



INTERNATIONAL TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION

GENERAL COUNCIL

Berlin, 6 - 8 October 2009

Agenda item 3:

Obituaries

It was with deep sorrow that the ITUC learned of the deaths of:

Mr. Michalakis
Ioannou
Died 9 March 2009

The former General Secretary of the Cypriot Workers' Confederation (SEK- Cyprus) Michalakis Ioannou died at the age of 75.

He joined the trade union movement in 1955 and served in different posts in SEK. In 1973 he was elected General Secretary of SEK, which he remained until 1999. He was a member of the Executive Committee of the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) and from 1972 until 1998 he was a member of the Executive Board of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU).

A wise and strong leader, he served the trade union movement for 44 years, tenaciously protecting the rights and interests of working people.

Both at home and abroad, he will be remembered for his pioneering role in social, economic and labour achievements.

Mr. Fernand Kikongi
Di Mwinsa
Died 1 April 2009

The Honorary President of the Confédération Syndicale du Congo (CSC-Democratic Republic of Congo) Fernand Kikongi di Mwisa died in Kinshasa following a long illness.

After studying at the School of Social Studies in Leuven, Belgium, he joined the trade union movement in Congo (RDC). At national level, he was the General Secretary of the Union nationale des travailleurs du Congo (UNTC) and President of the Confédération Syndicale du Congo (CSC). At regional and international level, he was a member of the Confederal Committee of the World Confederation of Labour (WCL), a member of the ACP/EU Follow-Up Committee, the President of the Organisation démocratique des travailleurs

africains (ODSTA), a member of the ILO Governing Body and President of the WCL.

As a determined defender of workers' rights, he was a leading figure in the Congolese, African and international trade union movement and made a great contribution to their development.

Mr. Apecides Álviz
Fernández
Died 20 August 2009

The President of the Confederación de Trabajadores de Colombia (CTC-Colombia) suffered a heart attack during his speech to the first panel of the Social and Political Summit held at the University of La Salle, thus leaving us as he had lived his life, to the utmost of his capacities.

His trade union work began at 19 when he joined the printing union "la imprenta editorial Mogollón" (Cartagena), of which he would subsequently become the President. He went on to lead the Fetrabol, a federation affiliated to the CTC, in the Bolívar region. In 1985 he was elected President of the CTC, which he would continue to lead for 24 years. At international level he was a Vice-President of ITUC-TUCA, a member of the ITUC General Council, the founder and leader of the Coordinadora de Centrales Sindicales Andinas (CCSA) and a member of the ILO Governing Body.

Faithful to his political and trade union principles, his fight to improve the economic and social well-being of the workers of Colombia and the world will be remembered.

We hope that his vision of peace and democracy for the Colombian people will soon be realised.
