



**17GC/E/12(b)**

International Trade Union Confederation

**GENERAL COUNCIL**

Brussels, Belgium, 29 November – 1 December 2017

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Agenda item 12:

4<sup>th</sup> ITUC World Congress (Copenhagen, Denmark, 2 – 7 December 2018)

(b) Framework for Policy Statement

The General Council is requested to discuss the attached proposed framework for the main Statement for the 4<sup>th</sup> ITUC World Congress, to enable the preparation of a draft Congress Statement to be circulated to all affiliates at the beginning of 2018.

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17GC/agt – 6 November 2017

# Building Workers Power: Change The Rules

Building workers power is the mandate of the global labour movement. The imbalance of power between workers and employers today has created a failed economic model where the concentration of wealth has led to historic inequality. Just 1% of people control most of the world's wealth. The unfettered power of corporations, with 80% of global profits being captured by just 10% of publicly listed companies, depends on a global workforce where only 60% of working people have a formal contract, with the majority of them facing precarious or insecure and frequently unsafe work, often without social protection. 40% of our brothers and sisters are struggling to survive in the informal economy with no rights, no minimum wage and no social protection. Further the fact that up to 45 million people are in modern slavery underscores the scandal of exploitation in the global workforce, while governments have actively promoted or passively permitted attacks on rights and the suppression of wages. This is corporate greed pure and simple. 84% of the world's people declare that the minimum wage in their country is not enough to live on, and 85% want the rules of the global economy rewritten.

The promise of the elimination of poverty, the equality of women, decent work and the broader social and economic justice promised by the UN Sustainable Development Goals cannot be realised unless we end corporate greed and win the fight for democratic rights and freedoms.

This framework is for discussion at the 2017 ITUC General Council. It is designed to advise of any additional areas we should focus on in drafting the Congress resolution that will, along with other deliberations at Congress, shape the ongoing work of the ITUC.

Based on the discussions at the General Council meeting, a draft text will be prepared by the General Secretary and sent to affiliates in February 2018, with a request for formal amendments to be sent for inclusion and discussion at the General Council meeting scheduled for May, prior to it being sent to all affiliates for them to consider in the lead up to Congress.

The framework is based on four pillars:

- Fighting for Democratic Rights & Standards
- Ending Corporate Greed
- Realising Climate Justice
- Claiming Equality

Each of these four pillars are informed by demands for progressive economic and social policy, investment in jobs and the fundamental rights vital to shape the future of work, will be supported by the foundations of an organising culture critical to delivering union growth and the power of working people, so that the promise of the SDGs is realised.

# ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

## FUTURE OF WORK

### FIGHTING FOR DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS AND STANDARDS

- Work to strengthen the ILO and the multi-lateral system
- Lift our voice for peace
- Engage and support young people in the fight for democracy
- Fight for fundamental rights for all workers
- Support working people in countries at risk
- Campaign for ratification of ILO standards, especially core labour standards
- Secure inclusion of ILO OHS Convention 155 as a core labour standards

### ENDING CORPORATE GREED - CLEANING UP GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAINS

- Achieve an ILO Convention on supply chains
- Ensure that Governments mandate due diligence and grievance procedures, to ensure remedy of human and labour rights violations
- Ensure that corporations respect freedom of association, pay minimum living wages and respect collective bargaining rights
- Demand governments and corporations act to formalise work, eliminate slavery, and provide safe and secure employment
- Expose corporate tax evasion
- Hold governments and corporations to account for progressive trade policy

### REALISING CLIMATE JUSTICE

- Raise government ambition to achieve the Paris Agreement
- Realise government and private investment in industrial transformation and jobs
- Ensure just transition measures based on social dialogue with Government and employers
- Organise for decent work in climate friendly jobs

### CLAIMING EQUALITY

- Achieve minimum living wages and collective bargaining rights
- Achieve social protection and vital public services for all, supported by progressive taxation
- Formalise work
- Count women in and stand against the rise of misogyny
- Eliminate the gender pay gap
- See an end to violence against women
- Fight for the rights of migrants and refugees and combat racism and discrimination
- Ensure all young people have access to quality education and decent work and that organising strategies include young people at all levels

## ORGANISING