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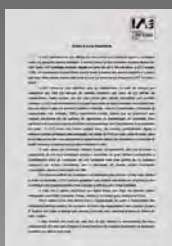
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IAE-UGT on the Brazilian Crisis



"Workers cannot pay for the crisis"

On September 9 and 10, the National Board of Directors of **União Geral dos Trabalhadores UGT** had a meeting in São Paulo and, due to the deepening of the economic crisis, with the devaluation of the analysis of the Brazilian credibility and of the political crisis, with a "total inability of the government and the parliament in developing proposals and adopting actions that allow us to believe in the reversion of the current situation", it publicized a note with the position of the trade union Center concerning this situation.

The note of UGT signed by **Ricardo Patah**, national president, states that "the debt of mistakes of economic policies that were adopted cannot be charged of workers, especially after 2011".

And he vigorously repudiates "any increase of the IRS, of gas taxes, electric bills, social burdens or any other way of extracting resources that incompetence and corruption made disappear of public coffers of those who work".

"There are different paths to leave the economic and political crisis, but not all the paths are useful to workers and to trade union organizations.

Some of them will present a clear setback considering rights and achievements".

IAE-UGT on the Brazilian Crisis

"UGT calls other segments of the organized working class and of productive sectors of society to seek for a consensus in the diagnosis and unit in action, as a way of preserving rights and guaranteeing that those who caused the crisis ought to pay for it, not allowing that the interest of those who always use tough times to earn easy money prevail. (...)

The National Board of Directors considered closing ranks next to those who advocate a national union that restore the political stability, essential for the support of measures that are necessary for the reordering of economy and restore of the internal and external credibility".

UGT is fully able to present this dispute for its representation achieved in the 8 years of fight of the trade union Center since its foundation in 2007. UGT has gone from 623 institutions in its foundation congress, in that year, to a total of 1,357 affiliated trade union institutions in June 2015.

The meeting of the National Board of Executives discussed the continuity of this process of growth and representation and drew a strategy of action to do so.

Among the actions, **Chiquinho Pereira, secretary of UGT's Department of Political Organization**, emphasized the need of a combined effort, which he named "an affiliation joint effort", which includes holding seminars (a series of debates) in eight regions of Brazil.

Roberto Santiago, vice-president of UGT and president of UGT's Institute of Advanced Studies, suggested the prioritization of the series of debates with the goal of affiliating new institutions in States that already have actions in this sense, quoting, as an example, Rio de Janeiro, where there is a work that provides a high number of affiliations.

Canindé Pegado, UGT's secretary general, warned a possible deepening of the crisis due to the position of other rating agencies that want to lower the rating of Brazil. "If this happens, our country will suffer enormous losses, especially in the area of labor and employment. As for the announcement of the economic area of the government, which intends to increase the IRS for the population, UGT is totally against it and, if necessary, it will take it to the streets to protest".



Fórum das Mulheres

I TUCA's Women's Conference

In Panama, female unionists from **UGT** and from trade union centers of over 30 countries reflected on democracy and gender equality

More than 250 female unionists from 30 countries had a meeting in Panama City from September 09 to 11 to approve the document "Democracy, Autonomy of Women and Gender Equality", a mark for the trade union movement of the Americas

For three days, in Panama City, the unionists attended workgroups to create an action plan with commitments concerning "Democracy, Autonomy of Women and Gender Equality", which was the topic of the event. "We manage to write a document that guides, in a decisive way, the actions to implement women's autonomy", **Cássia Bufelli**, from **União Geral dos Trabalhadores (UGT)**, said.

The following people represented UGT: Regina Pessoti Zagretti, secretary of the National Women's Department; Cássia Bufelli, member of TUCA's Women's Committee and Josi Camargo, secretary of the National Department of Trade Union Education. And also Maria Edna de Medeiros, director of Sintetel SP and 3rd assistant of the Women's Department; Marcia Adão, from FENASCON/Siemaco; Clotilde Monteiro, from Siemaco-SP; Zilda Pereira Freire, from FENASCON/Siemaco ABC and Daniela Sousa, from Siemaco SP and Youth secretary of UGT's State branch of Sao Paulo.



Through UGT's Women Department, Maria Edna Medeiros represented Sintetel and Contcop at the conference. "Regardless of who we represent, since we gather several trade union centers, our fight is just one: fighting for democracy and advances in policies and participation of women."

As for Regina Zagretti, who is also from UGT, this event enabled its participants to get to know the difficulties that can be found in other countries. "We were even more sure of the need of the Americas uniting themselves to raise awareness on the whole society and on rulers", Zagretti said. "Meetings as this one strengthen and encourage us to keep on fighting, since without a fight there is no victory", she concluded. In a historical moment, the declaration of the First TUCA's (Trade Union Confederation of the Americas) Women's Conference was approved.

TUCA and the Women's Committee of the Americas (CMTA) presented a document entitled "Democracy, Autonomy of Women and Gender Equality", which was approved at a plenary session.

This document was developed through a combined action of organizations affiliated with TUCA in four meetings and is divided into two main areas: the promotion of gender equality in the labor, trade union and social-political areas and Building Autonomy for Women: Econophysics with the conclusions and lines of action

On the Trade Union Confederation of the Americas - TUCA

The **Trade Union Confederation of the Americas (TUCA)** is the most important trade union expression of the American continent. It was founded in March 2008, in Panama City, and it affiliates 53 national organizations from 23 countries, which represent more than 50 million workers.

TUCA is the regional organization of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) and performs several trade union actions in the region, such as the full respect and promotion of human rights; gender equality and equity and the full participation of women at all levels of the trade union movement and a political, social, labor and economic democracy based on the popular sovereignty and richened by mechanisms and instances of effective participation and dialogue.

ILO rules that were not ratified will be analyzed

Tripartite organ will discuss Conventions, Protocols and Recommendations of the **International Labor Organization (ILO)**, which were still not ratified, and recommend a more adequate treatment to be given to pending tools.

UGT will be represented by Lourenço Ferreira do Prado, full secretary of International Affairs of the trade union Center and by Aleida Ferreira de Siqueira, alternate secretary.

The Ministry of Labor and Employment created a Tripartite Workgroup to analyze ILO's tools that were still not ratified by Brazil, as approved under the Tripartite Commission of International Affairs.

The workgroup will be composed of representatives of the Ministries of Labor and Employment and of International Affairs, of trade unions that represent employers and workers, with the goal of analyzing the matters in question and recommend a more adequate treatment to be given to pending instruments, besides complying with the commitment assumed by Brazil with ILO and its member States.

Currently there are 41 instruments of ILO that were still not ratified by Brazil, for example, the Convention 177 and the Recommendation 184, concerning home work, Recommendation 189, which deals with the creation of jobs in small and medium enterprises and the Convention 189 concerning domestic workers.

The Labor and Employment Ministry is in charge of providing knowledge of adopted instruments to competent authorities and forward them, with the Ministry of International Affairs, to the House of Representatives. In compliance with what is written in ILO Convention 144, the Labor and Employment Ministry elaborates reports on the opportunity and convenience of the ratification, considering the result of the tripartite consultations, held by the Tripartite Commission on International Affairs, with the support of tripartite workgroups that deeply analyzed the documents at issue.

Small enterprises are the answer to employment

Micro and small companies are the answer to improve employment and transform productivity of Latin America and the Caribbean.

Representing almost 99% of the productive unities, with autonomous workers, they generate three quarters of all job positions in the region. However, they are filled with problems of low productivity and high informal levels.

The 10 million micro and small enterprises in Latin America and Caribbean are critically important for the future of this region, since they generate most of the jobs. At the same time, they represent a strategic challenge for these countries, since they are the main niches of informality and low productivity, the **International Labor Organization (ILO)** emphasized it in a report publicized this week.

"The predominance of micro and small enterprises in the productive structure creates major breaches of decent work and of working conditions, while it halts the growth of productivity and economies in general", **José Manuel Salazar, director of ILO for Latin America and Caribbean**, said. He also emphasized the need to create a favorable environment for these units to be able to improve their conditions and increase the level of medium enterprises.



Salazar stated that it is essential to redouble the effort in order to achieve vigorous entrepreneurial ecosystems, which allow micro and small companies to grow and improve their results "for the development of labor markets and employment growth in the region, as well as for the productive transformation and increase of productivity of our economies".

The ILO report "Small enterprises, big breaches" offers an overview on employment and on the challenges of decent work according to the structures of productive units. According to data of this document, micro and small enterprises are the absolute majority in a region in which the total amount of companies reach 11 million, out of which less than a million are medium and big companies. Independent workers, which sum up to 76 million, also add to this productive structure. (ILO News)



Conventions ratified by Brazil



Pequeñas empresas, grandes brechas



Urgent status of project on regulatory rule NR 12 is changed

Senator Cássio Cunha Lima (PSDB party – State of Paraíba), writer of the Legislative Senate Project 43/15, which halts the application of the Regulatory Rule NR-12, of the Ministry of Labor and Employment and deals with Security at Work in Machines and Equipment, changed the urgent status of the proposal vote.



This announcement occurred on September 8, during the debate that took place at the Commission of Human Rights and Participative Legislation of the Senate, which was attended by **Francisco Pereira, aka Chiquinho, secretary of UGT's Department of Trade Union Organization and Policies**. Chiquinho has been standing out in the defense of the Regulatory Rule 12.

This rule, from the Ministry of Labor and Employment, establishes the implementation of security mechanisms that prevent physical damages to workers who operate machines, enabling their immediate stop in case of flaws.

“Suspending this rule without instituting another one in its place will reduce labor rights that are already established and would expose workers to risks while performing their profession, besides being a social setback, prohibited by the Constitution”, Fernando Maciel, federal attorney with masters in prevention of labor risks, said.

UGT members from Rio attended act against interest rates

On September 1, UGT's State branch of Rio and the trade union centers Força Sindical and CGTB, in a combined action with institutions of trade union movements, held an act in front of the head office of the Central Bank, in downtown Rio, in a protest against the increase of interest rates.

This act took place on the day that directors and presidents of the autarky discussed the basic interest rate (Selic) and in the process of standstill of workers of the Central Bank who, according to one of its representatives, request respect to workers who did not accept the subdivision of the 21.3% adjustment proposed by the organ.

“Decrease of interest rate now! No to cuts in education, in public health, housing, transportation and in the rights of active and retired workers and pensioners. Enough of deviating public funding to the Banks”, the protestors yelled

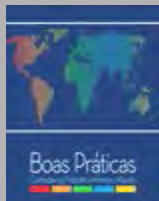


Rogério Chagas, director of UGT's State branch of Rio de Janeiro and president of the Trade Union of Servants of the City Guard (Sisguario), represented Nilson Duarte Costa, president of UGT's State branch of Rio, and criticized the recession and the rise of interest rates. “Our country is going bankrupt, companies are going out of business, taxes are increasing. Implemented policies are disguising a recession, saying that people will be happy in 2016”, he said, calling grassroots trade unions to attend protests against the current interest policy.

Good practices: Fight against child work in the world

The publication of the International Labor Organization – ILO, Good Practices in Action Against Child Labor, presents the main good practices of action against child labor applied in dozens of countries throughout the world.

It is a product of the III Global Conference on Child Labor, which took place in October 2013, in Brasília, in which the participants had the opportunity to share their experiences in discussion forums. The proposal of this publication is promoting the dissemination of these good practices to all partners and interested parties



Fight against child work in the world

The UGT Global is the Newsletter of International Information of the União Geral dos Trabalhadores

The UGT union is an organization formed to defend the Brazilian workers across a broad trade union movement, national, ethical, supportive, independent, democratic and innovative.

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