

ITUC POLICY

ITUC, International Trade Union Confederation
December 2010



ITUC Congress Resolutions
on **Decent Work**

The International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) represents 176 million workers, 40 percent of whom are women, in 151 countries and territories and has 301 national affiliates.

The ITUC is a confederation of national trade union centres, each of which links together the trade unions of that particular country. Membership is open to all democratic, independent and representative national trade union centres.

The ITUC's primary mission is the promotion and defence of workers' rights and interests, through international cooperation between trade unions, global campaigning and advocacy within the major global institutions. Its main areas of activity include trade union and human rights, the economy, society and the workplace, equality and non-discrimination as well as international solidarity. The ITUC adheres to the principles of trade union democracy and independence, as set out in its Constitution.

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ITUC Congress Resolutions on Decent Work

Two years after the world found itself facing an all-encompassing, unprecedented crisis that has had such a dramatic impact on the real economy, its devastating effect are still being felt. Despite talk of recovery there are few signs of an end to the employment crisis. Every job lost is a human tragedy, and so far 34 million jobs have been lost as a result of the crisis since it broke in 2008, while 64 million people have been pushed into extreme poverty. We cannot lose sight therefore of the global imperative to work together on a more inclusive, just and democratic system for the governance of global financial markets and the global economy in general. That is why the message from this third World Day for Decent Work is that the only way out of the crisis is growth and decent jobs, not austerity; that public services essential for a decent life must not be axed in the name of fiscal consolidation; and that the financial sector must pay for the damage it has caused and be made to serve the real economy and real human needs.

In the resolutions adopted at the ITUC's Second World Congress (Vancouver, 21-25 June 2010), the importance of Decent Work was emphasised repeatedly. The four strategic goals of the ILO's Decent Work Agenda, creating decent and productive employment; promoting access to social protection systems; respect for core labour standards and stronger dialogue between the social partners, apply across the board to all the issues examined by Congress delegates, including gender equality, young workers, migrant workers, sustainable development and organising. In the overarching Theme Report (Now the People) resolution, Decent Work for All was identified as the top of seven priorities in the ITUC's strategy for global social justice.

DECENT WORK IN ITUC CONGRESS RESOLUTIONS

The following is a compilation of what the ITUC's Congress resolutions, which will guide its action over the next four years, have to say about Decent Work: "The ITUC is instructed to work for the provision of decent work opportunities for all as the central objective of economic and social policy, starting with the promotion of the vigorous implementation of the ILO Global Jobs Pact as the centre-piece of jobs-intensive anti crisis strategies.

Following the positive experience of the first two World Days for Decent Work, Congress instructs the General Council to build on this so as to make the World Day on 7 October a strengthened, expanded and truly global event and calls on all affiliates, without exception, to contribute to its success.

To further help achieve the goal of decent work for all the ITUC pledges to campaign for a new model of globalisation. It supports a new path to economic development that is economically efficient, socially just and environmentally sustainable and calls on the ITUC and its affiliates, working closely with TUAC

and other Global Unions partners, to mobilise to fundamentally change the global economy so that it ensures universal respect of human rights including workers' rights, gender equality, sustainable development that generates decent work for all and ends poverty, and cancellation of the debt of least developed countries without economic policy conditionality. This new path must rebalance the economy: the rights of labour and capital; women and men; the real economy and the financial economy; and industrialised and developing countries, through a global co-development pact.

International Policy Coherence

International policy coherence must be built on the 2008 Social Justice Declaration of the ILO and be put at the service of socially balanced and sustainable development of the global economy. A global charter for sustainable economic activity that incorporates a substantive chapter on ILO standards and the full Decent Work agenda of the ILO, with an effective implementation mechanism, should be finalised.

Congress calls on the ITUC to continue its work to transform the world trading system in line with the priorities of working people, both through action at the WTO and in the increasing number of bilateral and regional trade and investment agreements under negotiation around the world. Trade agreements must provide fair treatment and eliminate unjustified trade barriers against developing countries as part of an integrated effort by every part of the multilateral system to bring about sustainable development and the creation of decent work.

Congress underscores that full respect for core labour standards must be a fundamental pillar of the global trade regime and reaffirms its support for the incorporation of a workers' rights clause into WTO statutes that would require all products traded between countries to be produced and distributed in compliance with core labour standards as a crucial instrument for social justice in an open world trading system. To this end the development and



Burkina Faso



Brazil

application of systems increasing the traceability of goods as well of systems for assessing the respect of workers' rights in production and supply chains should be encouraged. The WTO should establish a working party on trade, globalisation, development and decent work, with full participation of the ILO and its constituents, with a view to ensuring universal and enforceable respect for core labour standards. Congress further supports the inclusion of effective labour clauses in bilateral and regional free trade or investment agreements and in trade preference programmes.

Congress instructs the ITUC and regional organisations, working together with Global Unions partners and affiliates, to campaign and mobilise social and political support for a different globalisation model that can achieve decent work, gender equality, strong public services, universal social protection, respect of human rights including fundamental workers' rights, fair income distribution and progressive taxation, accelerated sustainable development, greater equality between industrialised and developing countries and the elimination of world poverty.

Workers' rights are human rights

Further to the goals outlined above, Congress affirms that workers' rights are human rights and that promoting and defending fundamental workers' rights is and must remain a priority for the ITUC. Ensuring their full, universal respect and their enforceability is the necessary guarantee of the human rights of all workers and a precondition of any fair model of globalisation. Just as poverty anywhere is a threat to prosperity everywhere, so does the violation of fundamental workers' rights in any country undermine those rights even in countries where they are currently respected.

Workers' fundamental rights are defined by ILO Conventions 87 and 98 on freedom of association and collective bargaining, 29 and 105 on forced labour,

100 and 111 on discrimination and 138 and 182 on child labour, and the 1998 ILO Declaration of Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work makes explicit the obligation of all governments to respect the principles they embody and also to defend them within the multilateral organisations. The Decent Work agenda codified through the ILO's 2008 Social Justice Declaration and the 2009 Global Jobs Pact furthermore recognises standards as an essential pillar of a concerted strategy to overcome crisis and achieve sustainable economic development. Congress calls on governments to meet that obligation and on those which have not already done so to ratify these conventions.

Governments have the responsibility to protect these fundamental human rights through law and its application. Indeed governments have the indispensable role. Congress deplores and condemns the persisting and widespread violation of fundamental workers' rights wherever they occur and commits the ITUC to work to bring them to an end.

Child labour

Congress further recognises that the fight to end all child labour, as defined in ILO Convention 138, is crucial for the achievement of decent work and decent life for all and must be multi-faceted. It should encompass a sectoral dimension and a specific strategy for the informal economy as well as a gender dimension needed to address the disadvantaged situation of girls, and include the worst forms as defined in ILO Convention 182, which should be strictly connected to respect of the minimum age for employment as defined in ILO Convention 138. Congress acknowledges the strong relation between the occurrence of child labour and the absence of decent work for adults, and supports programmes to establish child labour free sectors or zones and campaigns to provide education for all as part of a strategy to attain the full elimination of child labour. Governments which demonstrate clear commitment to the elimination of child labour should benefit from the fullest possible international support, particularly through the ILO International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) and its action plan for the elimination of all worst forms of child labour by 2016. Such a plan should incorporate full partnerships with trade unions in the fight against child labour. Governments and employers which condone or benefit from the exploitation of child labour should be subject to stringent sanctions, including commercial measures.

Gender inequality

Gender inequality is a barrier to women's access to decent work. Traditional occupational segregation has forced women into economic activities often characterised by low pay, whether low-skilled or skilled. It is therefore critical to recognise appropriately the importance and value of the jobs, sectors and activities where women are overrepresented. Provision should be made for women to acquire the skills that are related to jobs, activities and sectors that are growing and offering decent work opportunities, and women's skills must be valued equally with those of men. Women should also be encouraged to join non-traditional sectors such as those linked to green jobs. Vocational training, education and skills development policies should promote equality of

opportunity for girls and women, and initiatives should be taken for the sharing of family responsibilities between men and women to reconcile equitably work and personal life especially in relation to child and dependent care.

Congress instructs the ITUC and regional organisations and structures, working together with Global Unions partners and affiliates to intensify the Decent Work for Decent Life for Women Campaign aimed at achieving social justice and gender equality at the workplace and in trade unions and to continue the drive to organise women workers, particularly in EPZs and the informal economy, as well as domestic, migrant, rural, young, and other vulnerable workers; and to intensify campaigning at national, regional and international levels for the ratification and implementation of ILO Conventions 100 (Equal Remuneration), 111 (Discrimination), 156 (Workers with Family Responsibilities), 169 (Indigenous and Tribal Peoples), 175 (Part-Time Work), 177 (Home Work) and 183 (Maternity Protection), and implementation of the recommendations of the 2009 ILO Conference on “Gender Equality at the Heart of Decent Work”.

Quality Public Services

A sustainable and just development model is equally crucial to, and cannot exist without, decent work. Congress condemns the global trend toward the privatisation of public services due to which millions of people have been deprived of their fundamental human rights. It reaffirms that the provision of universally accessible quality public services contributes to the reduction of poverty and inequality and the expansion of decent work. Congress calls for a new development model that is rooted in domestic market growth and focussed on decent work and income distribution and investment in people through education and health, prioritises regional integration and is respectful of the protection of the environment and of workers’ rights.



Austria



Hong Kong

New Development Model

Congress affirms that the new development model must prioritise decent work opportunities for all and achieving balanced economic and social progress and environmentally-compatible development. It rejects an exclusive focus on economic growth and the assumption that social progress is an automatic outcome of economic expansion. Congress calls upon governments to reverse the trend toward more jobs in the informal economy and the increasing precarity of work, through the strengthening and extension of labour legislation and its more rigorous enforcement and full recognition of the role of workers' organisations. It calls for the implementation of the ILO Declaration on Social Justice for a Fair Globalisation and of an ILO Decent Work Country Programme in every developing country, which require support from both multilateral and bilateral donors as part of their development cooperation and the involvement of trade unions at all stages and in all aspects of these measures. Strengthening public labour inspectorates should be a key component, and ILO Convention No. 81, Labour Inspection and ILO Convention No. 129, Labour Inspection (Agriculture) need to be ratified and fully implemented by all governments.

Congress insists that fairer distribution of income is a precondition to any sustainable form of development. Governments should seek to establish or strengthen the income redistribution function of their tax systems by establishing progressive regimes that require the highest tax contributions from capital gains and from the wealthy and provide tax relief for low income families and the poor. On the investment side, the focus must be on enabling measures for public finance management as well as social infrastructures including health, education for all to provide people with skills and access to knowledge so that they can take action to protect their living and working conditions, and decent work strategies.

Protection of the environment

Congress insists that the protection of the environment and of those most vulnerable to environmental degradation must be an integral part of the new development paradigm. Governments must ensure that their policies are respectful of the environment and that “just transition” strategies are put in place in order to provide a socially fair and environmentally responsible pathway to sustainable development. Congress calls for a full-scale transformation of global production systems and consumption patterns in order to safeguard our societies and workplaces whilst protecting and promoting decent work for all. Trade unions must play a central role in that unprecedented transformation.

UN’s Millennium Development Goals

Congress calls on governments to maintain and intensify commitment to achieving the UN’s Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by 2015 and underlines that the promotion of decent work is instrumental to achieving the objective of the first MDG, the eradication of poverty. Industrialised countries must honour the UN commitment to allocate 0.7% of Gross National Income (GNI) to Overseas Development Assistance (ODA). Additional finance for development must be provided through new forms of international taxation assessments and contributions and in particular taxes such as an international tax on financial transactions, which could also be used for initiatives against climate change.

Global Business

Global business is also an important area to target. During the last decade, business has had to show a growing interest in the concept of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). Congress acknowledges the need to continue to engage appropriately in public debate on CSR and in specific initiatives in order to take advantage of the legitimate opportunities they offer and to limit their abuse. Trade unions should seek opportunities presented by the interest in CSR to ensure respect for labour and the environment as well as to promote dialogue between the social partners so as to realise the mutual goals of competitiveness of the company and decent work.

For trade unions to have the representative strength to fulfil this role, there needs to be a strong focus on organising. Congress affirms that only through their own organisation can workers change the world of work, create a more just society, and fully realise decent work. By organising workers, trade unions enable them to be defended and represented and to have their views expressed in public affairs and collective bargaining. It is therefore imperative that all workers, regardless of location or employment status, enjoy the protection of a legal and institutional framework which guarantees their rights to freely and fairly choose representation and to engage in successful collective bargaining.

Congress deplores that large numbers of workers are effectively denied these rights because of the inadequacy of law or its application, which often does not cover the full range of relationships under which work is performed. Temporary workers, independent contractors, workers supplied by agencies, intermediaries

or other labour brokers, domestic workers, agricultural workers, cross-border workers and workers in supply chains are often unable to exercise their rights in practice. Companies avoid the obligations that laws place on employers through contracting out work and by denying employment relationships. The growth of precarious work impedes organising; vulnerable workers are often reluctant to join trade unions even where they may have a right to do so. Where work is performed on an informal basis, as is the case for a majority of the workers in many developing countries, the right to organise and to collectively bargain is particularly difficult to realise.

Young People

Young people are among the hardest hit by the global crisis which has exacerbated the obstacles to their access to decent work. If viable and urgent solutions are not found, the personal development and employment prospects for millions of young people will be threatened; the risk is of a lost generation. Youth are almost three times as likely to be unemployed as older workers, with young women the worst hit, and make up as much as 40 percent of the world's total unemployed. Young workers are not only more often unemployed than adult workers, they are also more often employed in precarious, informal and temporary jobs, with lower wages and less social security and in which their educational achievements are not usually recognised. Furthermore they often face differential treatment that creates a gap between the working conditions of young people and their more senior colleagues.

Congress underlines that the lack of decent work opportunities at the beginning of working life can permanently compromise employment and life prospects, and that the critical position of young workers is particularly dramatic in developing countries.

Even during periods of sustained economic growth, most countries failed to create enough decent and productive jobs for young people, and it is clear that the impact of the crisis on them will be long-lasting. For millions the harsh reality is of exclusion from education, basic social services and working life, leading to social marginalisation and poverty, as well as increased vulnerability to informal work. Their situation is the most brutal manifestation of the social drama engendered by the crisis.

Congress insists on the need for targeted and integrated policy and priority to be given to youth in order to counter the most extreme social effects of the crisis and reaffirms the need to ensure young workers' fundamental rights are respected. Young workers' education, employment and general well-being must be at the heart of trade union policies to counter the negative effects of the global economic crisis. Young women and men represent not only the future, but also the present of the trade union movement and of society. Without a committed, educated and engaged youth, a new, sustainable and fair globalisation that puts people, jobs and their decent livelihoods at the centre will not be achievable. It is necessary to tackle the gaping decent work deficit for young people by strengthening public labour systems and creating national agendas for decent

work for young people. Congress strongly supports equal access to adequate education to generate improved labour market outcomes and greater gender parity among young people, and active labour market policies to improve job opportunities for young people and the transition from school to work, including measures to increase income, stimulate employment generation and raise the quality of employment for young people, strengthen collective negotiation, enhance social protection and promote sustainable development.

Decent Work Agenda

The International Labour Organisation. 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. Congress pledges support for the mandate and goals of the ILO.

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.



Azerbaijan

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.

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.

Congress underlines the fundamental responsibility of the ILO to safeguard the centrality of the employment relationship as a key tool to achieve decent



Belgium

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.

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.

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

- 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; continue to support the presence and role of the ILO in the G20 and other for a where policies related to crisis recovery are addressed;
- 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; promote the development by the ILO of new international labour standards in relevant areas;
- 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;
- 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;
- 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;
- 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;
- encourage the development of decent work indicators as an instrument to measure progress by member states and to collect data;

- 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.

Democracy, Peace and Security

The promotion of democracy, peace and security is also essential to the achievement of decent work. Conflicts often have their roots in economic and social deprivation. Devoting additional resources including development assistance to generating decent work opportunities, particularly for young people, is an essential element in addressing the causes of social instability and conflict. With their enduring values of social justice, solidarity, non-discrimination and tolerance, and their role and presence in the workplace and in society, trade unions have a unique capacity to work for peace and for preventing the development of conflict and dealing with its aftermath. Congress salutes the courage of trade unionists around the world who reach out across lines of conflict to promote peace and understanding, such as those in the Middle East.

Congress welcomes the landmark agreement between Histadrut and the PGFTU on the rights of Palestinian workers, which was finalised with the assistance of the ITUC in August 2008, and initiatives by Global Union Federations in their sectors to support cooperation in defence of workers' rights. This agreement, and other actions to promote decent work and end discrimination, are crucial to building the basis for just and equitable economic development.

Hundreds of thousands of Palestinian workers are unable to find employment under current conditions, causing widespread despair and disillusion, and Congress calls for urgent action to promote decent work opportunities for them. Congress commits the ITUC to continue to support the strengthening of cooperation between the Palestinian and Israeli trade union movements and calls upon the international community to support Palestinian economic reconstruction and development, including through the ILO Palestinian Fund for Employment and Social Protection.

Green and Decent Work

Tackling climate change can provide important opportunities. The global crisis demands a transformational change in global production and consumption systems to make our societies and workplaces sustainable and to safeguard and promote decent work for all. Trade unions must play a central role in this unprecedented transformation.

Congress emphasises the enormous potential for the creation of green and decent work from a successful process of just transition that provides new green jobs opportunities, anticipates potential losses of economic activity, employment and income in certain sectors and regions, and protects the most vulnerable throughout the economy and the whole world. It welcomes the Green Jobs report published jointly by the ITUC with UNEP, the ILO, and the IOE

and calls for its major findings to be taken up in the development of national and international policy-making.

Congress instructs the ITUC and regional organisations, working together with Global Unions partners and affiliates, to defend a model of sustainable global development, continue to seek the realisation of green jobs and just transition, and raise awareness of the linkages between sustainable development, natural resources, climate change and the world of work as well as the role trade unions can play on these issues.

Migration

Migration is a universal and continually growing phenomenon in the world of work, with the current number of migrants estimated to be as many as 200 million, nearly half of whom are women. Growth of migration is fuelled by the uneven and negative effects of globalisation - poverty, unemployment, glaring income disparities, under-employment, lack of democracy, bad governance, environmental degradation - as well as national disasters, conflicts and the desire of people for decent work and a decent life for themselves and their families. Migration must not be the only way to escape from poverty or oppression. Congress insists that it is a fundamental responsibility of international policy-making to promote balanced development and decent work in order to eliminate involuntary migration.

Congress instructs the ITUC and regional organisations and structure, working together with Global Unions partners and affiliates to integrate issues related to decent work for migrant workers and their rights in trade union training programmes and publications, with particular attention to educating trade union members and leaders on migration, its root causes, and the need for trade unions to stand in solidarity with migrants.



ACTU, Australia

Social Protection

One of the strategic goals of the ILO Decent Work agenda is social protection. Congress affirms its commitment to universal access to adequate social protection, with priority attention to be paid to those lacking access to basic social safety nets, including the unemployed and those in informal work, with particular regard to women and youth.

Congress underlines the primary role of the state in providing, facilitating, promoting and extending coverage of social protection. It further insists that benefits should be non-discriminatory, adequate and secure, and that the financial sustainability of social protection schemes must be assured. Trade unions and employers' organisations should be involved in their design and management. Social dialogue and tripartite participation, on an equal basis, are essential instruments for building a fair and effective consensus model.

Congress deplors the current inadequacies in the coverage of social protection. Rising unemployment and informalisation and casualisation of work have left increasing numbers of workers with no or little protection. Where such informal and precarious work is the result of unscrupulous behaviour of employers it must be subject to stringent sanctions. Governments must bring workers engaged in informal activities within a legal framework in order to extend social protection coverage to them on a sustainable basis. And where there is no employer and the workers concerned must try to find a means of survival in the informal economy, they and their families must have access to social safety nets.

Congress is concerned by the erosion of the protection granted to atypical workers, such as temporary, part-time, contract or fixed term workers, in many countries. They should not be excluded from contributory social protection schemes on the basis of their employment status and must have equivalent entitlements to those of other workers. Public regulation and enforcement mechanisms need to be strengthened in order to ensure that atypical workers can benefit effectively from such rights.

Health and Safety at Work

Congress also calls on the ITUC to undertake campaigns to prevent workers' death, injury and illness from the effects of chemicals or dangerous substances such as asbestos and to ensure that workplace practices protect the reproductive health of women and men. It calls on all governments to ratify and apply the ILO conventions on health and safety at work, particularly ILO Convention No. 187 Concerning the Promotional Framework for Occupational Safety and Health. Congress stresses the need for governments to ratify ILO Convention No. 81, Labour Inspection and to strengthen the level and quality of public inspection systems in order to prevent violation of workers' rights and of occupational health and safety, provisions.

Congress encourages trade unions to promote the inclusion of occupational health clauses in collective bargaining. It recognises and supports the adoption of the Iberoamerican Strategy on Health and Safety at Work, which provides a

model that can be extended to other regions, and calls on governments and employers' organisations to commit to developing it further and enforcing it via tripartite social dialogue.

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

Work towards the construction of a comprehensive, fair, redistributive, universal social security model in which the state bears responsibility for guaranteeing protection for all workers, regardless of their employment status, geographical location or national origin, to create the foundations of the model of society all workers deserve;

Work with the ILO to campaign for the extension of social protection to all;
Work for the improvement of occupational health and safety in all countries, including as relates to exposure to hazardous chemicals, psycho-social hazards and other occupational injuries and accidents."

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Layout: **Vicente Cepedal**