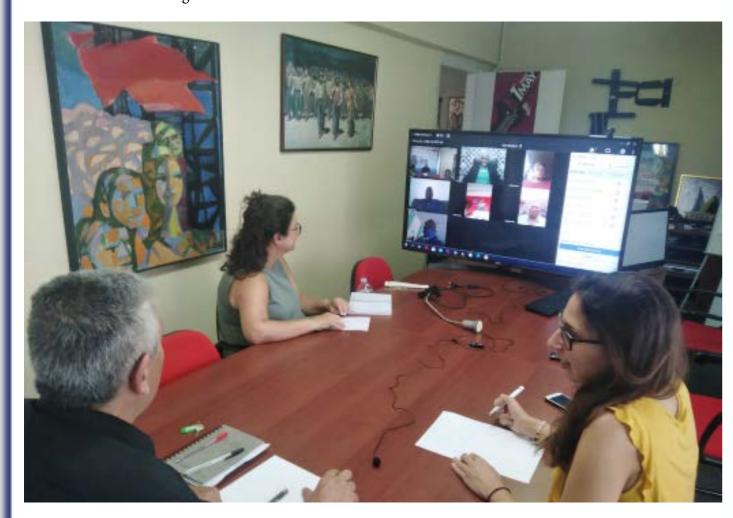
### MAY

1: Mass strikes and militant activities organized around the world to honor May Day. Militants of the WFTU took part in all regional and central May Day Celebrations in Athens, Greece.

### JUNE

- 4: The WFTU launched an International Campaign in solidarity with the struggling people of the USA, under the slogan: "Stop to racist murders. Struggle for workers' lives and rights"
- 4: The WFTU General Secretary held a Regional Web Meeting with WFTU cadres from Arab countries 18: The WFTU General Secretary, G. Mavrikos held a discussion through internet with WFTU members from Palestine

24: The WFTU General Secretary held a Regional Web Meeting with WFTU cadres from French Speaking Africa. After the meeting, a report about the issue of hunger in French Speaking African countries during the COVID-19 Pandemic was issued by the WFTU Regional Office for French Speaking Africa and sent to all WFTU affiliates of the region.



30: Web Seminar on "Gender equality and working women's rights" for trade unions from Arab countries. The WFTU Web Seminar "Gender equality and working women's rights" for trade unions from Arab countries was held with the participation of 20 women and men trade unionists from the following countries: Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Syria. The Coordinator of the WFTU Women's Committee, sister Grace Mathapelo Khanye from NUM, South Africa, addressed the main presentation. On the basis of the rich discussion that was developed and suggestions that were made in support of the working women's rights in the Arab countries, a Memo was addressed to the International Labor Organization (ILO).

### JULY

1: WFTU English speaking Africa Regional Web Meeting

1: Web seminar for Asian countries under the title: "75th Anniversary of WFTU: 75 years of struggle and militant action". The WFTU web seminar for Asian countries under the title: "75th Anniversary of WFTU: 75 years of struggle and militant action", took place with the participation of tens of trade unionists from several countries of the region: Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, South Korea. The Seminar had 3 parts. A) An introductory presentation on behalf of the WFTU Headquarters B) The main speech/intervention on the 75 years of history and struggles of the WFTU by comrade Mahadevan, Deputy General Secretary of the WFTU and head of the Asian Pacific Regional Office C) The seminar concluded with a discussion among the participants in which trade unionists from different countries took the floor and enriched the seminar with their point of view, thoughts and proposals.

- 2: Web Seminar on the topic "75th Anniversary of the WFTU: 75 years of struggle and militant action" for the countries of French-speaking Africa. The WFTU Web Seminar on the topic "75th Anniversary of the WFTU: 75 years of struggle and militant action" for the countries of French-speaking Africa took place with the participation of trade unionists from Algeria, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Mali, Morocco, Central African Republic, DR Congo, Senegal and Tunisia, while the UD CGT 94 of France and comrade Quim Boix, Secretary General of the TUI Pensioners also participated.
- 6: Web Seminar on Public Speaking for African countries
- 6: The WFTU International Teleconference gathered together 26 trade union cadres from Palestine and other countries of Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America. The WFTU President, comrade Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba and WFTU General Secretary, comrade George Mavrikos, participated in the Teleconference. All international trade unionists expressed their firm solidarity with the workers and People of Palestine, against the annexation plans and aggression of Israel and its allies.
- 7: Web Seminar on "Gender equality and working women's rights" for trade unions from African countries The WFTU Web Seminar "Gender equality and working women's rights" for trade unions from African countries was held with the participation of 17 women and men trade unionists from the following countries: Algeria, Gabon, Mali, Morocco, Nigeria, RD Congo, Senegal and South Africa. The Coordinator of the WFTU Women's Committee, sister Grace Mathapelo Khanye from NUM, South Africa, participated and addressed the seminar while the main intervention was presented by colleague Calli Patouna, special counselor of WFTU Headquarters.
- 9: Web seminar on the topic: "75th Anniversary of the WFTU: 75 years of struggle and militant action" for Arab countries. The WFTU Web Seminar on the topic "75th Anniversary of the WFTU: 75 years of struggle and militant action" for Arab countries took place with the participation of trade unionists from Bahrain, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine and Syria. Brother Adnan Azzouz, responsible of the Middle East Regional Office of WFTU, stressed the important role of the WFTU in defense of the workers' interests throughout its history, while the other participants among others highlighted the importance of internationalism and solidarity within the class oriented trade union movement.



15: The WFTU Secretariat met at a virtual session to discuss the latest events that affect the lives of workers worldwide. The members of the Secretariat decided on important actions and initiatives for the next period.

### **AUGUST**

5: Teleconference with trade union leaders in Lebanon. The WFTU General Secretary, comrade George Mavrikos, held a Teleconference with brothers Ghassan Ghosn, General Secretary of ICATU, Ali Taher Yassine, President of Al-Wafaa Federation of Trade Unions of Lebanon and Nasser Nazzal, General Secretary of the Sea Transport Union of Lebanon, in order to discuss on the disastrous explosions that occurred the day before at Beirut port.

The discussion pointed out that this incident follows many efforts to sharpen the crisis in Lebanon, since the US imperialists and their European allies have imposed a financial siege in the country, causing serious problems of survival to the Lebanese workers and People.

19: Seminar for Central America and the Caribbean on the topic: "Gender equality and working women's rights". The Web Seminar of WFTU for Central America and the Caribbean on the topic: "Gender equality and working women's rights" took place on 19th August 2020 with the participation of women trade unionists from Panama, Nicaragua, Guatemala and Brazil, where the problems of working women during the Pandemic and militant initiatives were discussed.



### **SEPTEMBER**

- 2: Online Presentation/Chat with UITBB General Secretary Michalis Papanikolaou
- 8: Online education class on the topic: "Socialist system prevail over the capitalist system to combat Covid19 pandemic" for the cadres of CWFI. The WFTU General Secretary, George Mavrikos, addressed the cadres and members of the Construction Workers Federation of India through the CWFI official Facebook page discussing the differences among the socioeconomic systems and the superiority of socialism as it is once again has been revealed during the pandemic. Hundreds of trade unionists followed the educational class.
- 11: Web Seminar on "Lay-offs from companies in times of COVID-19 Pandemic" with affiliates in Mauritania. 11: The WFTU affiliate, Kasbi confederation, organized an educational seminar for labor cadres in the Karawang region of West Java, with discussion material on ideology, politics, organization, law, and advocacy, as well as organizational development.

15: Web Seminar by WFTU President, Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba, from South Africa, NEHAWU, on the topic: "WFTU history and present life and action" with trade unionists from Nepal. The WFTU President, comrade Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba, from South Africa, NEHAWU, presented a seminar on the WFTU history and present life and action to trade unionists from Nepal. Comrade Premal Kumar Khanal and other comrades from CONEP and from NDFONT, massively participated in the Seminar and enriched the discussion with their interventions.

18: Web Seminar on the topic: "The development of the agro-pastoral, mining, health, education, transport and fishing sectors, vectors of economic development and creation of thousands of jobs - eradicating unemployment, poverty and improving the social well-being of the world's vulnerable populations" with the participation of WFTU affiliates in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

23: Web Seminar with affiliates from Nigeria on the topic: "WFTU – 75 years after (Prospects & Challenges)".

24: Web Seminar with affiliates from Senegal on the topics:" Impact of covid-19 on the world of work - "Irregular" Migration and unemployment among the youth, what is the response for Sub-Saharan Africa?"

28: Web Seminar by WFTU President, Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba, from South Africa, NEHAWU, on the topic: "WFTU history and present life and action" with trade unionists from Sri Lanka. The WFTU President, comrade Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba, from South Africa, NEHAWU, presented a seminar on the occasion of the WFTU 75th Anniversary, to trade unionists from Sri Lanka, with the participation of comrade Janaka Adikari from ICEU and other comrades.

29: The WFTU Secretariat held a Web Meeting, having as main topic the culmination of the militant celebration of the WFTU 75th anniversary on October 3rd.

30: WFTU Asia Pacific online meeting on the topic of "Women empowerment, the role of women in trade unions, the challenges in times of COVID-19". George Mavrikos, WFTU General Secretary, C.H. Venkatachalam, Head of the WFTU Finance Control Committee and Anda Anastasaki, Coordinator of the WFTU Head-quarters addressed the meeting and congratulated the Working Women Committee and the Women cadres of the WFTU for the vital and irreplaceable contribution to the International class-oriented trade union movement. Comrade Mathapelo Khanye Grace, Coordinator of the Working Women Committee of the WFTU delivered the keynote speech. During the second part of the meeting, women trade unionists from Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Nepal, Pakistan, Philippines, South Korea, Sri Lanka and Cambodia shared their experiences and enriched the discussion of the meeting. The activity will be repeated.



### **OCTOBER**

1: WFTU-COSATU: Joint Virtual Symposium on the topic: Working Class Solidarity in the time of crisis. In the framework of celebrating October 3rd and the 75th anniversary of the WFTU, the WFTU and COSATU jointly organized a successful symposium on October 1st titled "Working-class solidarity, during a time of crisis" with the participation of Trade Unionists and officials from South Africa and many African countries. The President of WFTU opened the works of the symposium, while comrade George Mavrikos, WFTU General Secretary and COSATU General Secretary Comrade Bheki Ntshalintshali also intervened. OATUU General Secretary Arezki Mezhoud has addressed the symposium with a strong solidarity speech and representatives from other countries have also given their greetings. The discussion was enriched by the speeches of the ambassadors of Cuba and Iran in South Africa. The symposium concluded on joint actions to strengthen international solidarity around the world.



- 2: Latin America Regional Conference on WFTU 75th Anniversary
- 2: CGTP-Peru event on WFTU 75th Anniversary
- 3: Class unionists honored the 75th anniversary of the WFTU around the world
- 3: WFTU Andean Region Office Event on WFTU 75th Anniversary
- 3: WFTU Coordination Committee of Spanish State Event on WFTU 75th Anniversary
- 6: WFTU Spanish State Committee Event on WFTU 75th Anniversary
- 6: FISE International Teleconference on the Day of FISE & 75 years of WFTU on the topic: "The impact of COVID-19 on the rights of teachers Immediate need for protection measures against the Pandemic for students and teachers "

The Teleconference of the World Federation of Teachers' Unions, FISE, organized by CNTE Section XVIII Michoacan-Mexico and FISE, took place on 06.10.2020 with numerous participants from Mexico, India, Brazil, Panama, Nepal, the USA, Morocco, Chile, Greece, Argentina, Peru, Paraguay and Galicia on the topic "The impact of COVID-19 on the rights of teachers – Immediate need for protection measures against the Pandemic

for students and teachers". Militant teachers from all over the world discussed on the huge problems caused by the Pandemic, such as distance learning, lack of infrastructure and protection measures at schools, reduction of salaries and precariousness among teachers.

The WFTU General Secretary, comrade George Mavrikos, greeted the Conference, while the FISE leaders and militants concluded on demands such as free and public education, free internet and necessary equipment for distance learning, appropriate schools with small number of students per classroom, free personal protection measures against the Pandemic of COVID-19.

12: English Speaking African Women Meeting. On Monday October 12, 2020 the WFTU organized a virtual meeting to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the WFTU and October 3 the founding day of WFTU. The seminar titled "Women empowerment, the role of women in trade unions, the challenges in times of covid-19" was carried out with the participation of men and women trade unionists from the English Speaking Countries of Africa.

The meeting started with a greeting speech by comrade Anda Anastasaki, Coordinator of the WFTU Head-quarters, and thereafter comrade Mathapelo Khanye Grace, Coordinator of the Working Women Committee of the WFTU delivered the keynote speech. During the meeting the WFTU President Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba also intervened.

14: WFTU General Secretary Webinar with Indian Trade Union Cadres on the 75th Anniversary and Fundraising Campaign of WFTU.

The WFTU General Secretary Webinar with Indian Trade Union Cadres on the 75th Anniversary and Fundraising Campaign of WFTU successfully took place with the participation of more than 115 cadres of all Indian WFTU affiliates, honoring the 75 years of honor and dignity of the World Federation of Trade Unions and discussing on the very important inauguration of the WFTU fundraising campaign.

20: International Meeting of the TUI BIFU. An international Teleconference of the TUI BIFU took place on October 20th with the participation of more than 20 cadres from 15 countries under the presence of the TUI BIFU General Secretary C. H. Venkatachalam. The WFTU General Secretary, comrade George Mavrikos, and the WFTU President Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba also greeted the Conference which planned the future activities of TUI BIFU in the sector of Banks and Insurances and its Congress during the next year.

21: WFTU African Teleconference in solidarity with Zimbabwe. An African Virtual Conference in solidarity with Zimbabwe was organized by WFTU in order to raise awareness about the situation the workers and people in Zimbabwe are facing, strengthen internationalist solidarity and put forward militant demands for their interests. The WFTU President Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba, from South Africa, NEHAWU, intervened and addressed the Conference, pointing out the importance of the organization and coordination of militant trade unions inside Zimbabwe, as well as his visit in Zimbabwe in the next time period for better coordination and solidarity and a petition to the European Parliament has been filed by the WFTU, to urge the government of Zimbabwe to stop the persecutions against trade unionists and the ordinary people, for the respect of the democratic and trade unions freedoms.

26: WFTU general Secretary Facebook Webinar: "Consequences of the Coronavirus Pandemic on Workers and Trade Union liberties"

27: FISE Teleconference for French-Speaking Africa. Following the recent International Teleconference of the World Federation of Teachers Unions (FISE), a Teleconference of FISE for French Speaking Africa has been organized, with the participation of comrades from Senegal, Morocco, Cameroon, Mali and DR Congo. The FISE Meeting reiterated the promotion of the militant demands of the FISE teachers' unions through campaigns and virtual meetings and the better promotion by the website and the FISE network of teachers' rallies organized in each country, for the strengthening of international solidarity.

29: A WFTU General Secretary Webinar on the WFTU Fund Raising Campaign with affiliates from Philippines took place via the official facebook page of the WFTU GS. The WFTU General Secretary widely talked about the problems that are faced by the working class in the Philippines and expressed solidarity with the WFTU affiliates against authoritarianism and state oppression. The WFTU affiliates gathered in groups and watched the webinar.



### **NOVEMBER**

- 2: WFTU General Secretary Facebook Webinar: Latin America "Working Class Unity"
- 3: The WFTU General Secretary Facebook Webinar on The WFTU 75th Anniversary & Fund Raising Campaign continued with the WFTU affiliates in Nepal

Thousands of workers followed the webinar which took place with great success. After the webinar the WFTU Nepal office and the WFTU affiliates met, discussing regarding their further initiatives for the strengthening of the WFTU in the Philippines as well as for the successful spreading of the fundraising campaign.

5: Meeting of the TUI TEXGAL leadership

The TUI Textile-Garment-Leather of WFTU (TUI TEXGAL) successfully held a Teleconference of its cadres on November 5th, 2020, with the participation of trade unionists from Egypt, Argentina, Syria, Bangladesh, Greece, Brazil, Pakistan, Cyprus and Uruguay. During the Teleconference, the problems of the workers were highlighted, since the Coronavirus Pandemic deteriorated their working and living conditions and are faced with new anti-labour measures and policies. Militant initiatives for the strengthening of the action of the TUI and of solidarity among workers of the respective sectors at regional and world level were decided.

- 9: WFTU General Secretary Facebook Webinar: Arab Countries "75 years of life and struggle of the WFTU on the side of the Arab people"
- 14: The Philippines-based WFTU affiliates Kilusan ng Manggagawang Makabayan (KMM/Movement of Patriotic Workers), Katipunan ng mga Samahang Manggagawa (KASAMA/Association of Workers' Organizations) and Bukluran ng Manggagawang Pilipino (BMP/Solidarity of Filipino Workers) participated in a zoom Virtual Education Session about the latest global updates concerning the current issues and developments affecting the general struggles of the international working-class movement. The keynote speech was delivered

by comrade Mahadevan, deputy Secretary of the WFTU and head of the Asia-Pacific Regional Office. The main speech was followed by the interventions of the participants.

- 18: Online Meeting between TUIs leaders and WFTU General Secretary
- 29: WFTU International Web Symposium in solidarity with the Palestinian People. On the occasion of November 29, International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, the WFTU organized a Symposium of solidarity with our Palestinian brothers and sisters, with the participation of trade unionists from all over the world, ICATU and OATUU.

### **DECEMBER**

15-16: The WFTU Presidential council meeting took place with the participation of all PC Members, FCC members, the TUIs GS and the Regional offices representing trade union organizations from the five continents. The 2020 annual PC meeting took place via ZOOM due to the covid19 pandemic. Among the adopted resolutions a special importance was given to the one about the present situation of workers during the covid19 pandemic and the Call for the 2021 Nobel Peace Prize to be awarded to the International Health Contingent "Henry Reeve" of Cuba.



21: ZOOM meeting between the WFTU and GUPW – Palestine. A virtual meeting took place on Monday 21 December 2020, between the WFTU General Secretary, cde George Mavrikos and the General Secretary of the General Union of Palestine Workers (GUPW) brother Abdulkader Abdallah, the GUPW Depute General Secretary, sister Mai Abu Alia and GUPW International Relations responsible, brother Hussein Karabsa. Joint actions of solidarity with the imprisoned Palestinian children in Israeli jails and with the Palestinian People were discussed during the meeting.

23: The WFTU General Secretary addressed the European Meeting of TUI HOTOUR. A European Meeting of TUI HOTOUR took place on December 22nd with participation of workers and trade union leaders of the sector of Tourism. The participants discussed about their coordination and their future activities. The WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos took part and intervened this meeting.



28: Virtual meeting between WFTU and NUPW-Palestine. The WFTU General Secretary, comrade George Mavrikos, held a discussion with brother Mahmoud Abualwafa, General Secretary of the National Union of Palestinian Workers, and Suzan Abdel-Salam, member of NUPW, where joint actions in favor of the Palestinian workers were discussed.

## Report of Action 2021

WFTU International Campaign for the release of Palestinian child prisoners and all prisoners from the Israeli jails

### **JANUARY**

- 4: The WFTU General Secretary, comrade George Mavrikos, discussed with the General Secretary, brother Mohammad Yahya and other members of the WUCP about the problems the Palestinian workers are facing, as well as the promotion of the WFTU International Campaign for the release of Palestinian prisoners, and especially all Palestinian child prisoners from the Israeli jails.
- 5: WFTU International Campaign for the release of Palestinian child prisoners and all prisoners from the Israeli jails: Various actions take place in Palestine and Lebanon. On January 5th, 2021, the launch of the WFTU International Campaign for the release of Palestinian child prisoners and all prisoners from the Israeli jails becomes a reality from inside Palestine: After the initiative of the General Union of Palestine Workers (GUPW), solidarity events are organized at the Headquarters of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Ramallah, Gaza, Tulkarem and Lebanon.
- 20: In Paraguay, the ASC held a protest yesterday in front of the Paraguayan Red Cross in support of the WFTU International Campaign for the liberation of Palestinian prisoners, especially the more than 155 girls and boys imprisoned in Israeli jails.
- 20: Greece: PAME Supports WFTU Campaign in Solidarity with the Children of Palestine. The class unions of Greece expressed their support and solidarity with the people of Palestine and the WFTU International Campaign for the Release of all Palestinian Children in Israeli prisons.
- 21: Virtual Meeting of the heads of the Regional and Sub-regional Offices of the WFTU. A virtual meeting of the heads of the Regional and Sub-regional Offices of the WFTU and the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos took place on January 21st to discuss and implement in their respective regions the resolutions of the WFTU Presidential Council and the WFTU campaign to release the Palestinian children imprisoned in the jails of Israel.



23: Palestine: Workers Union Coalition, Palestine organize meeting in support of the WFTU Campaign for the release of all Palestinian child prisoners. Complementing the activities of solidarity with the prisoners and under the auspices of the World Federation of Trade Unions WFTU, The Workers Union Coalition in Palestine is organizing a two-day trade union session, where a special meeting will be held in solidarity with Palestinian prisoners and children.

28: The WFTU takes part in ILO's virtual meeting of the Workers' Group that takes place on Thursday the 28th of January, 2021, where discussion on Covid-19 Consequences on workers and other issues are discussed. The representatives of WFTU took the floor analyzing the WFTU position on COVID-19, presented the WFTU International Campaign to Release all Palestinian child prisoners from Israeli jails and suggested initiatives and events in the framework of June 2021 ILC. The WFTU was represented by Anda Anastasaki and Maria Barouti.

# **FEBRUARY**

8: WFTU Web Meeting on Caesar Act. The WFTU held a Web Meeting to discuss about the Caesar Act against the Peoples of Syria, Lebanon, Iran, Iraq and others, where brother Jamal Kadri, WFTU Vice President and President of GFTU Syria, brother Adnan Azzouz, Director of WFTU Middle East Regional Office from GFTU Syria, brother Ali Taher Yassine, President of Alwafaa Lebanon and brother Ghassan Ghosn, ICATU General Secretary participated.

17: WFTU TUI HOTOUR Secretariat Virtual Meeting. The Secretariat of the WFTU TUI HOTOUR held a virtual meeting on February 17th to update the TUI Hotour leaders on the situation of covid 19 impacts on the workers around the world and plan the future sectoral activities. The WFTU Central Office was represented by Anda Anastasaki, WFTU Head Office General Coordinator.

18: 2nd Virtual meeting of the WFTU General Secretary and the TUI Leaders. The Presidents and General Secretaries of all the TUIs took the floor and discussed with the WFTU General Secretary, George Mavrikos, in militant spirit their initiatives and their preparations for the 18th World Trade Union Congress.



19: TUI PS&A European Teleconference to prepare its future activities in the Public Sector around Europe. During the meeting, the TUI PS&A General Secretary Zola Saphetha and its President Artur Sequeira and took part and analized the WFTU planned activities after the 2nd WFTU-TUI meeting.

25: Web Meeting of the WFTU Secretariat. The WFTU Secretariat met today February 25th, 2021 in a spirit of enthusiasm and active participation, having as main topic the implementation of the WFTU Presidential Council decisions.

# **MARCH**

1: The virtual International Symposium in solidarity with the People of Venezuela took place with great success. Almost 100 delegates participated and 48 of them took the floor transfering the militant spirit of solidarity

from their countries to the Venezuelan people, stating that "The working class and the People of Venezuela are the only ones who have the right to determine, freely and democratically the present and the future of their country!" The WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos and the WFTU President Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba opened the discussion presenting the action plan of WFTU in Solidarity with Venezuela.



6: USA: WFTU participates in the organizing meeting of "Support Alabama Amazon Workers". On March 6th, the WFTU participated in the organizing meeting of "Support Alabama Amazon Workers" in solidarity with Amazon workers. The meeting brought together more than 250 unionists, labor organizers and simple workers from all over the USA in order to debate on the foundation of a union against one of the biggest multinationals of the whole world.

8: The WFTU Web Celebration of International Working Womens' Day concluded with high participation on March 8th, 2021. The WFTU Web Celebration of the International Working Women's Day concluded with participation of more than 100 women delegates representing 43 countries from evey continent of the world. The keynote speech was addressed by Mathapelo Khanye from NUM-South Africa, Coordinator of WFTU Women's Committee. During the meeting intervened the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos and Anna Biondi, Deputy Director of the ILO Bureau for Workers Activities (ACTRAV).



9: The International Teleconference of FISE concluded with success. The discussion focused on the COVID-19 pandemic consequences on teachers and students and precarious work in the sector of educators. They also sent their strong message of solidarity with the Palestinian prisoners and the demand for the immediate release of all Palestinian child prisoners from Israeli jails.

15: The Virtual International Symposium for the release of all Palestinian child prisoners from Israeli jails took place on March 15th, 2021 with great success. The WFTU virtual International Symposium for the immediate release of all Palestinian child prisoners from Israeli jails took place with great success on March 15th, 2021 with the participation of more than 70 delegates from 40 countries. Tens of trade union leaders from the 5 continents took the floor and extended the firm and consistent internationalist solidarity and support of WFTU and the international class-oriented trade union movement with the heroic and unbowed Palestinian people.

15-16: WFTU participates in the sixty-fifth session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW65) of the United Nations that held virtually.

15-20: Virtual 341st Session of the ILO Governing Body. WFTU was represented by Anda Anastasaki, WFTU Headquarters General Coordinator and Petros Petrou.

16: The WFTU International Conference for the workers of art and culture concluded with participation from all over the world. The participants greeted this initiative as the first step of the coordination of their struggles for work with rights and against control and oppression of the expression of militant art. They highlighted the difficulties of workers in their sector which were exacerbated during the Coronavirus Pandemic and thoughts were expressed about the creation of a WFTU Committee of art and culture workers for coordination and strengthening of their struggles, as well as other concrete initiatives.

23: The WFTU Teleconference for the working women of Latin America and the Caribbean concluded with enthusiasm and militancy. The WFTU Teleconference for the working women of Latin America and the Caribbean, organized on March 23, 2021 in the framework of International Women's Day, under the topic: "One year of COVID-19 Pandemic: What are the new challenges for the working women and how to respond?" was successfully held with the participation of forty women trade unionists from 10 countries of the region. The members of the WFTU Women's Committee from Brazil, Peru and Panama, as well as many other women militants took the floor to describe the situation they are facing and the struggles for the protection of the health and working rights of women and men workers in their country. Colleague Grace Mathapelo Khanye, the WFTU Women's Committee Coordinator from NUM, South Africa, participated and intervened in the Conference.

### **APRIL**

8: WFTU participates in the UN VIRTUAL DIALOGUE with Ms. Tatiana Valovaya, Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG) and Dr. Liberato (Levi) Bautista, President of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations (CoNGO). WFTU was represented by Anda Anastasaki, General Coordinator of the WFTU central offices.

14: WFTU Seminar with WFTU Affiliates in South Africa. The Seminar had two topics: "The history of the WFTU" and "International Organizations & How the WFTU Campaigns are organized", both topics were followed by debates with the participating WFTU cadres.

14: UNESCO online workshop: ESD for 2030 and the World Conference on Education for Sustainable Development. WFTU was represented by Kali Patouna.

15: Virtual Symposium of the General Union of Palestine Workers on the occasion of the Palestinian Prisoners' Day. The WFTU General Secretary, comrade George Mavrikos participated in the Symposium, stressing the importance of the continuing WFTU International Campaign for the release of all Palestinian political pris-

oners, first of all child prisoners and the continuation of the activities of the Campaign and of international solidarity with the People of Palestine.

15: Organization of Joint seminar by CAT Chile and WFTU. The seminar featured a presentation by c. General Secretary of the WFTU, George Mavrikos and focused on "Decent Work for Working Women in Time of the COVID-19 Pandemic."

19-23: WFTU participates in the ILO fourth meeting of the Special Tripartite Committee of the Maritime Labour Convention.

24: The WFTU International Forum to commemorate the victims of Rana Plaza in Bangladesh concluded with massive participation. The WFTU International Forum to commemorate the victims of Rana Plaza in Bangladesh concluded successfully today April 24th, 2021 with massive participation of more than 50 delegates from every corner of the world. The opening speech was delivered by Joly Talukder, from Garment Workers' Trade Union Centre Bangladesh, Vice President for Asia of TUI TEXGAL and the closing remarks by the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos.

26- 4 June: ILO Online international training on evidence-based policy making for decent work. WFTU was represented by Mathapelo Grace KHANYE, from NUM-South Africa, Coordinator of WFTU Women's Committee and Petros Petrou.

30: WFTU May Day Event - Successful and Militant Celebration of May Day 2021

The event of WFTU to honour the 2021 May Day under the slogan "Hope Lies in our Struggles" concluded with great success on April 30th. The opening speeches were delivered by the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos and the WFTU President Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba. More than 100 trade unions cadres of 51 countries of the world participated in the online event organised by WFTU transfering the militant messages from their countries.

#### MAY

1: May Day 2021-Greece: WFTU Delegation laid wreaths on the Monument of WFTU in Kaisariani, Athens. A delegation of the WFTU paricipated in the massive demonstration in Kaisariani, Athens and laid wreaths on the monument of WFTU and the monument of 200 Greek resistance fighters who were executed on May Day 1944 by the German Nazis. The WFTU Delegation was headed by the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos.

6: WFTU affiliates organized various activities in solidarity with the people and working class of Colombia.

12: The WFTU participated in the NEHAWU National Nurses Virtual Seminar. The WFTU affiliate in South Africa NEHAWU organised a virtual seminar to honor the International Nurses Day under the slogan: "With a militant voice, united for dignified work. For our vision, for a free and public healthcare for all".

13: Second day of the WFTU Seminars with WFTU Affiliates in South Africa. The topics that were presented today by the WFTU headquarters were the following: Seminar on Visual Propaganda, Seminar on the current situation under the title "The King is naked"

17: The WFTU organized its virtual preparatory meeting for the 109th ILC. The WFTU affiliates and friends organised the Virtual WFTU Preparatory Meeting for the 109th International Labour Conference with the participation of trade unionists from more than 40 countries and the WFTU Sectoral Unions (TUIs). The delegates discussed on the current issues of the world trade union movement as well as the WFTU active participation in the 109th ILC works.

17-21: ILO virtual Technical meeting on the future of work in the education sector in the context of lifelong learning for all, skills and the Decent Work Agenda. WFTU was represented by Dr Arun Kumar, General Secretary, All India Federation of University and College Teachers Organization.

18: The WFTU affiliates and friends affirmed their solidarity with Palestinian People by participating massively to the WFTU International Event. The WFTU initiative to organize an International virtual event in solidarity with the Palestinian People concluded on May 18th with great paricipation. The WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos and the WFTU President Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba addressed the keynote speeches, followed by 50 speakers in total of 150 participants from 55 countries.



19: The WFTU General Secretary participated in the meeting of solidarity with Palestine, organized by ICATU and GUPW. ICATU and GUPW jointly organized a virtual meeting titled "Jerusalem calls on you". The WFTU General Secretary, George Mavrikos, participated in the meeting expressing the support of the WFTU and informed on the WFTU International Campaign in Solidarity and Relief of the Palestinian People.

21: Militant artists' unions of various countries organized militant events on the occassion of the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development.

26: The International Meeting of FISE on Academic Freedom concluded with great success and participation. Twenty colleagues intervened during the Meeting, stressing the militant demands of teachers and planning the continuation of action in defense of Academic freedom and educators and students' rights.

27: France: WFTU General Secretary participated in the 21st Congress of the UD CGT 94. During his speech, c. Mavrikos spoke of the international scene, with the new antagonisms between the imperialist powers as well as the repercussions of these on the world working class. He also pointed out that the COVID-19 pandemic has once again exposed the contradictions of the capitalist system, posing new challenges for workers around the world.

# **JUNE**

- 3: Web Meeting of the WFTU Secretariat. The WFTU Secretariat discussed in a spirit of enthusiasm and active participation about the WFTU Campaign Solidarity with Palestine Campaign, the preparations for the 18th World Trade Union Congress and approved the WFTU Action Plan for the second half of 2021.
- 4: The WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos met with Mr Nguyen Manh Cuong, outgoing Ambassador of Socialist Republic of Viet Nam. The WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos met today in the WFTU Head office in Athens Greece with Mr Nguyen Manh Cuong, outgoing Ambassador of Socialist Republic of Viet Nam and wished him farewell upon completion of his term in Greece.
- 23: The international symposium organized by the All China Trade Union Confederation ACFTU which is the largest trade union organization in the world, was held with great. The WFTU was represented by Montisetse Joseph, NUM President from South Africa and Anda Anastasaki general coordinator of the WFTU central offices.
- 25: The Balkan Trade Union Meeting organized by POEEP and WFTU concluded in success. Trade unionists from several Balkan countries participated in the Virtual Balkan Trade Union Meeting organized by the Pan-Hellenic Labor Federation of Bottled Beverages (POEEP) and the World Federation of Trade Unions. The militant trade unionists discussed about the workers' situation in the Pandemic which exacerbated their problems and put new limits to the organized action and trade union rights.





- 29: Cyprus: 37th General Assembly of KTAMS. The 37th General Assembly of KTAMS was completed on Saturday 26th of June in Cyprus. During the Assembly the delegates discussed the current situation and the problems created by the pandemic and the crisis. WFTU was represented at the 37th General Assembly by the European Regional Office Coordinator Pieris Pieri.
- 30: The leadership of the TUI Pensioners held a virtual Meeting with the WFTU General Secretary. The leadership of the TUI Pensioners held a successful virtual meeting with the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos on June 30th. The more than 40 delegates discussed and organised their activities on the WFTU International Campaign in solidarity with the Palestinian people and the 18th World Trade Union Congress.

# JULY

1: Seminar of WFTU Coordination Committee of Nepal on the "Issues of Nepalese Migrant workers". An important seminar on the "Issues of Nepalese Migrant workers" has successfully organized by the WFTU Co-ordination committee Nepal on the 26 June 2021 in Kathmandu with a wide range of participation of eminent personalities and Trade Unions throwing more light on the visible as well as invisible issues concerning the migrant workers.

Report of Action 2017-2021

18th World Trade Union Congress

1: WFTU Women Trade Union Seminar in Senegal

1: The French-Speaking Africa Meeting took place with success. The WFTU meeting with the trade union cadres from the French Speaking Africa took place with success on July 1st. In the meeting took part and intervened delegates from 13 countries. The delegates discussed about the socioeconomic situation of their region during the covid-19 pandemic, the strengthening of communication and solidarity between the trade union organizations and their joint actions that will lead to the 18th World Trade Union Congress.

4-5: Visit of WFTU General Secretary in Egypt to meet Palestinian trade union leaders and visit the injured victims of the Israeli barbarity. The delivery of Medical Material for the heroic Palestinian People in Gaza Strip started. A WFTU delegation, composed by the WFTU General Secretary, comrade George Mavrikos and Achmant Sicha, delivered a little while ago in Cairo, Egypt, the first medical help materials to the Ambassador of the Palestinian Authority.



18: The WFTU General Secretary, George Mavrikos addressed the AIBEA Webinar on "We deserve a better world, for that we need to unite & fight" on July 18th, 2021. The WFTU General Secretary mentioned the challenges of our times and underlined the necessity of the unity, clarifying and explaining the character, purpose and the direction of the working class unity. Anda Anastasaki, coordinator of the WFTU Headquarters greeted the webinar too, and afterwards comrade Amarjeet Kaur, General Secretary of AITUC delivered a very important lecture. More than 4000 workers and trade unionists followed live the Webinar.

22: The WFTU International Virtual Conference in Solidarity with Cuba took place on July 22nd, 2021 with the participation of more than 120 leaders of trade unions from 43 countries of the 5 continents. 41 delegates addressed the conference from Cuba, South Africa, India, USA, Peru, Cyprus, Brazil, Palestine, Turkey, Italy, Nepal, Spanish State, Argentina, Mexico, Basque Country, Greece, Guatemala, Trinidad and Tobago, South Korea, Paraguay, Guinea, Romania, Nicaragua, Senegal, Panama, Lugansk, Angola and expressed their solidarity with the Cuban people and the heroic Central de Trabajadores de Cuba.



## **AUGUST**

12: The Virtual Meeting of the WFTU Youth of Latin American and the Caribbean in the framework of the International Youth Day on August 12 was held with success and great participation, under the slogan "We Create, We Build, We Transform". The participants, young fighters from various countries of the region, discussed the new challenges they are facing and adopted resolutions on strengthening the training of young trade unionists and the continuation of their struggles with militant activities.

29-30: 14th Congress of ICATU on 30.08.2021 in Hurghada, Egypt. In the framework of the 14th Congress of the International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions (ICATU) in Egypt, the WFTU Delegation held interesting bilateral meetings with Arab trade unions and trade unionists from Sudan, Lebanon, Egypt, Syria, Iraq and Libya.

30: A WFTU Seminar for Latin America and the Caribbean was held under the theme: "Medicines and vaccines are social goods and not commodities-Safe and free vaccines for all without patents or speculation". With the participation of trade unionists from more than 15 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, the WFTU Seminar on vaccines and medicines that should not be commodities but social goods was held. The participants enriched the discussion by promoting the militant demands of the class-oriented trade union movement and will continue to promote their proposals for the protection of health, life and jobs of workers during the Pandemic.

# **SEPTEMBER**

8: A WFTU Delegation participated in the condolence ceremony of Mikis Theodorakis in Athens, Greece. A WFTU delegation headed by its General Secretary George Mavrikos participated in the condolence ceremony of the great Greek composer Mikis Theodorakis in Athens, Greece.

15: Solidarity meeting with Sudan Workers Trade Union Federation (SWTUF)

16: WFTU meeting in solidarity with the Sefponam trade union in Madagascar

22: The WFTU General Secretary addressed the COSATU 7th Central Committee Meeting. The WFTU General Secretary comrade George Mavrikos addressed the COSATU 7th Central Committee Meeting today, September 22nd and talked about the necessity of socialism and the unity of the working class.

29: The WFTU participated in the FAO Regional Conference on Child Labour in Agriculture in Africa. The WFTU was represented by Aliou Ndiaye from Senegal, President of UISTAACT and Anda Anastasaki, General Coordinator of WFTU Headquarters.

#### **OCTOBER**

3: The WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos honored the 76th Anniversary of the WFTU. To honor the WFTU International Action Day and the 76th Anniversary of WFTU the WFTU General Secretary, George Mavrikos laid a wreath on the Monument of WFTU in Kaisariani and issued the following statement:

"Today 76 years of life and action of the WFTU are being completed. It has been a course full of struggles for the interests of workers in every corner of the planet.

We are proud because for 76 years the helm has been in the same direction, regardless of obstacles, difficulties and mistakes. It has been in the direction of the defense of the ordinary people, with internationalism and solidarity, stably against imperialism and social injustice.

WE CONTINUE with new impetus and we are optimistic that the workers united on the basis of the interests of our social class, we can achieve the emancipation of the world working class and its liberation from capitalist barbarity.





5: WFTU participates in the ILO Workers' Group Meeting for the 343rd Session of the Governing Body.

6: The International Forum of FISE took place with success and enthusiasm. The International Forum of FISE under the title "Teachers' unions days of struggles in times of the Pandemic", on the occasion of the WFTU and FISE International Action Day and World Day of teachers successfully took place on October 6th, 2021.

7: A Virtual Arab meeting was organized by the WFTU Regional Office for the Middle East on the occasion of the WFTU 76th Anniversary. Trade union cadres from Syria, Palestine, Sudan and Iraq participated in the meeting, where brother George Mavrikos, WFTU General Secretary, greeted this initiative, reiterating the WFTU stable solidarity with the People and workers of Palestine, Sudan, Syria and all Arab countries and informed about present and future actions of support.

9: WFTU participates in the 8th congress of CIG in Galicia. The World Federation of Trade Unions is participating in the 8th congress of CIG that is taking place today October 9th, 2021 in Santiago de Compostella, Galicia. The Head of the European Regional Office, comrade Pieris Pieri, represents the WFTU, conveying the class solidarity of its millions of members from all corners of the earth.

9: The WFTU International Symposium titled "The message of the life and struggle of Ernesto "Che" Guevara" took place today on October 9th , on the 54th anniversary of his assassination by the CIA agents. More than 80 trade union cadres took part in the symposium representing trade unions from every corner of the world paying tribute to the great revolutionist leader.



11: A discussion between WFTU and the National Union of Libyan Workers took place on October 11th. During the discussion a series of joint actions for Libyan workers were agreed at international and sectoral level in the field of tobacco workers, oil energy and education.

13: Virtual meeting between WFTU and the General Federation of Yemen workers' trade unions. The WFTU delegation underlined the long standing bonds between the WFTU and Yemen workers, reiterated the internationalist solidarity and support of the WFTU to the members and friends of the General Federation of Yemen workers and trade unions and agreed in a series of joint activities in national and sectoral level.

15: Virtual meeting with WFTU affiliates in Congo on 15 October. The meeting took place with the participation of 7 trade union organizations. The delegates discussed the role of Che Guevara during his stay in Congo, in line with the WFTU initiative to commemorate the 54th anniversary of his assassination, the meaning of a dignified life for workers in Congo and the 18th WFTU Congress.

21: WFTU participates in the 23rd congress of Pensioners' Federation IKA, Greece. The World Federation of Trade Unions participates in the 23rd congress of Pensioner Federation IKA, Greece which is taking place on

21-22 October 2021 in Athens, Greece. The General Secretary of the WFTU Sectoral Union TUI Pensioners & Retirees, Quim Boix and Petros Petrou from the WFTU Headquarters addressed the delegates of the congress, conveying the international and comradely solidarity of the international class-oriented trade union movement to the militant pensioners' movement in Greece.

22: WFTU virtual discussion on "Dignified Life for workers and the Peoples" in South Korea. The participants focused in detail on the development and the challenges of the workers in South Korea and the wider region and discussed future initiatives of the WFTU and the South Korean Office.

- 22: Meeting between WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos and CTC General Secretary Ulises de Nacimiento and Ismael Drullet Pérez from the WFTU Latin America Regional Office, to discuss matters of internationalist solidarity with Cuba and the preparation of the 18th WFTU Congress.
- 25: Virtual meeting with WFTU affiliates in Rwanda. The participants discussed the situation of workers in Rwanda, the meaning of a dignified life for workers in the country and the 18th WFTU Congress.
- 26: Virtual meeting with WFTU affiliates in Senegal. The participants discussed the situation of workers in Senegal, the meaning of a dignified life for workers in the country and the 18th WFTU Congress.
- 27: The virtual discussions with the WFTU affiliates on the meaning of this year's WFTU International Action Day "Dignified Life for workers and the Peoples" continues.
- 30: WFTU virtual discussion on "Dignified Life for workers and the Peoples" in Pakistan. The Pakistan trade unionists discussed the role of the WFTU role in the country and the future trade union activities with the WFTU Deputy General Secretary and Head of the WFTU Asia Pacific Regional Office, comrade Mahadevan.

# **NOVEMBER**

- 3: Farewell meeting of the WFTU General Secretary , George Mavrikos, with the Ambassador of the Palestinian Authority in Athens, Mr. Marwan Toubassi. The WFTU delegation informed the Ambassador that the big, ongoing Solidarity and Relief Campaign is very successful and that the first containers will soon be loaded on ships. Also on November 29, the WFTU organizes an International Symposium of Solidarity with the heroic struggle of the Palestinian People, while with its recent official memorandum to the UN and intervention in the European Parliament, the WFTU once again demands the recognition of the independent Palestinian State.
- 4: Virtual meeting with WFTU affiliates in Niger. The virtual meeting of the WFTU and its affiliates in Niger took place with the participation of all WFTU affiliates in Niger. The participants discussed the situation of workers in Niger, the meaning of a dignified life for workers in the country and the 18th WFTU Congress.
- 5: WFTU virtual discussion on "Dignified Life for workers and the Peoples" in Kazakhstan. The WFTU Deputy Secretary and Head of the Asia and Pacific Regional Office, comrade Mahadevan, delivered the introductory speech, analyzing the perspective and the objectives of the class-oriented trade union movement, and a fruitful discussion with the participants followed.
- 5: The WFTU General Secretary addressed the NEHAWU 12th National Congress. The WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos, addressed the NEHAWU 12th National congress that is taking place from November 3rd to November 6th. During his greeting speech underlined the importance of NEHAWU, SACP and the South African Trade Union movement for the WFTU and the long standing comradely relations of WFTU and NEHAWU.
- 9-24: 41st General Conference of UNESCO. WFTU was represented by Anda Anastasaki, WFTU Headquarters General Coordinator.
- 15: Virtual meeting with WFTU affiliates in Liberia. The WFTU affiliates in Liberia held a virtual meeting and discussed about the situation of the class oriented movement in Liberia and the strengthening of WFTU in their country.
- 16: Egypt: The WFTU participated in the General Congress of the General Trade Union of Communication Workers of Egypt in Cairo. During her speech, the WFTU representative stressed the brotherly relations between the two unions and the continuous WFTU solidarity to all Arab Workers.

16: Greece: A WFTU delegation headed by its General Secretary paid tribute to the 1973 Polytechnic School uprising. The WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos and Petros Petrou from PEO-Cyprus laid wreaths in the monument of "Polytechneion" in Athens, Greece. On the site of the popular uprising of the Greek people in 1973 against the military dictatorship, in the building of the Polytechnic School of Athens to honor the struggles of the Greek working class against the dictatorship 1967-1974.



17-19: ILO Workers' Symposium: Trade Unions in times of COVID-19. Zola, Saphetha General Secretary of NEHAWU, South Africa represented the WFTU.

- 22-26: Twenty-second session of the Intergovernmental Working Group on the Right to Development, National Human Rights Institutions and Regional Human Rights Mechanisms Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. WFTU was represented by Anda Anastasaki, WFTU Headquarters General Coordinator.
- 24-26: FNIC-CGT International Conference on Petrochemical Industry. The WFTU was represented by Suzan Abdelsalam, member of the WFTU Women's Committee.
- 25-11 December: WFTU participated in the second part of the 109th International Labour Conference.
- 28: The WFTU intervened during the Virtual Symposium of ICATU in solidarity with Palestinian Arab people against the racist procedures of the Zionist entity's authorities. On the occasion of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People on 29 November, ICATU organized a virtual symposium in solidarity with Palestinian Arab people against the racist procedures of the Zionist entity's authorities. Delegates from 17 countries participated and also WFTU, ALO and OATUU. On behalf of WFTU intervened Mike Shingange from South Africa, president of NEHAWU.
- 29: The WFTU International Symposium in Solidarity with Palestine stressed the internationalist support of militant trade unions around the world to the Palestinian struggle. The WFTU International Symposium in Solidarity with Palestine was successfully held with the participation of 100 trade unionists from 40 countries from all over the globe, in the framework of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian struggle on November 29th.

The WFTU President, Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba, from NEHAWU, South Africa, opened the Symposium, highlighting the commitment of the WFTU to continue its actions for the recognition of the independent Palestinian State on the basis of 1967 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital.

The WFTU affiliates and friends participating in the virtual event reiterated their firm solidarity with our Palestinian brothers and sisters and decided to undertake concrete initiatives in order to put forward the Palestinian Peoples' demands. The WFTU through its Campaigns, interventions and initiatives will always stand by the side of Palestinian workers, with determination and internationalism, until their final victory.

29: The WFTU took part in the meeting of "Support Amazon Workers" on November 29, 2021 in solidarity with Amazon and other workers.

# **DECEMBER**

1: France: The WFTU General Secretary participates in the 15th Congress of the CGT Commerce. The WFTU General Secretary, George Mavrikos, participated in a round table entitled: "Convergence of struggles", on the theme "committed and determined to conquer new rights".

9-10: Cyprus: The WFTU General Secretary addressed the 28th Congress of PEO. The WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos is taking part and addressed the 28th Congress of PEO-Cyprus. During his speech he underlined the role of PEO in WFTU, which is one of its founding members.

After his speech, the WFTU General Secretary presented the honorary poster of WFTU for the 80th Anniversary of PEO which was given to the General Secretary of PEO, Pampis Kyritsis as a gift from WFTU to PEO.



# Part B

Hosting of foreign delegations

# 2017

# **JANUARY**

26-29: A delegation of USB Italy visited the Central Offices of the World Federation of Trade Unions and held bilateral meetings with the WFTU Secretariat.

#### MARCH

14: Meeting of the WFTU Leadership and SPRU Russia held in Athens, in the WFTU head office. The topics of the discussion during the meeting were the recuperation of the WFTU archives in Moscow and other issues promoting the presence and activities of the WFTU in Russia.

### **APRIL**

20: A delegation of FNIC-CGT from France visited the WFTU Central Offices in Athens, Greece. The delegation was composed by Emmanuel LEPINE, General Secretary and Eric SELLINI Federal Secretary of FNIC-CGT. They met with the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos and WFTU Deputy General Secretary Divanilton Pereira. During their meeting they discussed about the situation in Europe and the joint activities of the WFTU and FNIC-CGT.



21: A delegation of Egyptian Trade Union Leaders composed by Dr. Hossam El Din Mustafa Kamal Mohamed President of Maritime Workers Union, Mr. Sayed Youssif Taha President of Postal Workers Union, Mr. Ibrahim Tawfeek Hassan Hekal President of Communication Workers Union, Mr. Khaled Munir Hassanin El Fki President of Metal Workers union and Mr. Mohamed Hassan Khalifa Interpreter visited the Central Offices of WFTU and discussed with the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos and WFTU Deputy General Secretary Divanilton Pereira. The meeting took place in brotherly atmosphere and the topic of discussion was the situation in Arab World and in Egypt.

#### MAY

12: The Ambassador of the Republic of Cuba in Greece Mrs Zelmys Ma. Dominguez Cortina visited the WFTU Central Offices in Athens, Greece and met with the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos. The meeting took place in fraternal and solidarity spirit. During the meeting they discussed about the event of the Cuban Embassy in Athens honoring Jose Marti and the WFTU Solidarity Event that will take place in Brussels, which will demand to Stop the blockade policies against Cuban people and the return of Guantanamo territory to Cuba.

# **SEPTEMBER**

5: A high level delegation from South Africa, headed by the WFTU president comrade Michael Makwayiba, visited the WFTU headquarters. The delegation composed by the leaders of the WFTU affiliates in South Africa, General Secretary of NUM, comrade David Sipunzi, General Secretary of NEHAWU, comrade Zola Zapetha, General Secretary of POPCRU, comrade Nkosinathi Theledi and the POPCRU leaders, comrades Amelia Mahlatsi, Boitumelo Pheleo, Hangwani Mashao, Mosadiwamaje Mokokong. A meeting took place between the WFTU Leadership and the delegation from the South African discussed in militant spirit and comradely atmosphere about the situation, problems of the workers in African area and the WFTU action in the continent and worldwide. During the meeting the leaders of WFTU and South African trade unions, confirmed that the WFTU will always be in the front line of the class-oriented struggles.



6: The Delegation of CITU India composed by Dr Kandikuppa Hemalata, Tapan Sen and Swadesh Dev Roye visited the Central Offices of WFTU in Athens, Greece and met with the WFTU Leadership and its General Secretary George Mavrikos.

7: The delegation of CITU India composed by the CITU President Dr Kandikuppa Hemalata, CITU General Secretary Tapan Sen and the member of the WFTU Secretariat Swadesh Dev Roye and the delegation of the South African Affiliates of WFTU composed by General Secretary of NUM, comrade David Sipunzi, General Secretary of NEHAWU, comrade Zola Zapetha, General Secretary of POPCRU, comrade Nkosinathi Theledi and the POPCRU leaders, comrades Amelia Mahlatsi, Boitumelo Pheleo, Hangwani Mashao, Mosadiwamaje Mokokong. headed by the WFTU President Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba and the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos visited the monument of WFTU in the municipality of Kaisariani in Athens, Greece and paid tribute to international working class and its leaders.



20: A high level delegation of the General Federation of Iraq Workers (GFIW), composed of its President, colleague Sattar Danbous Barrak and its Legal Council, colleague Hussein Hasan Hussein, visited the Head-quarters of the World Federation of Trade Unions in Athens, Greece, where a meeting with WFTU General Secretary, George Mavrikos was held. During the meeting the situation of workers in Iraq and the development of various common activities were discussed. The WFTU reiterated its internationalist solidarity with the people of Iraq, against wars and imperialist interventions.

# **OCTOBER**

1: The GUPW delegation composed by Haidar I. A. Kabha G.U.P.W. General Secretary and Souzan T. I. Abdelsalam President of the Jerusalem Workers Union arrived in Athens and met with George Mavrikos WFTU General Secretary, Nikolas Theodorakis Head Of the International Relations Department of PAME, Anda Anastasaki WFTU Central Office General Coordinator and Mohamed Iqnaibi delegate of GUPW in Greece. The meeting affirmed thebrotherly relationships of WFTU and General Union of Palestine Workers.

3: The General Secretary of the General Union of Palestine Workers Haidar Ibrahim and Suzan Abdelsalam member of the International Relations visited WFTU Head Office and met with the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos. The GUPW leader Haidar Ibrahim, who is a historic figure of the Palestinian Trade Union movement and GUPW a founding member of the WFTU discussed thoroughly about the current situation of the Palestinian workers and the challenges that faces the people of Palestine and they agreed to intensify the joint struggles of WFTU and GUPW against imperialism and Israeli aggressiveness.



12: A high level delegation of LFTU from Laos headed by its President Pan Noymany and the Deputy-Director of International Department Vilay Vongkhaseum visited the WFTU Central Offices in Athens and met with the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos. They discussed about the situation in the region and they decided to strengthen the joint activities of WFTU and LFTU.

#### **NOVEMBER**

6-10: Trade Unionists from different parts of the USA visited the Central Offices of the WFTU for a week's training program concerning a variety of trade union subjects as well as informative sessions on the WFTU, its history and positions, its action plan and struggle. The trade union training program started on the November 6th with a welcome speech by Anda Anastasaki, WFTU General Coordinator and a Seminar by Nikolas Theodorakis head of International Department of PAME. The program organized by the North-American Regional Office was aimed to express the solidarity of the WFTU to the working class in USA with the support offered for the strengthening of its trade unionists.



8: Four trade union cadres from Mexico visited the WFTU Central Offices in Athens, Greece and met with a WFTU Delegation headed by George Mavrikos WFTU General Secretary. Martinez Lopez Julio Cesar and Jimenez Mena Samuel on behalf of CODUC-Mexico and Omar Ovalle Esquivel and Leonardo Navarro Ovalle on behalf of CIOAC-Mexico discussed with the WFTU Delegation on the situation of the workers movement in their country and in Central America.

13: A delegation of Roofers Local 36 (USA-Los Angeles) composed by Cliff Smith, Frank Mora and Herson Castellanos met with a WFTU delegation headed by WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos in the WFTU Central Offices in Athens, Greece. The meeting took place in militant spirit and both sides discussed about the situation of the workers movement in the region and the WFTU activities.

19: The new member of the National Secretariat of CTC-Cuba, Perez Drullet Ismael visited Athens, Greece and met with WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos in the Central Offices of WFTU. During the meeting they discussed about the developments in Cuba and in the Region of Latin America and the long lasting history and solidarity of WFTU to the Cuban people.



27: A high level delegation of CGTB-Brazil headed by its President Ubiraci Dantas (Bira), Litti Dahmer and Maria Pimentel visited Athens, Greece and met with George Mavrikos WFTU General Secretary in the WFTU Central Offices. The meeting took place in fraternal spirit and the topics discussed were the situation of the workers movement in Brazil and the future initiatives of WFTU in Latin America.

2018

# **JANUARY**

26: A delegation of FNAF-CGT composed by Freddy Huck and Christian Alliaume visited the central offices of WFTU in Athens, Greece on January 26th and met with a high level WFTU delegation headed by its General Secretary George Mavrikos, Divanilton Pereira deputy General Secretary and Valentin Pacho WFTU Vice President. The meeting took place in fraternal spirit and the future activities were discussed.

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### **FEBRUARY**

7: A high level delegation of GUPW-Palestine, composed by Mahmoud S.H. Abualwafa and Samer A. H. Saabi visited the WFTU Headquarters in Athens, Greece and met with the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos and Valentin Pacho WFTU Vice-President. The meeting took place in fraternity spirit and the delegations discussed about the situation in Palestine and the workers' movement.

12: On February 12th, the leadership of TUI Pensioners visited the WFTU Central Offices in Athens, Greece and met with the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos. During the meeting they discussed about the initiatives of the TUI and the next TUI Pensioners Congress.

# **MARCH**

9: A high level Delegation form VGCL Vietnam headed by its President Bui Van Cuong, VGCL and composed by: Ta Van Dong, VGCL Presidium Member Auditing Committee Director, Dang Trung Dung Deputy Director of VGCL International Department and Ha Thi Phuong Thao Deputy Chief of Division VGCL International Dept. met on March 9th, with a WFTU Delegation composed by Anda Anastasaki WFTU Central Office Coordinator and Bereng Soke from NEHAWU and the WFTU Regional Office South Africa. The meeting took place in comradeship spirit and the two sides discussed about the joint actions of WFTU and VGCL.



# **APRIL**

19: A Delegation of the National Labor Federation (FNM) – Romania composed by: Cretan Constantin – President of FNM), Braia Vasile Dorin – President of the Department: The "Lignite Oltenia" Trade Union and Şomîcu Simion – Responsible for International Relations, visited the WFTU Headquarters. The Romanian delegation met with a high level WFTU delegation headed by its General Secretary George Mavrikos and composed by Valentin Pacho, Vice-President of WFTU, Bereng Soke from NEHAWU and the WFTU Regional Office South Africa and Maria Barouti, WFTU Counselor. The two delegations discussed about the situation of the workers movement in Europe and their future joint activities in Balkan area.

20: A delegation of Albanian trade unionists visited the WFTU central Office on April 20th and met with a WFTU delegation.

24: A delegation of Soyuz Profsoyozov Russia headed by its General Secretary Evgenii Kulikov, Sergey Khramov and Natalia Krasova visited the WFTU Central Office in Athens and met with a WFTU Delegation headed by its General Secretary George Mavrikos, Valentin Pacho WFTU Vice-President, Bereng Soke from NEHAWU and the WFTU Regional Office South Africa and Anda Anastasaki, General Coordinator of the WFTU Central Offices. The topics of the discussion were the presence and activities of the WFTU in Russia and in the region.



# MAY

5-12: A delegation of 2 female trade union from NUM, South Africa participated in a 7-day trade union training course in the Headquarters if the World Federation of Trade Unions. The NUM delegation was composed by comrade Lydia Thandekile Nkopane and Khanye Mathalepo Grace, coordinator of the WFTU Working Women Committee.

24: On May 24, Mohammed Yahya, head of Workers Union Coalition Palestine (WUC)-Palestine visited the Central Offices of WFTU and met with a WFTU Delegation composed by the WFTU General Scretary George Mavrikos and the WFTU Vice-President Valentin Pacho. During their meeting they discussed about the solidarity of WFTU to Palestinian people against Imperialistic aggression.

# **JUNE**

13: A meeting between the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos and the new FISE General Secretary Mariano García took place on June 13th 2018 in the WFTU central offices in Athens. During the meeting, they discussed on the action plan for all the 5 continents for the defense of the rights of the teachers and the solidarity to all the workers around the world.



15: The WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos and the General Secretary of OTT Tunisia Lassaad Abid and Yacine Ben Chikha met on June 15th, 2018, in the WFTU Head office in Athens Greece and discussed about the problems of workers in Tunisia and the Arab world and the wider area.

# JULY

3: A delegation of UTS-Senegal headed by Aliou Ndiaye, UTS General Secretary and Ibrahima Sylla, Mamadou Moustapha Kane, and Magatte Diop, visited the WFTU Central Offices on July 3rd, and met with a high level WFTU Delegation headed by its General Secretary George Mavrikos and Valentin Pacho, WFTU Vice-President. During the meeting they discussed about the class oriented trade union movement in Senegal and the strengthening of WFTU in the area of Western Africa.



5: The WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos met with Mahinda Jayasighe Vice-President of FISE, responsible for Asia, in the WFTU Central Offices in Athens Greece on July 5th and discussed about the action plan of FISE in the World and especially in Asian Region.

18: On July 18, 2018 a meeting between the President of the Democratic Confederation of Autonomous Trade Unions (CDSA) of Gabon, Aloise Mbou Mbine, and the General Secretary of the WFTU, George Mavrikos, took place at the WFTU Central Offices in Athens, Greece. During the meeting the two sides discussed the situation of workers in the African countries, as well as the upcoming WFTU initiatives for the strengthening of the class oriented trade union movement in Gabon and wider region.

18: A high level delegation from VGCL-Vietnam, headed by Nguyen Thi Thu Hong, VGCL Vice-President and composed by Vu Minh Son, President of the Federation of Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources, by Phan Phuong Hanh, Vice-President of the Public Services General Federation and by Le Thi Kim Dao, interpreter, visited the WFTU Central Offices in Athens, Greece and met with a WFTU delegation headed by the WFTU General Secretary, George Mavrikos. During the bilateral meeting the delegations discussed about the situation of the workers' movement in Vietnam and the region as well as the future joint activities of WFTU and VGCL. Both delegations underlined the long lasting comradely connection between WFTU and VGCL and the importance of the strengthening of cooperation between the VGCL Public Services Federation and WFTU Trade Union International of Public Services workers. During their staying in Athens, the VGCL delegates had a fruitful meeting with the Greek trade union of Public Services while they also visited the Mayor of the City of Petroupoli. Finally they met with All Workers Militant Front (PAME) representatives and paid a visit to some workplaces.



# **SEPTEMBER**

11: The General Secretary of Kenya Union of Judiciary Workers Jared Ahama Onyari visited the WFTU Central Offices in Athens, Greece and met with the WFTU Head Office General Coordinator Anda Anastasaki and WFTU advisers. During the meeting they discussed about the situation in Kenya and Africa and decided a plan of joint activities in the region.

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# **OCTOBER**

24: A delegation of USM-Monaco composed by the General Secretary Christophe Glasser and the Deputy General Secretary Olivier Cardot visited the WFTU central offices of WFTU and met with a WFTU Delegation headed by the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos. During the meeting the two sides discussed the situation of workers in the European countries, as well as the upcoming WFTU initiatives for the strengthening of the class oriented trade union movement in Europe and in the world.



30: A group of French trade unionists from Marseilles and Paris, France, representing local trade unions, visited the WFTU Central Offices in Athens, Greece on October 30th 2018 and met with the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos.

# 2019

# **JANUARY**

17: Trade unionists from the Turkish Trade Union in Constructions INŞAAT VE YAPI İŞÇİLERİ visited the WFTU Central Offices. The situation of the working class in Turkey and other timely issues concerning workers at regional and international level, were discussed during the meeting.

22: The WFTU General Secretary met a delegation of the General Trade Union of Maritime Workers of Egypt in the WFTU Central Offices. A delegation of the General Trade Union of Maritime Workers of Egypt composed by its President Dr. Hossam El Din Mustafa Kamal Mohamed and Mr. Mohamed Hassan Khalifa visited the WFTU Central Offices in Athens

#### **MARCH**

19: Meeting between a WFTU delegation, headed by its General Secretary and a delegation of trade unionists from the Republic of Korea took place at the Central Offices of WFTU. The two parts discussed on the situation of the working class in the Republic of Korea and the wider region, as well as on joint future initiatives.



# **APRIL**

5: Meeting between the WFTU General Secretary and COSATU Leadership. The WFTU General Secretary met with the COSATU President, Zingiswa Losi and the COSATU General Secretary Bheki Ntshalintshali and discussed the affiliation of COSATU to WFTU.



9: Visit of UGTD – Djibouti to the WFTU Central Offices in Athens, Greece. A delegation of the WFTU Affiliate in Djibouti UGTD headed by its General Secretary Said Yonis and composed by Mohamoud Ismael Ibrahim, Mohamed Waiss Okieh and Aden Ahmed Miguil visited the WFTU Central Offices in Athens, Greece on April 9th 2019 and met with a WFTU Delegation headed by the WFTU General Secretary and Valentin Pacho WFTU Vice-President.



15: Joaquín Romero, WFTU Presidential Council member from Colombia met WFTU leadership in the WFTU Central Offices. After the closure of the WFTU Presidential Council works in Athens, Greece, cde. Joaquín Romero, WFTU Presidential Council member from Colombia, held a meeting with the WFTU General Secretary and the WFTU Vice-president, cde. Valentin Pacho at the WFTU Head Office and exchanged opinions on how to further develop the class-oriented unionism in his country.

### MAY

13-14: A delegation of ODPT/ ODT and UAOTL visited the WFTU Central Offices in Athens. A Trade Union delegation composed by Chaoûne Mustapha, General Secretary of National Democratic Organization of Transport Professionals of Morocco (ODPT/ ODT) and Bazzi Rachid, president of the Logistics and Transport African Trade Union Organization (UAOTL) visited the WFTU Central Offices in Athens, Greece on May 14th 2019 and met with the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos.

# JULY

26: Athens: A WFTU meeting with the French union CGT Centrale de Gardanne was successfully held. Energy sector issues in France, Europe and worldwide were discussed and opinions were exchanged on the coordination, initiatives and common actions of all class-oriented unions against government and transnational companies policies.

### **SEPTEMBER**

19: Visit of a delegation of the Palestine New Federation of Trade Unions to the Central Offices of the WFTU in Athens and meeting with the WFTU Leadership.

# **OCTOBER**

12-20: Delegation of FUCLAT-PANAMA visited the WFTU Central Offices in Athens, Greece for an official meeting with the WFTU General Secretary and Trade Union Seminars. A delegation of FUCLAT-PANAMA (Federación Unitaria de la Clase Trabajadora) headed by its General Secretary Alejandro John and Acevedo Jaime, Edwin Burke, Carlos Moreno, Alirio E. Prado Ch., David Martinez and David Casiano Perez visited Athens, Greece invited by the WFTU for a week's trade union training program and various trade union meetings.



14: The General Secretary of Garment Workers Trade Union Center of Bangladesh, Joly Talukder met with the WFTU General Secretary in WFTU Central Offices. During the meeting they discussed about the TUI Textile Garment and Leather and the success of its Congress.

18: The newly elected General Secretary of the TUI PS met with the WFTU President and the WFTU General Secretary in the WFTU HQ in Athens, Greece. The newly elected General Secretary of the TUI PS&A , comrade Zola Saphetha from NEHAWU met with the WFTU President comrade Mzwandile Michael Makwayiba and the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos in the WFTU HQ in Athens, Greece.



25: Palestinians from the General Union of Palestine Workers and the Ambassador of Palestine Mr. Marwan Toubassi met with the WFTU General Secretary, Comrade G. Mavrikos at the WFTU Headquarters in Athens, Greece.

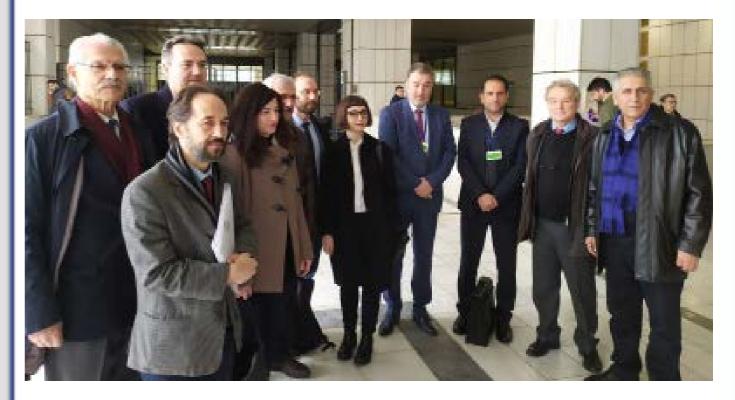
# **DECEMBER**

13: A delegation of General Union of Workers in the Food Industry of Jordan met with the WFTU General Secretary in the WFTU Central Offices in Athens, Greece. A delegation from the General Union of Workers in the Food Industry of Jordan, headed by its President Ahmad Abukhadra, met with WFTU General Secretary, George Mavrikos, at the WFTU Central Offices in Athens, Greece, where they discussed on the situation of Jordanian workers and the continuation and strengthening of cooperation for the workers' interests.

# 2020

# **JANUARY**

20: A WFTU Lawyers Committee Delegation visited Athens to express solidarity against "Golden Dawn" neo-nazi criminal organization. An International Delegation of the WFTU Lawyers Committee composed by lawyers from Italy, Turkey and Cyprus visited Athens, Greece and followed the Trial of the criminal – neo-nazi organization "Golden Dawn". The WFTU Lawyers Committee repeatedly expressed its deep concern on the trial's Prosecutors declarations and the latest developments on the trial. An important moment was the meeting of the committee members with Magda Fisa, mother of the murdered by the Golden Dawn artist Pavlos Fisas. The international delegation of the committee expressed its solidarity with the victims of the nazi attacks against workers, immigrants and the people of Greece. Furthermore, the class-oriented WFTU lawyers underlined they are going to follow until the very end this important case and to respectively inform the international scene. As they stated to the Press and to the Greek class-oriented lawyers who try to prove the criminal role of the "Golden Dawn": "This trial concerns all of us, not only from a legal but also from a social point of view".



27: A delegation from the Union: "Syndicat Départemental CGT des Personnels actifs et retraités du Département du Vaucluse" from France visited the WFTU Central Offices. A delegation from the Union: "Syndicat Départemental CGT des Personnels actifs et retraités du Département du Vaucluse" from France composed by its General Secretary Pascal Annabelle and Laurent Verges visited the WFTU Central Offices in Greece on January 27th and met with the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos. During their meeting, they discussed about the strengthening of the class oriented trade union movement in France and Europe.

# **FEBRUARY**

3: The General Secretary of the WFTU, George Mavrikos, met with a delegation of the National Unitary Federation of Workers of the Construction Industry of Venezuela (FUNTBCAC), composed of Marco Tulio Díaz - who is also member of the WFTU presidential council -, Francisco García and Hernán Britos, in Athens,

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Greece. On behalf of the World Federation of Trade Unions, the General Secretary reiterated the support of our great trade union family for the Venezuelan people, against the plans of the imperialists, the United States and their puppets who continue their interference against Venezuela. The delegation of Venezuelan builders, committed to continue strengthening the WFTU against imperialism and for the satisfaction of the contemporary needs of the international working class.



19: The Acting General Secretary of TUCTA and General Secretary of TUGHE, Hery Hebert Mkunda from Tanzania visited the WFTU Central Offices and met with the a high level WFTU Delegation. The Acting General Secretary of TUCTA – Tanzania and General Secretary of TUGHE – Tanzania, Hery Hebert Mkunda visited the WFTU Central Offices and met with the a high level WFTU Delegation headed by the WFTU General Secretary George Mavrikos and the WFTU Vice President Valentin Pacho. During the meeting they discussed about the situation of the trade union movement in Tanzania and Africa and the future joint activities.



