

MOHAN BAHADUR K.C. , NEPAL

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.Organizatiion-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/pacific 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, 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/Pasific 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 curent 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. Therefor 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 compete 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 intertainment 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 verious

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.