

**2nd WORLD CONGRESS**

Vancouver, 21 - 25 June 2010

RESOLUTION
ON
THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION

1. Congress pledges support for the mandate and goals of the International Labour Organisation. The achievement of its objectives of social justice acquires renewed urgency in conditions of global crisis and its impact upon millions of workers and their families. The ILO has a crucial role to play in the recovery from crisis and in putting globalisation on a fair and sustainable trajectory with the decent work agenda at its heart.

2. Congress welcomes the adoption by the ILO of the Global Jobs Pact as a decent work response to the crisis and as a basis for a new model of globalisation based on fairness and equality. It highlights the importance of the Pact's call for a wage-led increase of aggregate demand; the extension of social protection to all, drawing on a social protection floor; respect of international labour standards; gender equality; promotion of a trade and development model that gives developing countries the policy and fiscal space to build up their industrial base; and a new economic model that is fair, supportive of developing countries and at the service of the real economy. Congress therefore calls on governments, employers and the organisations of the multilateral system to implement the recommendations contained in it by engaging with the trade union movement nationally and internationally.

3. Congress further asserts its support to the 2008 ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalisation. By placing social justice at the heart of the global economy, by identifying decent work as a means for this and by recalling the ILO mandate to examine all economic and financial policies in the light of the objective of social justice, the Declaration constitutes a relevant and timely framework to address the global economic and social crisis. Congress calls for intensified effort to give effect to the provisions of the Declaration and its accompanying Resolution.

4. Congress confirms that standard-setting and supervision is at the heart of ILO action. International labour standards are a fundamental pillar of the decent work agenda and an essential guarantor of workers' rights and interests. Congress considers that the role of those standards is central to efforts to integrate a social dimension and appropriate regulation into the globalised economy.

5. Congress reaffirms the value of tripartism and social dialogue as a key defining characteristic of the ILO that is essential to the trade union movement. It calls upon governments and employers to promote and respect freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining in order for social dialogue to be effective. Congress further recognises the need for the globalisation of labour relations and supports the

call made by the Social Justice Declaration for partnerships between the ILO, multinational enterprises and trade union organisations operating internationally at the sectoral level.

6. Congress supports ILO leadership in the promotion of international policy coherence and therefore encourages it to deepen its work to assess the impact of WTO rules and bilateral trade agreements on employment and decent work. Congress further calls for greater cooperation between the ILO and the International Financial Institutions to encourage common action to promote decent work. The ILO should also encourage them and the WTO to take workers' interests fully into account in the drafting and implementation of policy measures, and intensify its support to member states in the elaboration and implementation of national decent work programmes. Congress supports the enhancement of the ILO's role within emerging new global governance structures and encourages the ILO to take a prominent position within the G20 / G8 process and within the UN structures, in its capacity as the principal centre for global social dialogue. Congress welcomes the ILO's participation in the UN High-Level Task Force on the Global Food Security Crisis, as a means to promote decent jobs in agriculture. It supports the G20 call on the ILO to develop a skills strategy in close cooperation with ILO constituents, including a strong sectoral dimension.

7. Congress expresses deep concern at the increasing trend towards atypical and unprotected forms of employment which deprive millions of workers of the coverage of labour legislation and social security and undermine trade union capacity to organise and bargain collectively. Congress condemns employers that seek to avoid their obligations to workers by favouring individual contracts over collective bargaining, by treating dependent workers as though they were self-employed or by otherwise denying the existence of an employment relationship. Congress also condemns employers who increase job insecurity and social instability through the abusive use of temporary and causal work, through the extensive use of temporary work agencies or by contracting out to increasingly elaborate supply chains. It underlines the fundamental responsibility of the ILO to safeguard the centrality of the employment relationship as a key tool to achieve decent work and social progress and calls for it to attach priority to this area of activity including promoting the implementation of the Recommendation on the Employment Relationship, No 198 (2006). The ILO's decent work country programmes need to assist countries in overcoming the problems faced by vulnerable and precarious workers, with particular attention to migrant workers as well as those performing work on an informal basis.

8. Congress underlines the importance of strengthening IPEC activities for the eradication of child labour and of its technical cooperation, which should incorporate full trade union participation as implementing partners.

9. Congress calls upon the ILO to enhance its efficiency and on member states to increase their financial contribution to the ILO regular budget in order to allow the Organisation to meet the increasing demands on it, and in particular to secure the necessary resources for its standard-setting and supervisory functions, with a special focus on freedom of association and the needs of trade union organisations. It recognises the efforts deployed by the ILO to secure extra-budgetary resources but stresses the need for those resources to be used to advance the ILO's decent work agenda and mandate, including through technical cooperation programmes in developing countries. Congress also calls for greater resources to be allocated to building the capacities of trade unions.

ITUC Action Programme

10. Congress instructs the ITUC and regional organisations, working together with Global Unions partners and affiliates, to:

- (a) work in close cooperation with the ILO Workers' Group to strengthen the capacity of the ILO to deliver decent work and to give full effect to the Global Jobs Pact and Social Justice Declaration;
- (b) continue to support the presence and role of the ILO in the G20 and other fora where policies related to crisis recovery are addressed;
- (c) launch a global campaign for the ratification and implementation of the standards identified in the Global Jobs Pact as particularly relevant in a crisis context;
- (d) promote the development by the ILO of new international labour standards in relevant areas;
- (e) promote the ratification and implementation of the eight ILO core conventions, with an emphasis on freedom of association and collective bargaining, as well as the other conventions considered up-to-date by the ILO Working Party on Policy regarding the revision of Labour Standards, the governance standards covering tripartism, employment policy and labour inspection, and the gender standards covering maternity, workers with family responsibility, home and part-time work;
- (f) promote ILO Convention No. 144 concerning Tripartite Consultations to Promote the Implementation of International Labour Standards in order to make the ratification procedure for ILO conventions more transparent and participative, in particular through creating specific instruments at national level for ongoing monitoring by the social partners;
- (g) promote the ratification and implementation of ILO Convention No. 155, Occupational Safety and Health and ILO Convention No. 187, Concerning the Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health;
- (h) work with affiliates to stop the practice of unfair dismissals including by promoting the ratification and application of ILO Convention No. 158 and Recommendation No. 166 on Termination of Employment, and by making protection against unfair dismissals a cornerstone of ILO decent work country programmes, a provision of international instruments addressing business behaviour and a subject of international social dialogue;
- (i) encourage member states that are party to Conventions that have been revised to ratify the most recent Convention in place of the old one;
- (j) support the implementation and dissemination to media and to other international organisations of the conclusions of the Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations, Committee on Freedom of Association and the Committee on the Application of Standards, and strengthen the ILO supervisory mechanisms, to which end the ITUC should work with affiliates to elaborate a strategy for implementation at national level;
- (k) build the capacity of ILO constituents to enforce and fully implement the ILO's rulings, decisions and conventions;
- (l) work in coordination with ACTRAV in order to prioritise cooperation with unions from those countries that are the subject of special resolutions, commissions of inquiry and special paragraphs in the Committee on Application of Standards;

- (m) enhance the promotion of the ILO Tripartite Declaration on Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy and an effective follow-up mechanism as a benchmark for good corporate behaviour including in global supply chains;
- (n) promote policies placing full employment and decent work at the centre of economic and social policies in the framework of the ILO Global Employment Agenda;
- (o) strengthen trade union participation in IPEC activities and technical cooperation;
- (p) promote ILO work on wages by strengthening its capacity to produce statistical data on wages trends, including sex-disaggregated data, to undertake research, analysis and technical assistance, and through development of the concept of a minimum living wage;
- (q) support decent work country programmes based on a balanced articulation of the four ILO strategic objectives and the full involvement of trade unions in their design and implementation;
- (r) encourage the development of decent work indicators as an instrument to measure progress by member states and to collect data;
- (s) advocate the strengthening of ILO capacities in research, knowledge, analysis, policy development and advocacy necessary for it to play a full leading role in the multilateral system and to provide effective assistance to affiliates;
- (t) promote within ACTRAV a way to monitor the level and the quality of trade union participation in ILO programmes and technical cooperation projects;
- (u) increase women' participation in Workers' Group representation in ILO activities, the ILO Governing Body and the International Labour Conference;
- (v) support and expand the ILO programme of sectoral activities, and its responsiveness to national trade union structures and their needs;
- (w) enhance the role of the ILO International Training Centre of Turin in giving effect to the decent work agenda on the basis of ILO strategic objectives and in response to workers' needs including the provision of capacity-building for workers' organisations in the context of the need for new alternative solutions to the global economic crisis.
