

TO PREPARE DEBATES OF THE SECOND CONGRESS OF THE TUI
SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENTS TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL'S REPORT

Van los documentos facilitados por los siguientes camaradas:

- 1) Dimos Koumpouris, Presidente de la UIS
- 2) José M^a Lucas, Responsable de Finanzas
- 3) Miguel Guerrero, miembro de la Comisión Técnica y de Investigación
- 4) Marcos Wolman, Vicepresidente y Coordinador en América
- 5) Lazare Kimankata, Vicepresidente en Africa
- 6) Camara Mamadi, Coordinador en África
- 7) Mohan Bahadur k.c., Vice -Prisident in Asia
- 8) Vladimir Kapuralin, Vicepresidente en Europa que dimitió
- 9) Alain Rodriguez, Secretaire de Propagande qui a renoncé à sa responsabilité
- 10) Costas Skarparis, Presidente de la Comisión de Control Financiero

The documents go in the languages in which I received them.

I am waiting for translations into other languages to facilitate understanding and use (at least English, French and Spanish).

IN ALL WAYS, IT IS SERIOUS THAT THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS OF THE DIRECTORATE CHOUSED AT THE FIRST CONGRESS HAVE NOT ARRIVED.

If new documents arrive or new translations, I will send them to you.

Quim Boix

Secretario General de la UIS (Unión Internacional de Sindicatos) de Pensionistas y Jubilados (PyJ) de la FSM

Nº 1

Good morning, dear Quim, .

I received your letter some time ago.

However I have opted to delay (based on the date of 07/15/18) my answer in order to be able to offer you more detailed account of the present moment in our country now that a program of mobilizations and struggles waged by the retirees´ has been completed. Further activities – we have called them “a 2018 marathon”, will be completed by the end of the year.

I believe that in the assessments that form the record of these six months of action we may find some useful elements and conclusions that can be generalized and some of them that can be used in the frame of our global action.

A. Our estimates for this period are as follows:

As concerns to the Retiree´ s movement in Greece, since the beginning of 2018 we have defined our action and our program of struggles as a continuation of the successful mobilizations that were taken during the previous period.

To achieve these goals, we have worked on the basis of a good planning and coordination of the forces of the Retiree´ s movement attached to all the boxes and funds that pay pensions: private, public and professional.

The main objective that we have proposed for this course is to create the conditions for the combative mass movement of retirees through a marathon of struggling mobilizations to prevent the application of the destructive Law 4387/16 (named Law Katrougalos) that will be applied from 01/01/209 in what it means a new attack on our retirement income through the recalculation process and the so-called personal difference; by eliminating family benefits, as well as reductions by changing the tax scale .

We must also emphasize two decisive points such as health problems and auctions.

After this first phase of the struggle we can say that all our actions, local, regional and pan-hellenic, as well as concentrations and representations, which were prepared through regional meetings of the Board of Directors of our unions, have been successful. In almost all the capitals of the provinces, in the regions and in Attica mass and combative mobilizations took place, which continue at the present moment based on the mentioned problems.

Along these combative demonstrations throughout the country, the participation of retirees surpasses all previous figures, but we can not say that it has reached the levels that are currently required.

Our chances to reach our main goal are based in the provisions of Law 4387/16 to be applied at the end of the year, thus we try to take the advantage as measures against retirement will not be applied until that moment.

Overall, our action in this period has been marked by militant demonstrations in which thousands of retirees from everywhere in the country took active part. So far, more than 80 meetings have been held. We have highlighted all our main problems: pensions, social security, medical care, housing auctions, as well as a long range of local problems.

Through the constant development of these actions waged by a considerable group of retirees a stable combative relationship has been achieved with the unions and with other related struggles; we can say that they have a stable participation in them, they raise their heads with optimism, they offer a fighting answer to the logic of fear expressed with the phrase "it will not change anything".

However, we have not achieved yet the mass participation that is still required, but the retirement movement is a movement with potential and perspective because its problems intensify every time, giving us the chance to perform a better work. It is no by coincidence that the press refers to this point that "the Retiree´s movement and their action has created important problems in the government due to the indignation of retirees, and the effervescence that exists for what they have been subjected to date and are in an antithesis with what looms in the next stage ".

The government is aware of this truth and, consequently, is trying to overcome this situation through its propaganda, while at the same time is studying the way to offer some minor concessions and limited benefits: just a handful of crumbs they consider enough as to create inactivity, disorientation and demobilization among the Retirees´ ranks while they design their new slaughter.

The government also knows fairly well that this action has revealed to a large extent his false propaganda that, supposedly, will satisfy retirees with equivalent measures and social benefits or that now with the next capitalist development and the so-called "clean exit", the sufferings will end and we will finally get a better life.

Through this propaganda, the government seeks to hide the new anti-pension

and anti-popular measures scheduled for the coming years; a laws' package that will be enforced for many more years if the workers and the popular movement does not overthrow this anti-worker policies dictated by the needs of the big capital and its constant greed for benefits.

Up to this moment all our action has helped, to a large extent, for retirees to be aware that new destructive measures are coming against them: those currently in full force and others recently approved. Through some of these, the government already applies new cuts to those who are currently entering retirement's age.

We had results coming from our struggle. Under this pressure, we have forced the government to give up all retirees arbitrary cuts made in health. And this without the obligation to appeals, courts, or paperwork related to applications.

After a major rally that took place on March 8 in Athens and the pressure we have exerted, we basically forced the Deputy Minister of Labor in his statement to admit that no requests are needed to pay the arbitrary cuts made to supplementary and primary pensions. He pledged to return the withholdings on the solidarity contributions to which they were withheld; he also promised that when the government approved the public finances, after the fourth evaluation, he would pay these sums retroactively. It also undertook to reimburse beneficiaries for the difference in complementary pensions that were also arbitrarily withheld. These commitments have materialized.

This advantage has helped to avoid disorienting retirees so they are not going to the insurance fund offices, to the courts, not paying lawyers and not believing that their problems will be solved with a simple request.

Through our struggle we still have to make clear to everyone the role played by the main opposition party, New Democracy, along with other parties that have agreed with these policies, which have voted together in favor of the memorandums despite their opposing appearances. They also have huge and similar responsibilities, and have not committed to abolishing the least of what has been done so far.

Our struggles are measurable, the voice of the retirement movement sounds strong enough to be taken into account by the rulers. If we participated in bigger numbers we would be able to reject more measures and change the current situation for the better. This is what's must be done.

We are constantly working on this path and in the orientation of the struggle. After the summer holidays, we will start a more dynamic way aimed to add greater strength to all of our further actions.

We have also succeeded in materializing our entire plan and participating in the actions that the labor movement developed in several ways. Through these actions of the class-conscious movement, the debate over the overthrow of the right to strike, the expansion of auctions, the abolition of Collective Agreements and other rights of the Working Class were at the core of the debate. The "surprise" tactic of the government did not succeed. Its attempt to blindly approve the Union Law without the opposition of organized forces and based on the support of other forces (GSEE : General Confederation of Workers) and ADEDY (Confederation of Public Employees' Unions), the attempt to make the anti-worker content seem "harmless" thanks to the government's planned propaganda did not pass: "it is for the strengthening of democracy in the unions, to facilitate the active participation of the workers against the union aristocracy , or that has a varied bill more positive than negative, etc. "

What do we have before us for the next stage?

A few days ago, Parliament voted on the Pre-requisite Evaluation Rooms the cuts and new anti-popular measures that are coming. This new moves only comes to confirm that all we have previously states is nothing but the truth.

Immediately in the year 2018-2019 we enter in a harsh period of the new cuts included in the mortal law against Social Security 4387/16.

Our already looted retirements are in the process of cutting back on the "personal difference" that is already being applied to new retirees since May 2016, and which will be extended in 2019 to the oldest. New reductions will be made in the complementary ones, but also by the change in the tax scale that will reduce the tax-free rate from 9,000 to 5,600 Euros per yearly income, which will start next year, as well as the deduction of family subsidies. This means that to the cuts we have sustained so far we will also have a new deduction of 3 to 4 pension payments per year.

Based on the law that will be applied in the medium term and recently approved by Parliament with the Eurogroup's agreement for the years 2019-2022, a decrease of 18.5 billion Euros and of further 2.5 million Euros is established along with pension's cuts and 6 billion of the taxes that they steal. For the year 2019, 3.9 billion of the primary pensions and 232 million Euros of the Welfare will be added to these cuts. New reduction of the Social Allocation of Retirees (EKAS) subsidy (Non-contributory Retirement Pension) from the 220 Euros initially given in also in the government's agenda: it has now been reduced to 35 Euros; in 2019 it will be reduced to 12 Euros and at the end of 2019 it will be completely abolished. From the reduction of tax-free income a further 1.p million € will be collected by the state. Any increase in pensions by the end of the year 2022 will be forbidden. The primary surplus

of 3.5% billion will increase gradually to 5.19%.

Auctions are currently taking place even for a debt of 500 Euros to the state.

Those who in the previous stage cultivated illusions that, supposedly, the government plans to not apply those harsh measures, etc. deliberately lied to the population in order to attain a deeper disorienting among workers and retirees.

In a recent interview given by the Prime Minister to the German Die Welt he leaves no room for illusions, as he took oaths of loyalty and guarantees to the European Union and to lenders that workers' rights, trampled on in recent years, are considered by the government as something "past forgotten". He also made a clear confession concerning the 2015 referendum, "that was nothing more than a vote for the reform program". On the question of whether the government would increase pensions after his "program" he responded negatively, stating that "the pension reform was hard. To this we owe fiscal consolidation. (...) We will not allow a coming back to the past in this aspect! "

In addition, all the anti-popular measures and also those aimed against retirements recently decided in the Parliament were discussed and previously decided by the Eurogroup.

In this period we have concluded our first round of demonstrations with good results. These are the basis for us to give more momentum to the battle since the beginning of autumn, and to continue with greater determination our marathon of struggles.

Through our presence on all fronts of action, through the works developed by our unions and also through our personal debates aimed to highlight our potential for this coming year, we may prevent the application of new measures and take advantage of the fact that these will apply to end of the year.

Our main demands are: we claim what has been taken from us, that the new measures are not applied: cuts due to personal differences, family subsidies, and contributory and non-contributory retirement benefits. No new tax burden.

We also strive for the recapitalizations of our Social Security funds as well as our demand on health at central and local level. Stop auctions!

We are waging a decisive battle to make retired people aware that there is no

other way than the road of struggle to stop and reverse the anti-worker policies of the EU-Capital Government. We can avoid the application of the measures through a massive participation in the struggle. We can develop this momentum and have positive results.

An important role in this process will be the construction of a strong, massive and combative retirement movement, together with the workers' and people's movement. This is guaranteed above all by the good functioning of a union of first level and its constant action among retirees in their area with its constant and permanent daily action together with retirees through various actions.

We may also consider as greatly needed regular and extraordinary meetings of the Board of Directors and with the participation of all its members.

Constant contact of the union with its members will be carried out regularly and in many ways through conferences, informative conferences about all the problems in the local, pan-hellenic and regional areas as well as on the action carried away.

Through these actions we must take advantage on the fact that other people also have availability for various obligations and activities. Many of our unions have developed a series of activities for culture and leisure, without losing their compass fighter, more on the contrary, by improving and strengthen it through these facts.

Our continuous and objective duty lies on the organization of the whole retiree´s movement and the coming of great masses of workers to the union. This must be a key objective and a clear criterion in how to proceed must be applied.

Lately, we have had mixed results, sometime positive by doubling voters in a number of unions, but also negative ones in those other unions when we have experimented a decrease. This has nothing to do with objective difficulties, but with the work of our unions, based on the obligations that we have as a Federation. In any case we follow and help them in general matters and especially in their elections.

Through our general demand framework, our main goal for this year is to fight until Law 4387/16 is canceled. It may be fairly clear that:

We do not claim subsidies and dividends because we have not paid for them, but for retirements, health and social rights to keep a dignified life.

The billions of Euros that have been cut and torn from our funds for the

benefit of the banks, of the business groups for their blood-stained development, is our money, and therefore a product of our work.

There must not be any tolerance to government measures. We must put an end to illusions, complacency, indifference, disappointment.

We must escape from the easy solutions that are being voiced by the forces attached to the system, appeals to the courts and so on...

We claim our demands based on our real needs and on the wealth that we retirees have produced and that by force all the governments that serve capital have torn us off for their own needs and their own profit. On this basis, we demand: the total performance of contributory and non-contributory pensions, of the Social Solidarity Allocation for Retirement (EKΑΣ), of the dividends, and of the single payment. Also we claim for the restoration of the 13th and 14th pay and everything else that has been taken from us. There should be no minimum pension below 600 Euros, a figure nowadays established in 360 Euros.

Immediate primary and secondary pensions, single payments, dividends must be paid immediately, giving self-employed pensioners the opportunity to receive a pension on the basis of the contributions they have paid regardless of the amount they owe to their social security.

We demand the provision of public health system and free health care service to all without limitations and conditions, immediate strengthening of the public infrastructure with both human and material resources, to completely forbid private sector action in the health industry.

Stop the auctions

Eliminate all laws that go against Social Security, against the people, and the imposition of more taxes.

Refund of the huge account of money taken from Social Security.

No house in the hands of bankers. Now, under the new law, the State can seize workers and retirees' homes for a debt of only 500 Euros.

The government and its allies will not stop taking measures against us while we bow our heads and continue with the logic that nothing can be done.

Through this and other actions we have highlighted that our current problems are caused by the action of the imperialists, by the risk of war in our region, and by the responsibilities of the government.

The thirst of the trans-national groups of greater profits intensifies the search and the struggle for new markets, engenders antagonisms and contrasts, conflicts and wars.

For us, all this means nothing but increasing political tensions in our region. The wars that are being waged, the problems built around the nuclear power in the Korean peninsula, among others, are direct results of a conflict between the interests of the US, China, Russia, the European Union and Germany to share the markets and acquire new resources of wealth. In this deadly game there are also regional powers that aim to acquire new prey in order to satisfy the interests of their own business groups. In our own country a new agreement has been signed on the Suda military base in Crete playing with fire, putting an immediate threat to peace. On this basis and as a part of this war-mongers development the planning and supply for the bombing of Syria was carried out.

The so-called FYROM issue (former Socialist Republic of Macedonia, one of the constituent parts of the former Federal Socialist Republic of Yugoslavia) is also managed on this military base following the path marked by the USA and NATO, inciting nationalism and the nomenclature of the two countries, carefully concealing the fact that the people of the region suffer from the aspirations of the imperialists, who do not hesitate to dismember states, peoples, and to change the border with bloody wars if this means a new advance towards its interests. Based on this, the new agreement was also dictated by the imperialists.

We are struggling against the action of the nationalist forces that like to talk about patriotism and organize demonstrations, as well as against the cosmopolitan bourgeoisie that supposedly opposes them with the only request of how to name the neighboring country, hiding the ambitions of the imperialists whose goal is the neighboring country to strengthen the bloody criminal alliance of NATO. Patriotism means fighting against all this, with the working class and the people joined together against the local and foreign imperialists from all countries, against the bourgeoisie and the governments that serve them.

B. Regarding the evaluation drawn from the personal action of each one of us in the TUI of the WFTU, I have the following opinion:

In our presentation at our Second Congress there must be a reference of our personal activity through the tasks derived from the responsibilities that each one of us has been entrusted with. Essentially, the personal action is concentrated in the central people of our organization.

This evaluation must take into account the objective and subjective difficulties and weaknesses in order to reach conclusions about where we should assume the burden of our work for the next period.

On this basis, let's take a brief look at the following problems.

Positives

A. The important fact of establishing our ITU at the Barcelona Congress. For the first time in History, the class-conscious movement of pensioners and retirees has provided for itself its own global organization.

During all these years, in the collective leadership elected by the delegates attending the Congress there was good cooperation and it worked within the framework of the decisions of the Congress of the WFTU.

The cooperation among its first members was stable and got along without major problems. We exchange opinions on all important issues. Several visits and meetings took place in several countries, mainly by the general secretary and some by the president. The meetings took place at a regional and continental level focused on Africa, America, Europe and Asia. Our organization took active part in the XVII Congress of the WFTU.

Our efforts have been constant to expand our organization. However, we have to say that the responsible coordinators have not responded in their functions based on our capabilities.

The secretary general had positive interventions in the ILO

In our important initiatives, we highlight our actions for October 1, Day of the Third Age, which we really turn into a day of retirees' struggle worldwide. This has helped to develop the movement of retirees in several countries, together with the workers movement. There is a series of actions taken worldwide by retired people, and many materials for this purpose, announcements, posters that came out of our TUI.

We have worked to enrich our claims to reflect the broad demands of retirees around the whole world.

Efforts have been made to improve our finances, but we continue to have significant problems.

Objective difficulties:

Objective difficulties mainly include differences in languages and long distances.

Subjective weaknesses:

A higher degree aimed to more collective cooperation among our elected members has not been obtained yet.

Our technical secretariat did not work and failed to provide us with the ever asked data we need in order to comply our task.

We have a response problem coming from several of our members that up to this moment don't comply with their responsibilities and their duties; we also lack a technical mechanism necessary to help our coordination. Several other weaknesses in the functioning of the coordinators of the Continents must be overcome in the near future.

In the meantime, and we have to write it down in the negative, we did not succeed and we did not manage to have a meeting with all our elected members.

There is a serious problem with the finances of our organizations, without finances we are unable to act.

Finally, at the beginning of October, I will have made my proposal for our Second Congress, translated into the conference languages (Spanish-English-French).

With comradeship greetings

Dimos Koumpouris
Athens 10.7.18

Nº 2

Nº 3

OUTLINE OF MIGUEL GUERRERO SANCHEZ

ELECTED AT THE FIRST CONGRESS OF THE TUI OF P&R OF THE WFTU

AS A MEMBER OF THE TECHNICAL AND RESEARCH COMMISSION

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Comrades,

Fulfilling what was requested by Comrade Quim Boix, General Secretary of our TUI, I present my humble contribution to the collective work of the management of our TUI, since February 2014.

I accepted to participate in the management tasks to give continuity at an international level to what I had been doing for many years in Barcelona, Catalonia and Spain, as leader of the P&R of the Energy branch (of which I was General Secretary of the State Federation and, then, from the Local Union of Badalona, third city of Catalonia, when CCOO was a Class Union, not sold to the bosses and capitalist governments, as they are today unfortunately). In recent years, I was general coordinator in Catalonia of the Pensioners and Retirees Association of CC OO of the ENDESA Company, with a movement of some 10,000 retired people. In times of secrecy, in the vertical union of Franco's times, I was president of the Union of Workers and Technicians (UTT) and National Vocal at the State level, carrying the slogans of CCOO then.

I was included in the Technical and Research Commission, which as defined by our Statutes, has the following tasks:

<< Article 32-2- For the Technical and Investigation Commission: a) Give, after listening to the Propaganda Secretariat, an opinion regarding the press, propaganda and publications; b) Keep the historical file and the documentation of the TUIS of P&R; c) Encourage and specify collaborations at an international level; d) Propose topics of study and dissemination, in close collaboration with the Training Secretariat. >>

Regrettably, I assume the part that corresponds to me in the non-fulfillment of the assigned task;

nothing of this has been done.

We have not been able to realize, due to lack of financial means, not even a meeting of the 7 members that compose the aforementioned Commission.

Through electronic exchanges (mainly mail), we received (June 2014) the proposal to elect a President of the Commission. Dimos Koumpouris and Quim Boix did this proposal, developing their functions as President and General Secretary of our TUI. Finally we chose the comrade of PAME, Palmos Panagiotis, as President of this Commission.

From him we received, in 2015, the text that I attach, at the end, as an annex to this balance.

We must recognize that we have not done anything of what is foreseen in this text.

On the other hand, as a member of the management of our TUI I have helped comrade Quim Boix, given the proximity of our respective personal homes, at all the tasks he has asked for help, among them the writing of documents and the evaluation of proposals.

I trust that these reflections can be useful to improve our collective work in the stage that will go from the Second to the Third Congress of our UIS.

Finally, given my advanced age, and given the need to take care of my health, I take this text to ask to be relieved of my job as a member of the global management of our TUI, making it clear that I will always be available for what collective management can request me.

Receive a greeting from

Miguel Guerrero Sánchez.

Barcelona, July 2, 2018

ANNEXED.-

WORKING PLAN PROPOSAL FOR THE TECHNICAL AND INVESTIGATION COMMISSION AT THE INTERNATIONAL OF THE WTUF'S INTERNATIONAL TRADE UNIONS OF PENSIONERS AND RETIREES

Comrades,

According to the collective talks concerning the first yearly report of our activities as FSM's international of trade unions of pensioners and retirees – a debate that was held through virtual means during February and March 2015, without personal presences but with plenty of documents previously discussed – I have assumed the responsibility as Head of the Technical and In-

investigation commission as were created during our successful foundational Congress (Barcelona, Feb., 2014).

For that reason I send you this Working Plan proposal so we may exchange our mutual opinions and comments prior to its approval. We are going to proceed to this Exchange on a virtual basis, at least till we may have the chance of holding a personal meeting among the seven people attached to the commission (a difficult meeting for the time being due to the geographical distance between Greece, Spain, Senegal, India, Cuba, France and Argentina).

As it is written in our statutes:

Article 31: The Technical and Investigation Commission depends on the Presidency and the General Secretary. Its responsables will make their proposal on the personnel especially bearing in mind their qualifications and availabilities in order to collaborate. This Commission will be based on the same site as International of Trade Unions for Pensioners and Retirees' headquarters. therefore, the Commission should be based also in the different regions, depending upon their respective Vice-Presidencies and Secretaries and reporting to the Presidency and the General Secretary.

Article 32: Functions and Responsibilities of the Commission are as follows:

Article 32-2- For the Technical and Investigation Commission: a) To issue its opinions after listening those from the Secretary of Propaganda in every matter related to Press, Propaganda and Publications; b) To preserve the International of Trade Unions' of pensioners and retirees Historical Archive and Documents; c) To Promote collaborations on an international level; d) To Propose items for study and divulgative purposes in tight collaboration with the Secretary of Formation.

According the above mentioned matters the Working Plan proposal for the Commission goes as follows:

1) Each Regional Conference, actually underway, will appoint a trade union Readers team to be part of the Commission in their region. The proper work process will be coordinated by the persona in charge of the Regional Conference, counting with the help of the staff members appointed by each Conference.

2) this five teams will proceed under the same criteria as the Central Commission. The criteria are detailed on the following points:

3) Each of the seven members of the Commission will search in his/her entourage (country and region) from one to four persons to be appointed as aides and specialist in those items related to the Commission, as these are defined in our statutory rules.

4) In each Region or Continent a report will be written on the Pensioners and Retirees' reality, adding, when available, details of the analyzed countries. This report will allow us to write our claims lists that as class conscious trade unions we are going to demand in every country and in every Region.

5) To the above mentioned reports the surveys previously distributed during the process prior to our foundational Congress will be used. This surveys appear – in several languages – in our International of Trade Unions' website, and should be filled with the answers belonging to those countries from we still have no data.

6) Discussion and summary of the five reports above mentioned may be useful to write a document focused in our claims on a worldwide basis as class conscious trade unions of Pensioners and Retirees. This document will serve as a basis for collective discussion in the process that will lead us to our Second Congress as WTUF's International of Trade Unions of Pensioners and Retirees.

7) The Commission will ask for help to the Secretary of Formation at our International of Trade Unions as to propose new items for study and divulgation, also gathering the suggestions and opinions from the 24 members (based on 19 countries) of the world direction of the WTUF's International of Trade Unions of Pensioners and Retirees.

8) The Commission will collaborate with our International of Trade Unions' Secretary of Propaganda in order to analyze Publications and other materials to be distributed as International of Trade Unions (both on central – through our website – and regional levels), in order to give its opinions as Technical and Investigation Commission.

9) The Commission will gather the historical archive of our collective work, that will be based on the same town where the International of Trade Unions have its headquarters. For the time being, Barcelona, Spain.

Comrades,

With your comments and additions we will be in a proper position as to lay the foundations of our definite Working Plan.

We are going to give ourselves a two month period in order to fulfill this task.

I look forward to know both your comments and addition during this period.

Also, I send you my internationalist and trade unionist regards.

Athens, June 2015

Palmos Panagiotis

Nº 4

Assessment presented by comrade Marcos Woman Vice-president of our Trade Union Internationals (TUI) in America, and Coordinator of the UIS since the resignation of comrade Marta Hervás.

In order to make an assessment of the activity carried out, one of the first conclusions is the sharing of experiences, debates and resolutions adopted throughout the leadership meeting of the American branch of TUI and Pensioned and Retired (P&R), which belong to the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU). This meeting was carried out in San Pablo, Brazil, on the 29th of August of 2017, and the meeting's overview is included in the attached document. This meeting was carried out two years after the American Regional Conference, organized in Quito, Ecuador, on the 30th of September 2015.

During the past year, ever since the mentioned second meeting of our TUI's leadership in the american continent (the first was organized in Quito) and during the preparatory phase of the Second International Congress of our TUI – P&R, the labour and pension adjustment policies have been deepened due to the IMF's increasingly decisive intervention, particularly in the region, and in accordance with different political leaders (as in the case of Macri in Argentina).

In the following Congress, it will be time to make such analysis, in the interest of national and international policy making regarding our subject area.

In order to tackle the capitalist system's global policies - which are opposite to the conquests obtained by the working class - regarding the welfare and pension system, the intensification of the social struggles of each country as well as at a regional and international scale requires analyzing

the common elements of our work, so as to coordinate and strengthen both the unity actions against the onslaughts of the dominant powers, as well as the ideological and organic work for the anticapitalist struggle and for socialism.

In order to make an assessment of my responsibility as vicepresident of America, I will begin by evaluating the important experience that I have been able to undergo not only as a result of the mentioned meetings, but also thanks to my designation to participate in the 17th World Trade Union Congress of the WFTU at Durban, South Africa, from the 5th to the 8th of October 2016. Also as a result of the meeting with the TUI's leaders in Athens, Greece, on the 13th of February 2018, preparatory for the second TUI – P&R Congress of the WFTU in Colombia. On this occasion, I fully appreciate the meeting with comrade Mavrikos and the WFTU leaders, the meeting with comrade Dimos Kampouris, retired workers' organizations, and leaders of PAME. On these events and throughout all of the activities carried out, I have received the organic and political trade union support from the WFTU's leaders, from comrade Quim Boix, and from the American organizations of the TUI and P&R from the WFTU. I have received both the political support and the financial effort for these journeys from my comrade in arms from my country, as well as from the hosts' fraternal comradeship in each occasion.

At the same time, in a self-critical exercise, I must point out the hardships I have undertaken in order to meet with the corresponding celerity the resolutions that we passed on the American and International TUI. In this sense, for such responsibility, experience proves that neither the individual will and action nor the will and action of the organization to which we belong is enough. On the contrary, it is necessary to count with a permanent working team, since the intensity of the different national experiences and their complexity require doing so. A team which, apart from those tasks assigned to systematize the publication of reports and experiences of each organization, should count with our resolutions from the 29th of August 2017 Congress in Brazil, where we have established three regional undersecretaries with its authorities, explicated in the resolutions of the leadership meeting of America's TUI – P&R of the WFTU which took place at San Pablo on the 29th of August 2017, which I attach in this report. Leadership responsibilities that we have adopted as an organic necessity for our project's current and new political international bonds, and as incorporations to our TUI – P&R of the WFTU. One of the responsibilities of each member of the designed leadership, which requires planning, information and fulfillment, and to overcome the delay in its execution, is the need of establishing specific measures in this phase which concludes on October 1st – International Day of the struggle for the pensioners' rights, day which we have also passed through our resolutions.

It is also worth mentioning that, if our TUI's finances worked correctly, the five coordinators, one per continent, should be provided with a minimum amount of money in order to be able to visit some countries of their own region, and so in that way help to strengthen our implementation and our work.

In order to reach these aims, we will have to deepen its realization, and I consider that we should dedicate part of our Second Congress in Columbia for this (for example, dedicate a couple of hours to perform, throughout the days of the Second Congress, five meetings, one per each continent).

Moreover, I consider that the direct relationship with each country's experiences is very important and necessary, as a means of enriching one's own realities and of the active solidarity with each fight. The facts that we will gather by such means will help us for our work for the new Technical and Investigation Commission that will be elected on the Second Congress, and that shall function

better during this new phase (the existing Commission has not managed to get under way, with the exception of the document received by its members, from which I was amongst, sent by comrade Palmos Panagiotis as the corresponding president).

From a political viewpoint, due to imperialism's offensive, backed by governments which have undertaken the governability of the dominant power of capitalism throughout different countries of the continent, I consider that the relationship between our activities and the development and strengthening of the WTFU in each country is of uttermost importance.

With this synthetic and brief assessment, I also wish to express that in order to undertake our activities, it will be necessary to fully exercise our proletarian and revolutionary democracy as members of the WTFU, so that the leadership responsibilities can be assumed by those who have the adequate political conditions and the adequate representativeness for this phase, marked by the intensification of the class struggle. Phase in which the demands regarding the national struggles that seek to confront the subjugation of the working class' conquests, and particularly as regards our scope of action, must be both in its essence and practice immersed in the proletarian and revolutionary internationalism against the capitalist system and in favor of socialism.

Buenos Aires, July 2018

Second leadership meeting of TUI – P&R America of WTFU

On the 29th of August 2017, the leadership meeting of the TUI – P&R of the WTFU took place at San Pablo, Brasil, the headquarters of the COBAP (Brazilian Confederation of Retired and pensioners). The people present included Quim Boix, General Secretary of the TUI P&R WTFU, Marcos Wolman from Argentina, Luis Carlos Borges from Brazil, Leonor Meza Pineda from Honduras, Carlos Margariño and Jorge Herrera from Mexico, Gelmo Delgado from Colombia, and a guest, Juan Aurelino Ribeiro de Vasconcelos from COBAP, Brazil. Reports and communications were received from the members of the leadership: Xiomara Enriquez Cruz from Cuba, Frank Goldschmidt from USA, Ariel Aulet Lebron from Puerto Rico and Carlitos Solorzano from Ecuador.

Debate and adopted resolutions: With the aim of evaluating the implementation of the agreements adopted during the First Regional Conference carried out in Quito on the 30th of August 2015, and with the adoption of the meeting's Agenda, all of the people present intervened, and all of the reports received and the communications kept with those who could not travel and be present were specified.

As we took part, by sharing the presidency, in the previous Latin-American Meeting of Prevision and Resistance organized by the COBAP, we had the opportunity to listen to important speeches from state and national leaders of the COBAP, and to expose the situation of the pension system and the struggles in each country. It was a meaningful experience for analysis and common projects, which will enrich our work in the continent.

With the participants of the first leadership meeting we held a fruitful debate, gave a detailed review of the situation and struggles in our countries already exposed on the previous meeting, and exchanged documents. As a summary of the considerable coincidences, the following resolutions were approved:

*Ratify de Declaration of the First Meeting of the TUI P&R America of the WTFU, carried out in Quito.

**With the aim of strengthening our work in each country, coordinating with the organizations belonging to the TUI P&R from the region, and incorporating organizations from other countries, it was resolved to constitute 3 (three) regional undersecretaries:

>Undersecretary North America: United States and Canda.

Authority: Frank Goldschmidt (USA) with the support of the Central American authorities.

>Undersecretary of Central America and the Caribbean: Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Cuba, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama and Dominican Republic.

Authorities: Leonor Meza Pineda (Honduras) and Jorge Herrero (Mexico).

>Undersecretary of South America: Argentina, Brazil, Bolivia, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, Venezuela, Guyana, French Guyana and Suriname.

Authorities: Gelmo Delgado (Colombia) and Jose Aureliano Ribeiro de Vasconcellos (Brazil) – pending until its confirmation by the leadership of the COBAP.

-For the región of Central America and the Caribbean, the first objective is: to develop the ties with Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico.

- For the South American region, the first objective is: to develop the ties with Chile and Uruguay.

-To establish a regular functioning of the Vicepresident of the TUI P&R America of the WTFU, together with the regional undersecretaries.

***October 1st "International Day for the struggle for the pensioners' rights".

It was resolved to carry out activities linked to this international day, according to the characteristics and conditions of each country. Throughout the activities that will be developed, spread the following notice:

"Invitation to the TUI P&R America of the WTFU to all of the member and befriended organizations for October 1st 2017 'INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE STRUGGLE OF PENSIONERS' RIGHTS', and the banner 'OCTOBER 1ST DAY OF THE SENIOR AGE'. Organization/counterattack with the workers' and peoples' alliance. Overthrow of the anti-labour policies. For the satisfaction of our current needs.

**** Creation of a webpage of the TUI P&R America WTFU with the experiences and activities of our organizations. For the time being, we shall publish the resolutions of the leadership meeting of august 29th, and reproduce the notice and the banner regarding the activities of October 1st. It was resolved to entrust Argentina to elaborate the webpage and the menas of communication, including the contact details via Skype.

*****Finances. The organizations of the TUI P&R America WTFU received the "Letter to the finance authorities" with the substantiation of the financial needs. It was resolved to take the necessary measures to consider and solve the proposals raised. In the first place: to regularize the payment of contributions, according to each organization's contributions and establishing the annual contributions.

***** 2nd International Congress of the TUI P&R of the WTFU, in the year 2018.

We received the world leadership's proposal to carry it out in America. To this effect, it was

proposed to our organizations from Colombia and Mexico, to consider the possibility of holding it in one of those countries, as well as the reception of other suggestions.

*****With the considerations that we have evaluated regarding the situation in each country to confront the guidelines from the FMI and the international organizations of the capitalist system, which proceed with the subjugation of the conquests obtained by the working class regarding social security, it was resolved:

Taking into account the pension systems and the projects that we have developed in each country:

- To elaborate the common elements to bolster the continental coordination of the working class, both active and retired.
- To coordinate, whilst supporting each of the struggles, towards projects of joint actions, strengthening in each country the TUI P&R, the WFTU, in order to raise consciousness of the historic role of the working class, active and retired, as regards the proletarian, revolutionary, anticapitalist and socialist internationalism.

Marcos Wolman
Vicepresident TUI P&R America de WFTU

Nº 5

Report of the International Union of Pensioners and Retired people Trade Union activities in DRC

The outcome of the first Conference hosted in Barcelone (Spain) in January 2014 led to the creation of the International Union of Pensioners and retired people Trade Unions.

Since then, several activities have been organized in Africa and particularly in DRC in order to meet the Conference goal.

This idea appeared to be new and strange to some Trade Unions because pensioners and retired people have always been neglected. To help and be concerned with them required a high awareness Campaign which resulted in bringing them together in a specific organization in order to address the critical issues they experience and remove legal barriers to their welfare to their welfare. In fact, WFTU has always been fighting against the capitalist's barbarism which attack not only workers interests but also pensioners and retired people's rights and acquired advantages or benefits.

Hence the first mission carried out thanks to Comrade SG Quim's help aimed to the awareness of WFTU Bureau in regions and countries in order to organize pensioners and retired people. These had to be aware of the danger represented by the capitalism in crisis leading to the loss of pensioners and retired people's rights by applying drastic and inhuman measures on both workers and pensioners.

Through WFTU regional Bureau Francophone Africa, we firmly set up and successfully implemented the different already existing but abandoned, and non organized action groups of pensioners and retired people.

A meeting was held in Dakar (Senegal) thanks to WFTU regional Bureau of Francophone Africa. Only pensioners and retired people were admitted to that meeting.

As a result, a joint committee was created on the Francophone Africa Level. It's goal was to coordinate and promote pensioners and retired people's sustainable rights.

It's main task was to tackle the problem of loss of advantages and benefits allocated to pensioners and retired people.

Taking into account the preceding idea, In Lubumbashi, we also decided to bring together and organize pensioners and retired people coming from different sectors even from the public sector service.

Since, CTP One of Trade unions member of WFTU is willing to contribute its best experiences and knowledge to help further the cause of pensioners and retired people by setting up and supporting the functioning of the committee.

Moreover, several meetings with other Trade unions members and Friends to WFTU were organized in Lubumbashi to urge the latter to subscribe to the new policy for a productive and efficient union.

Since 2014, 1st October has been devoted to pensioners and retired people as world Day of awareness for advocacy around the globe.

CTP is the only Union which pays attention to this world Day gathering these people and supporting them on this occasion. With respect to the target CTP plays a critical role as promoter of innovation, Cooperation for common pensioners benefits.

The General Secretary of the Union has decided the setting up of a branch of pensioners and retired people to allow its good follow up.

Comrade Lazare KIMANKATA KYONTO who is at the time Vice-president of the International Union of pensioners and retired people Trade Unions in Africa and National Secretary of CTP is also in charge of this branch.

The National Labour work ministry is already informed about it.

On National Level, there is not yet an organization as such because members of the WFTU are not fully committed and involved. This needs and requires a meeting on National Level, in Kinshasa, the capital of DRC.

In the mean time, in Katanga, the present Committee functions and fights, advocating, demanding and claiming for the enhancement and respect of pensioners and retired people rights.

It also trains its members for their capacities reinforcement and their empowerment.

Here are some of the claims submitted to the following Companies :

- GECAMINES, A mining Company in Katanga Province : Discriminatory and Partial payment of pensioner, some gains reducing or cutting off.
- SNCC, The National Railway Company having its head quarters in Lubumbashi : Non payment of salary arrears to pensioners already out of the company.

Calculations which do not comply with conventional arrangements (clauses).

Difficulties in allowing and relieving aged workers for their pension which involves the risk of losing possibility to benefit total rights in case of death.

- REGIDESO, The water supply Company : Bad valuation or assessment of retirement allowances.
- Groupe Forrest International, Road building and multipurpose Company : Breach of unilateral arrangements referred to retired people rights.
- For ASCO Papers, towards "SESOMO" A paper making industry : Early retired people registered as beneficiaries of retirement rights by the National health and pensions organization.
-Fight against man layoff or dismissal and revocation/or job withdrawal of pensionable people in order to make them lose retirement rights on allowances.

Some employers and Trade Unions badly and negatively reacted to CTP'S actions in some Companies pleading that their concern is only active workers or workers on duty.

Due to poor conditions offered by the National health and pensions organization in the country, some permanent Trade Unions were recommended to insert within collective Labour agreements of different companies some new arrangements or agreements allowing a honorable retirement for workers.

In fact, only a hundred dollars every three months is allocated by the National health and pension organization in DRC and some steps have been carried out to improve retired people conditions.

Approaches should still be carried out locally to obtain the involvement and commitment of other members of WFTU on one hand and to obtain from the local government a substantial budget and financial aid and investment to be allocated to pensioners and retired people on the other hand. Because these have also to enjoy life after good and faithful services to the Nation.

Nowadays, IMF (International Monetary Fund) and the World Bank have imposed some structural adjustments plans and this remains a serious Challenge for Trade Unions. The private sector, in accordance with some scab Unions Capitalize on this situation and reduce or simply withdraw some acquired rights in pensioners and retired people's favour.

Our hope is to bring upon efficient and effective contribution to firmly solidify the implementation of the regional joint committee which still has problems of getting

off the ground or Starting up. The great task being that of carrying out organized actions and not calling meetings only.

This should be done locally and also in Africa to make pensioners and retired people is voice understood world wide.

Our Trade Union (workers and Peasans Conscienceness) is planning a successful, effective support and participation to the 2019 pensioners and retired people second Congress.

It starts by organizing the International Day of pensioners and retired people on October 1st 2018.

Members of WFTU/DRC will be interested and invited to take active part to this great event.

On behalf of (retained) Comrade Lazare KIMANKATA KYONTO

KAPENGA KANDOLO

Member of PC of WFTU

N° 6

N° 7

2nd August 2018

Dear com.

Sorry for being to respond your letter because of my accident health problem.

The first AIP regional conference has already been held on 3rd Decembers 2016 in Kathmandu, Nepal as per the TUI (P&R) constitution article 3 IV 4. The conference has formed a 9 membered secretariat under the chairmanship of me that following:-

1. Secretariat chief- Mohan Bahadur K.C.-(Myself) VP-TUI (P&R) of WFTU
2. Member D.Gopalakrishnan (India) Secr.Organizaiton-TUI (P&R) of WFTU
3. Member Narayanan Namboodiri (India) Technical and research commission-TUI

(P&R)

4. Member Bed Nidhi Nirauala -President REAN -Nepal

5. Member Representative -Citu -India

Other member will be included from Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, and Bahrain after the names will be received, but the nominees have not yet been available.

The Frist YUI-(P&R) regional conference was completed successfully in which 22 foreign delegates from chine, India Bangladesh and 150 Nepalese delegates from Nepal On 3rd Dec. 2016. The conference discussed seriously on the genuine issued of the pensioners in this region and concluded with Kathmandu declaration (attached)

I had an opportunity to because the chief Guest in the 2nd conference of All India BSNL pensioners welfare Association 21-22 the Nov. 2015 in Bangalore, India. Likewise I was observer in the WFTU 17 world conference held in Durban S. Africa on 5-8 oct.2016.

Personal approaches have been made to coordinate with different related Trade union in this region, but no fruitful useless have been achieved so far.

Looking forward hearing from you naw and then

Your

Mohan bahadur k.c.

Attached

Dec.

FIRST ASIAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE
TRADE UNION INTERNATIONAL OF PENSIONERS AND RETIREES (TUI of
P&R)
WORLD FEDERATION TRADE UNIONS (WFTU)

3 rd

December,2016

The First Conference of the class trade union of Pensioners and Retirees organizations (P & R) of Asia/pasific organized by the WFTU (World Federation of Trade Unions) through the TUI (International Association of Trade Unions) Pensioners and Retirees (P & R) was held in the capital of Nepal, Kathmandu.

KATHMANDU DECLARATION

Draft for discussion and amendment as appropriate, in Nepal Conference:

The Pensioners and Retirees' union representatives and class organizations from Asia, belonging to the TUI Pensioners and Retirees (P&R) of WFTU, WFTU friends and observers who gathered in Nepal, discussed the major problems for pensioners in the Asian Continent in their first meeting. Through a living process they found that in all countries of the continent, pensioners are suffering due to the anti-worker policies implemented by governments to serve the needs of the capital.

This is the decision of Asian pensioners' organizations representing their countries organizations and millions of retirees who have thoroughly discussed the problems and the situation in their countries: To strengthen the coordination of the struggle of the retired together with the working class in national, continental and global level in order to more vigorously assert their rights to social security, pensions, health, housing, recreation-entertainment. In these years of struggles and sacrifices they have won these human rights that the capitalists are trying to eliminate, with the pretext of the global capitalist crisis caused by them .In retrospect, they benefit from the crisis which will continue to exist as long as there is capitalism . From the discussion it emerged that the only just, possible and necessary real alternative to capitalist barbarism is the construction of a socialist society.

Representatives particularly stressed that:

We know, because we experience it, that the capitalist exploiters have designed and implemented a project called euphemistically ;Reforms and labor market flexibility as a solution to the crisis; which is based on fierce reduction of wages, worsening of working conditions, cuts in social spending and the realization of public pensions.

On this basis the capitalists promote a criminal modification of the pension plan, the extension of the retirement age and the reduction of rights entrenched by social insurance and labor legislation. The organized activity of pensioners, workers and popular masses against the barbaric policies that destroy our life is the counterweight to capitalists' pursuits. On this basis we struggle:

A. For the creation of unions of benefit takers and pensioners in all countries by the labor movement. Pensioners' enrollment in unions. Participation in action for their problems and the problems of the working class.

B. Study of the problems in each country, talk through the union procedures for the configuration of requests that will meet our current needs based on the wealth produced by the working class and not on the needs of capital,s competitiveness. We don't legitimize in our consciousness the cuts or the restructuring. We demand all our rights. Decent pensions with the responsibility of the State. Exclusively free public health and medical care, social benefits and allowances for rest and medical treatment. Provision of clean drinking water, according to the wealth we produce, and all the rights of the working class. We do not settle for the crumbs of capitalist competitiveness.

C. For a class movement that will develop its action to defend our rights against the objectives and requirements of the capital, steadily on the basis of the perspective of the working class, for a society without exploitation, with central planning and socialized means of production, so that the production base and the economy will be public social wealth and the wealth will serve the needs of the working class and the people and not a handful of capitalists.

Wherever we are we always highlight the strategic role of the working class, as a class that can lead an alliance of all popular strata with poor farmers, undeclared workers, immigrants, refugees, the spirit workers, self-employed, indigenous in order to solve current, daily problems and also to radicalize their struggles until final victory and social emancipation from capitalist slavery.

The object of our claims is intended to cover the needs of the elderly, especially at a time of growing tension, to a qualitative longevity of people, thanks to positive developments in science and health. Life extension, something we consider to be an achievement of mankind, appears to be a problem and aggression against us by the dominant capitalist and exploitative class.

We know that capitalism considers work to be a commodity and therefore should be subject to the laws of what they call the market; just as any other object. So capitalism does not want to spend public money for those who no longer work due to retirement after hard work and therefore they are no longer productive. For this reason, it is more than necessary that Pensioners and Benefit takers conduct a unionist, defined, class struggle for the defense of our interests

These costs are billions and capitalism generally does not want to leave to the looting of that huge amount of money available for social spending. Therefore, they study and implement numerous projects for privatization and pension cuts using methods among which are: the manipulated propaganda about the sustainability of public pensions, the use of fraudulent accounting techniques, the looting of public funds to collect money for the protection of banks and capitalist financial institutions in crisis, manipulation in speculative purchases of these funds, etc.

There are numerous criminal practices used by governments to promote the privatization of public pensions and all these must be denounced and combated.

It is also known historically that when capitalists and the imperialist centers cannot provide the solutions which are beneficial to their interests seeking to control markets and raw materials, they form several new alliances complicating the antagonisms of monopolies and the risks they pose to the peoples, as a result of which the inter-imperialist contradictions and especially the growing presence of NATO aggression mainly in the Middle East and Eastern Europe are accentuated. This can be achieved either with imperialist wars or imperialist peace which are the two sides of the same coin.

With the imposition of democracy and fight against terrorism being false excuses, new outbreaks of war are organized, new borders and new spheres of influence are drawn.

In the era of imperialism, in addition to the social, economic, political and military level, religious

fanaticism is also utilized in the tangle of rivalries.

With the funding, training and equipment from the imperialist powers, various terrorist groups and organizations afflict and terrorize internationally.

A main field of antagonisms among imperialist centers is the Transatlantic Trade and Investment

Agreement between the EU and US (TTIP) which they have been trying to put into practice for the last decade, but the last three years it is being negotiated in secret discussions by staffs of both sides.

Significant support to this line of action is given by the yellow trade union leaders who subdue to the strategy of the monopolies, support the imperialist policy, defend the maintenance of inequality and enforcement of the US, the European Union and Australia at the expense of countries and the economies Africa, Latin America and Asia, implement and foster compromise with the bourgeoisie and the enslavement of the working masses in medieval conditions.

On the other hand, there is the great power of the WFTU, with clear anti-imperialist and enhanced features, it is the side of the people fighting against the plans of the USA and their allies. All forces rallying the WFTU, workers and pensioners, struggle firmly that only the people themselves have the right to decide freely and democratically for the present and the future. Only the people themselves, not the imperialists and their organs. For this reason, today we demand even more strongly the dissolution of NATO.

An important part of Asian pensioners and benefit takers have no access to social security benefits, as they are not paid, or they are so low that they do not meet their basic needs for a decent life.

We must achieve a synthesis of experiences on pensions and retirement benefits of different health systems and social security that exist in every Asian country, to develop a proposal that will serve as a banner of struggle of all Asian Pensioners and Retirees (P&R) and by extension, the rest of the world.

If health, social services and social support are important and sometimes essential for all workers in the working age then during retirement becomes necessary. Therefore, the struggle for the succession of prevention and health care especially for Retirees and benefit takers (P&R) becomes a necessity, with geriatric hospitals and services for the elderly in public hospitals, gerontologists with drug consumption through public institutions, which should be provided free of charge, with public nursing homes and clubs. Therefore, the fight against all forms of profit making enterprises and private structures intended to meet the needs of Pensioners and benefit takers (P&R) should be the center of our trade union and political action.

The pensioners housing conditions are compounded by rising rents and maintenance costs, so we must fight demanding public policies to ensure decent housing, especially for the most vulnerable older people.

We also call for the construction and complete equipment of facilities for people who because of their age and health status need help and care by qualified personnel, either in

one day homes, permanent homes, home help, or specialized health advice, etc.

We demand that the authorities organize cultural activities and entertainment especially for Retirees and benefit takers (P&R). These will help improve pensioners' quality of life.

All these are complemented by the right to free transport, the need to visit relatives and friends for health issues, to attend cultural, recreational and sports issues that occur in the region where we live.

It is necessary to work consistently in every country to make our situation known, organizing protests, propaganda, seminars, workshops on pension and Gerontology issue, with the participation of professionals and public activities. Using the experiences of each country we must promote regional coordination. In this sense we agree to adopt the continental meetings.

In this Asian Continental Conference of WFTU Pensioners and Retirees (P&R) of TUI we reiterate our commitment to fight for the rights of pensioners and benefit takers of Asia/Pacific with the concept of assertive struggle as a way to raise awareness of the causes, which are the essence of the capitalist system and the exploitation of man by man.

The current concerns of the Retirees in the region A/P are on the issues that follow:

Social Security Benefits : It is obvious that Asian pensioners and retirees have no adequate

access to social security benefit. Either they are not paid or less paid pension which can not

meet their demands for decent life. Hence increase of pension as per the increase of price index be assured.

Health Care: Health care, social services and social support are more important and essential during Retirement period. Provision of free medical services- preventive or curative- with public nursing homes and clubs for elderly people are urgent. Therefore unity among pensioner and retirees is must. Our fight against all forms of profit generating agencies enterprises and private institutions should be centre of our trade union action.

Housing: The pensioners housing condition is very poor. Retired people are senior citizens in the society but they have no one behind to take care of and look after them at their old age. Hereby we call for setting up, with complete equipment of facilities, adequate number of elderly homes- day homes, permanent homes, help homes etc.

Recreation: Fun, laugh and recreation make man happy and improve the quality of life. We

demand the concerned authorities to organize cultural activities and entertainment events especially for retirees and benefit takers. Also plenty of public parks, yoga and other similar

recreation centres are equally necessary.

Transportation: Senior citizens (P&R) need to visit their friends and relatives for various purposes- health issues, cultural, religious, recreational and sports issues in the region which

can be complemented by the rights to adopt and apply rules and regulations and then provide free transport facilities to the elderly people.

Retirement Policy: As per life expectancy, the conference demands one door retirement and pension policy for all sectors' workers like civil service, teaching profession, bank employees, police, public enterprises, and so on.

Privatization: The conference condemns the projects of capitalists' looting of the huge money available for social spending, implementing numerous projects for pension cuts by different methods like propaganda about the sustainability of public pension, the looting of public funds to collect money for the protection of Banks and capitalists' financial institutions in crisis.

N° 8

ACTIVITIES FOLLOWING THE FOUNDATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PENSIONED UNION AT THE FMS (World Trade Union Federation / WFTU)

Upon returning from the founding Assembly of the P&R in Barcelona, where I was assigned the task of finding union organizations of pensioners willing to join our association, I first addressed the organization in Pula where I live. They replied that they were not competent because their headquarters are located in Zagreb. The contact with the head office did not give the desired result, since at the office they were not at all interested in the proposal.

Meanwhile, I started to receive by email materials from the blog of Rastko Plohlo, president of the Independent Trade Union of Slovenia. I asked him to find in Slovenia some union organization of pensioners who was willing to join, but without success. My friends in Belgrade, in Serbia, have suggested me the representative of the Union of workers in agriculture, which maintains contacts with the comrade Pieris Pierri, but also in this case no result ..

In April 2015, along with Zagreb's anti-fascists, I went to Češke Budojevice, in the Czech Republic, where a meeting was held with the anti-fascists and the former local fighters. Naturally I took the opportunity to present our program. They immediately told me that their trade union scene is very weak, particularly in the real sector and in small firms, where workers are afraid to connect with the trade unions. Not even here, therefore, I got answers.

In October 2017 I was, as a delegate of the Workers Socialist Party (SRP) of Croatia, at the International Conference of Balkan Communist and Workers' Parties in Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria. Here I spoke with the representative of the Socialist Party of Romania, skeptical about the possibility of obtaining anything in Bulgaria. The Bulgarian guests presented to me a trade union veteran who promised me he would do something, but until today without result.

So, these meetings abroad were possible within the usual activities that I carried out for my party. Outside of these activities I have no chance or indication to get any concrete result. As for other activities related to the trade union, after several multi-year attempts I managed to bring together the leaders of three Croatian unions in Zagreb, who in 2015 sat at the table together with the president of the EUROF, the comrade Pieris Pierri, but only one of them has maintained contact, despite being under the influence of the Greek SYRIZA.

Given what has been said so far, one wonders: why is there such resistance to the conception of class unions in post-socialist countries? The cause, according to my opinion, is to be found in two phenomena:

The first is the extreme stigmatization of socialist ideas and practices, with the revaluation of clergy-fascist ideas and collaborationist components, which are very widespread in these States. The second is the different role of the unions in the capitalist countries compared to the socialist ones.

While in the capitalist countries the trade unions have been conducting a class struggle for their rights for over a century, this continuity in the socialist countries was interrupted after World War II because the rights of workers were affirmed by the law, and the role of unions focused on the implementation of social standards.

Pula, 12 June 2018
Vladimir Kapuralin

Nº 9

Nº 10

REPORT OF THE CONTROL COMMITTEE

Approximately 5 years have elapsed since the founding Congress of the WFTU International Union of Pensioners which took place in Barcelona in February 2014.

The Congress elected the members of the Committee of our international organization. The following comrades were elected to the Control (Audit) Committee:

1. President: Costas Skarparis (EKYSY PEO Cyprus)
2. Member: Haji Muhammad Saeed Arian (PLF Pakistan)
3. Member: Rouani Djamel (Algeria)

According to the provisions of our International's Statutes, the Audit Committee is obliged to inspect the Organization's accounts and ensure that its finances are managed in accordance with the decisions of its collective bodies.

Furthermore, it is obliged to inform the bodies and Congress about its findings and conclusions or proposals regarding the International's financial situation.

Unfortunately in the period under review for various reasons (objective and subjective) as a body, the Audit Committee did not convene, nor was an effective financial control conducted. However, the financial statements were presented by the General Secretary in meetings of the International's leadership.

The Audit Committee through its Chairman, in consultation with the Secretariat, sent letters to all organizations urging them to implement their statutory obligation to pay the annual subscription.

The response was limited as regards the payment of the subscription (a report is attached together with the payments that have been made, which were also limited due to the fact that significant travel expenses were covered by the General Secretary.)

Furthermore, the Audit Committee notes with satisfaction that countries such as Spain, Ecuador, Denmark, Senegal, Nepal, Tunisia, Brazil and Greece have made a significant contribution to strengthening the financial situation hosting

and covering the cost of organizing meetings.

Note: My request is that the report on collecting subscriptions and payments be prepared and, on that basis, the audit be made and then attached to the document

With friendly greetings,

Costas Skarparis