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## **2. INFORMATION, SENSITISATION, CAMPAIGNS**

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### **Whereas:**

- in the past four years the trade union movement has put in considerable efforts into using the new technologies, particularly e-mail, databases and the development of its Internet site. Already during the Bucharest Congress (2001), it had been stipulated that the new technologies were part and parcel of the instruments trade unions had to be able to use and develop in order to create the best possible conditions to realise trade union solidarity. In view of the increasingly recurrent technological developments the use of the Internet has become inescapable for the trade unions;
- there is the absolute need to continue the efforts to improve the communication and to spend more time on the action with the grass-roots organisation. The exchange of information with the trade unions on national situation is weak and conveyed particularly through the media. Though the site of WCL is effective, many organisations complain about the weakness of the communication with, and information of, the grass-roots organisations. The information society has developed further and further and offers today more and more means (intranet, video conference and other techniques);
- the lack of financial and human resources and the lack of experience with the new technologies thwart the member organisations considerably in the development of their own means of communication;

### **the 26th Congress of WCL demands to pursue the following goals and take the following actions in the matter of information:**

- to strengthen its information policy by continuing to make judicious use of the modern communication technologies;
- to pursue its goals in the matter of external relations and media policy, namely: make known the points of view and activities of WCL with a view to the protection and promotion of the women workers' and workers' interests;
- to favour the information of its member organisations and to facilitate their acquiring the new technologies;
- to mobilise the trade union force by creating a new international trade union organisation;
- to build a strong grass-roots trade unionism that is capable of networking at the national, regional and interregional levels;
- to sensitise the workers to their social rights, particularly the freedom of association, and to importance of association as a peaceful weapon to eliminate the social injustices and to make a start on development;
- to focus on the actions to improve the living conditions of the poor and vulnerable workers in the following sectors: mines, tourism, agriculture...;
- to introduce a strategy to involve women in trade union affairs and in the decision-making of the statutory bodies;

- to strengthen ILO so that it cannot be ignored in the development-oriented cooperation and trade agreements;
- to evaluate the follow-up on the recommendations of the World Commission on the Social Dimension of Globalisation;
- to act to improve the participation of trade unions as interlocutors and actors of development in the international, regional and national development institutions;
- to take up the invitations of the development institutions in the context of consultation procedures by seeking to introduce decision-making mechanisms for the policies related to human resources management and activities related to social and economic development;
- to make the workers aware of the importance of the international and regional cooperation and trade agreements;
- to strive for a better management of the free movement of people while restoring human dignity;
- to denounce through the media and the Internet the harmful practices of the multinationals and their effects on social and ecological environment of the workers;
- to organise the workers in the informal economy in order to improve their living and working conditions;
- to strengthen the alliances between trade unions and the representatives of other civil society organisations (NGOs, charitable organisations and institutions) that strive for a better national, regional and global governance;
- to support the dialogue with the social partners who show their determination to build a better world;
- to contribute to the reform of the international institutions and to demand that the point of view of the workers is taken more into consideration;
- to improve the exercise of our consultative status in the following international agencies: UNO, UNDP, UNESCO, UNIDO, UNCTAD, FAO, IFAD, UNIFEM, HABITAT, UNEP, UNFPA;
- to demand the consultative status with the international financial institutions (the World Bank and International Monetary Fund Group) and WTO;
- to conduct sensitisation campaigns on trade union freedom and the freedom of association as the driving force behind democracy and social development.