



WFTU

ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL OFFICE

(World Federation of Trade Unions)

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WFTU/Asia Pacific Office/Circular/27/2023

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To,

All the WFTU Affiliated Unions
of Asia Pacific Region

WFTU STATEMENT ON INTERNATIONAL YOUTH DAY

On the occasion of the International Youth Day on 12th Aug. 2023, the WFTU expresses its International Solidarity with the Militant Young Workers all over the world for quality, free and universal education, dignified working and living conditions and affordable housing and against informal, flexible and child labour. On this occasion the WFTU Asia Pacific Regional Office extend its warm greetings to the International Working Youth. The WFTU statement on International Youth Day issued on 11th Aug. 2023 is published here for your information.

On the occasion of international youth day, on 12 August 2023, the Working Youth Committee of the World Federation of Trade Unions expresses its internationalist solidarity with militant young workers all over the world for quality, free and universal education, dignified working and living conditions, and affordable housing and against informal, flexible, and child labor.

It is a fact that unemployment and poverty rates of youth is steadily higher, while the youth is often deprived of even the most elementary rights, such as the right to healthcare, education, and decent living. Simultaneously the working youth is exploited as a cheap workforce, with lower salaries, frequently by law, with informal work, part-time jobs or zero-hours contracts, and other forms of flexible work. In addition, capitalists are taking advantage of the so-called teleworking, using it as a contemporary form of flexible work. Moreover, the data in the majority of the countries record an increase in the number of young people who are neither in work nor in education or any training program. Hence, it is once again obvious that youth is the first victim of the capitalist crisis, whether it is an economic one or any other crisis.

However, while young workers are the first victims of capitalist barbarity, the unionization rate among young workers is frequently lower than the respective rate of participation of the oldest workers. It is crucial for the WFTU, and its affiliates to promote in practice the equal participation of young workers in the activities and operation of trade unions making sure that they can assume important positions of responsibility. It is crucial to have faith in the role of the working youth which can give new blood, new dynamics, new life, and action to the trade unions.

The WFTU and its Working Youth Committee focus on the strengthening of the ideological level, the class consciousness, and the skills of its young trade unionists. It is indisputable that youngsters are the future of the trade union movement, the future of the Labour movement, and WFTU always pays attention to the younger trade unionists, to help them not only get involved with our unions but also to lead them, to bear important posts, to work shoulder to shoulder with older comrades and cadres and to gain experience and skill by the class struggles.

The Working Youth Committee is currently working on the realization of a World Working Youth Conference in the upcoming months that will discuss all the main youth issues and will adopt an action plan intensifying the WFTU struggle for a dignified life of the youth. We are looking forward to your valuable contribution to this process.



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Clarion call given by WFTU to observe International Action Day of Trade Unions for peace

WFTU Asia Pacific Regional Affiliates are requested to hold demonstrations, conduct seminars, meetings etc., to popularize the WFTU statement on International Action Day of Trade Unions for peace.

All the WFTU affiliates of Asia Pacific Region are requested to observe the International Action Day of Trade Unions for peace on the 1st of Sept. 2023 by holding demonstrations with WFTU banner & flags, to organize seminars and meetings propagating for the dissolution of NATO and all Military Coalitions, complete abolition of nuclear weapons and respect for the independence and sovereignty of all states. We should denounce the exclusions, discriminations, embargoes, and sanctions imposed by the US, NATO and the European Union against various countries as they negatively impact the standard of living of low income families, workers, poor small farmers and the common people in general. A copy of WFTU statement on International Action Day of Trade Unions for peace is published here for your information and circulation.



WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS

Class oriented - uniting - democratic - modern – independent – internationalist !

The World Federation of Trade Unions organizes for one more year an International Action Day of Trade Unions for Peace on September the 1st, the dark anniversary of the beginning of the Second World War after the attack of Nazi Germany on Poland. This day is established by the international class-oriented trade union movement as the day of remembrance and honor for the millions of victims of the Nazi and fascist atrocities of the Second World War, but also for all the victims of the imperialist wars, for all those who paid with their lives for the imperialist antagonisms and multinationals' speculations and bulimia of big capital.

Nowadays, the world is facing a phase of extreme intensification of political, economic, and military antagonism. The imperialist forces, especially USA, NATO, and European Union aim at the control and exploitation of our planet's economic resources, strengthening their spheres of influence, and changing new borders. The inter-imperialist antagonisms are constantly being exacerbated, the armed conflicts are maintained and intensified and the dangers for the World Peace are grave.

The militant, class-oriented trade unions all over the world join their voices and intensify their struggle against the continuation of military interventions and wars, the accelerated militarization of international relations, and the soaring military expenditures. The WFTU demands an immediate end to all imperialist armed conflicts, an end to the war in Ukraine, and full respect for the sovereignty, independence, and right of every people to freely choose their present and future and the path of their economic and social development.

We demand the dissolution of NATO and all military coalitions, the complete abolition of nuclear weapons, and respect for the independence and sovereignty of all states. We denounce the exclusions, discriminations, embargoes, and sanctions imposed by the US, NATO, and the EU against various countries, as they negatively impact the standard of living of low-income families, workers, poor small farmers, and popular strata in general.

Moreover the international trade union movement denounces the decision of the NATO Summit to add new Regional Plans but also to define a minimum limit of 2% of GDP in military spending, which sharpens the confrontation and deepens the preparations and the risk for a generalized imperialist conflict with disastrous consequences for the popular strata and the ordinary people who always pay the cost of the imperialist antagonism with death, refugeeism, and the deterioration of their living and working conditions.

In addition to conditions of generalized price rise, inflation, and the long-term austerity policies that have shrunk all the expenditures linked to popular needs and workers' living standards; In an era where all workers' demands for education, health, social security, and dignified living conditions, are rejected by bourgeoisie governments under the pretext of lack of resources, etc, the further increase in military spending is provocative as well as revealing of their intentions.

We stand on the side of the suffering peoples all over the world and intensifies its struggles against imperialist wars and their root causes. The World Federation of Trade Unions calls upon its affiliates and friends all the class-oriented trade union to organize anti-war, anti-imperialist actions and demonstrations under the slogan:

More expenditures for health, education and social security and not for NATO weapons and imperialist interventions.

WFTU Asia Pacific Regional Office observed International Solidarity Day with people of Cuba on the 26th of July 2023.

On the call given by the WFTU, the WFTU Asia Pacific Regional Office observed International Solidarity Day with the people of Cuba on the 26th of July 2023 at OCFWU premises Avadi, Chennai, India. Comrade C.Srikumar Deputy General Secretary of WFTU and Incharge of Asia Pacific Regional Office led the programme from the front. Slogans against the American Imperialism, NATO and EU and also slogans extending support and solidarity with Cuban people were raised. Comrade C.Srikumar, explained in detail about the revolutionary struggle of Cuba and how Cuba continuous to inspire the working people of the world. Glimpses from the International Solidarity Day is published here.



CONEP Nepal organized a Youth Rally on the auspicious occasion of International Youth Day 2023. around 300 CONEP Youth cadres participated in the rally.

In the Youth rally the Working youth raised the flowing slogans and demands

- Assure the permanent Job,
- Guarantee of social security,
- Control the corruption,
- More investment in productive and employment generated sector
- Stop the hire and fire and No Work no pay policy
- Implement the labour friendly Law etc.

After the rally a meeting was organized in the City Hall which was chaired by CONEP President Premal Kumar Khanal. The meeting was addressed by Comrade Ghanashyam Bhusal, General Secretary of Communist Party of Nepal (US), Comrade Prakash Jwala, Minister of Physical & Infrastructure. A special Youth Bulletin CONEP Sandesh was also released in the meeting. A CONEP Volunteer Committee consisting of 51 young comrades was also constituted. Glimpses from the rally/meeting is published here.





More than a Lakh Central and State Government Employees demonstrated in a rally at New Delhi, the Capital city of India demanding to scrap the No Guarantee NPS and to restore the refined and guaranteed pension scheme.

The more than 3 Crores Central Government and State Government Employees of India are on a relentless struggle against the Contributory Pension Scheme namely National Pension System (NPS). They are demanding that the Non-guarantee NPS should be scrapped and defined and guaranteed old pension scheme should be restored. However the Government is bent upon not to scrap the NPS and continue with the same. Against this adamant attitude of the Government of India, all the Trade Unions / Federations of the Central & State Govt. employees have formed a Joint Forum For Restoration Of Old Pension Scheme (JFROPS) and under the banner of JFROPS a huge rally was organized in the Capital city of Delhi on the 10th of Aug. 2023, when the Parliament was in session. The rally adopted the memorandum to be submitted to the prime Minister demanding for restoration of OPS. The rally also adopted a declaration in which a call was given to go for continuous agitation till the NPS is withdrawn including an indefinite strike of both the Central & State Government Employees. Glimpses from the rally is published here.



Meeting held with ILO Deputy Director for India for ensuring proper coordination between WFTU APRO and ILO

Comrade C.Srikumar, Deputy General Secretary/WFTU and Incharge APRO along with Comrade Amarjeet Kaur, General Secretary AITUC and Vice President/WFTU met the ILO Deputy Director Bro. Satoshi Sasaki at ILO India Office on 08.08.2023 and discussed about Coordinated activities between ILO and WFTU APRO



With Greetings,

Yours Comradely,

(C.SRIKUMAR)

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