

## **ITUC General Council Resolution on the Trans-Pacific Partnership trade agreement**

1. The ITUC General Council expresses its grave concern over the 12-country Trans-Pacific Partnership trade pact agreed on 5 October 2015. This agreement, which was developed in conditions of secrecy, but with business lobbyists having inside access to and influence on the negotiations, will lead to further financial deregulation, longer corporate patents on medicines and restrictions on digital freedoms. Governments' rights to promote employment, environmental protection and workers' and other human rights will be constrained under the TPP procurement rules. Several governments have granted market access in public services to the detriment of the quality and public access to such services, and harmonisation of regulations will put the interests of corporations above the interests of people.

2. While corporations will have the possibility to use infamous ISDS procedures to sue governments, no such possibility exists for workers, with the labour chapter in the TPP lacking effective enforcement mechanisms. Provisions on the environment also lack enforcement mechanisms, and no account is taken of the need for action to mitigate climate change.

3. The General Council resolves to:

**OPPOSE** the TPP in its current form;

**SUPPORT** affiliates in their activities to oppose the TPP in their countries;

**PROMOTE** awareness of the deficiencies in the TPP and its negative impact on working people as part of a broader campaign action for global, multilateral and bilateral trade which improves workers' lives, protects workers' rights and the environment, creates decent jobs, strengthens the role of democratically-elected governments and ensures that multinational companies and the finance sector are accountable and fully subject to the rule of law.

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