UGT World

International Newsletter

General Workers Union UGT Brasil

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# **GUW promotes 1st National Plenary Session of Institutions**

The event gathered more than 835 delegates representing 615 unions, federations and confederations in Praia Grande, a city in the coast of São Paulo state.



The **General Union of Workers (GUW)** promoted on August, 28, its first National Plenary Session of Affiliated Institutions.

The event brought to the Commerce Workers Beach Colony, in Praia Grande, São Paulo state, 835 delegates representing nearly 615 unions, federations, confederations and associations.

The Plenary Session was officially opened around 10 A.M. on Friday, August, 28, when the president Ricardo Patah, initiated the ceremony and highlighted that this "massive participation of institutions, shows the strength of the labour world and the respect GUW has been achieving in the union world, in only two years of existence reinforcing itself as one of the three largest union centrals of the country".

#### Governor

The Governor of the State of São Paulo, José Serra, was also present on the first day of the Plenary Session, and congratulated the work that has been done by GUW, reminding that he also participated in this institution Foundation Congress, that took place in Anhembi two years ago. Serra highlighted the need of national programs to create employment. "After all, employment is what solves problems", quoting the example of Emprega São Paulo, that, according to him, already employed more than 140 thousand workers.

The Plenary Session will last two days, all day long on Friday stretching up until Saturday, August, 29.

#### Event was marked by reflection and mobilization in favor of Brazil

"We made a great event with our first Plenary Session, after two years since the foundation of GUW. It was the opportunity to discuss the effects of the economic crisis and start the debate, a necessary debate, over the paths that GUW will follow in the presidential elections next year. All the tendencies have already shown and allowed us to go back to our home states with a general view of the strategies that might join GUW and create a positive impact on the large debate that will precede and follow the presidential elections and to state governments. Apart from the political and strategic debate, the Plenary Session helped us to get to know up close our colleagues, learn from the most distinct regional practices on how to combine our organizational and political efforts to accelerate even more the fight GUW has been taking in favor of the excluded ones." (Moacyr Pereira, Secretary of Finances of the General Union of Workers, in Patah's blog)

## **GUW promotes the 7th Plenary Session of the National Executive Board**

In Thursday (August, 27), from 9:30 A.M. and on, it took place the 7th Plenary Session of the National Executive Board. Nearly 400 people that are part of the National Executive Board of **GUW (General Union of Workers)** participated in the meeting.

The meeting began with a speech of the president of **GUW**, **Ricardo Patah**, that discoursed over the importance of this Plenary Session to the union central.

In the meeting, topics such as: the growth of **GUW** in Brazil since 2007, projects to be developed, measures of fight against the crisis and anti-unions practices were covered.

The meeting took place in the auditorium of the Beach Colony of the Commerce Workers Union of São Paulo, preceding the 1st National Plenary Session of Affiliated Institutions.

#### **GUW TV presents: Never give up on Flying**

Watch the video presented to the delegates of the 1st National Plenary



#### Centrals prepare the 6th Workers March



The meeting took place in the GUW headquarter

Chairpersons from Brazilian union centrals gathered on September, 4, in the afternoon, in the GUW (General Union of Workers) auditorium to settle details on the 6th Workers March that will take place on October, 7, in Brasilia.

It is estimated to gather at least 30 thousand workers from the main Brazilian cities in the Federal Capital to claim for their rights. The president, **Ricardo Patah**, from **GUW**, was present to salute unionists.

At the meeting, that had the coordination of the **General Secretary of GUW**, **Canindé Pegado**, it was decided that the main topic of the parade this year will be the PEC (Constitutional Amendment Proposal) approval, that foresees the reduction of the working hours for shift work without reducing the salaries. Other fight topics from the union movement will also be covered, such as the valuation of the minimum wage, "the pre-salt layer is ours", fight against outsourcing, decent work, ILO Conventions 151 and 158 and the end of slave work.

The Brazilian Workers March is part of the **World Day for Decent Work** that will take place, all over the world, on October, 7.

#### World UGT

## 1st National Seminar of Bank and Insurance Workers





The **General Union of Workers (GUW)** promoted on August, 26, the 1st National Seminar of Bank and Insurance Workers. The event took place in the Maksoud Plaza Hotel facilities, located in Alameda Campinas, São Paulo, organized by the Department of Finances, Credit and Insurance Issues of GUW, with the support of **CONTEC** and **FENESPIC**.

The meeting was opened by the president **Ricardo Patah**, and after that, the event counted on lectures from **Lourenço Ferreira do Prado (CONTEC)** and from the **State Deputy Davi Zaia (FEEB SP/MS)**, both vice-presidents of **GUW**.

The seminar ended around 6 P.M., also counting on the participation of the following lecturers: Magnus Ribas Apostólico (FENABAN); Armando Vergílio dos Santos Júnior (SUSEP); José Roberto Mendes do Amaral (Banco do Brasil S/A); Geraldo L.M. Martins and Marcos R. Carnielli (Itaú/Unibanco).

### Participate in these seminars



1st GUW National Communication Meeting Hotel Braston São Paulo São Paulo - SP, 14 de Setembro de 2009

Click here to view the complete program

1º Seminário Nacional de Direito Sindical da UGT Hotel Braston São Paulo São Paulo - SP, 15 de Setembro de 2009

Click here to view the complete program



### **Electricians fight for decent work**

Outsource employees from **AES Eletropaulo** go on strike. Union says that outsourced workers do the same work that hired employees but receive an unequal treatment.

Outsourced workers from Eletropaulo went on strike starting at 00:00 A.M. this Wednesday, August, 9, in a protest made by the **Union of Electricians of São Paulo (Stieesp)**, a GUW affiliate.

The 24 hours downtime from the nearly four thousand outsourced workers is a sign of repudiation towards the salary and benefits inequalities, difference in working conditions and safety and health at work that the company makes



According to the union, outsourced workers are responsible for maintaining and enlarging the energy network, besides serving consumers while cutting out electricity, turning it back on and creating new appliances. "Outsourced workers do the same tasks the hired workers do and are exposed to the same risks. It is not fair that they are marginalized by the employer", states the president of Stieesp, Carlos Reis.

If there are no advances in the claimed items, workers will make other manifestations lasting 48 and 72 hours, starting on September, 22 and October, 1, respectively, according to the union of this class.

#### **GUW** receives the visit of secretary from CCSCS

Adolfo Aguirre talked to chairpersons from GUW about the proposals from the Coordination of Southern Cone Labor Centrals



The General Union of Workers (GUW) received on September, 9, the visit of the new General Secretary from the Coordination of Southern Cone Labor Centrals (CCSCS), Adolfo Aguirre, who took over this position last July, during a Plenary Session the institutions held in Asuncion, Paraguay. Aguirre, elected unanimously is also the secretary of International Relationships at CTA in Argentina.

The CCSCS Secretary, Adolfo Aguirre, was received by the president of GUW, Ricardo Patah. who was accompanied by other members from the Executive Board and representatives from the international departments of the General Union of Workers. Patah congratulated the new secretary of this international institution, "for starting his work by visiting the centrals and coming all the way here to listen to GUW." Patah said that GUW will be very close to CCSCS, participating with proposals, suggestions, and also actions to be developed by this institution.



"The General Union of Workers (GUW) reaffirms its historic commitments to the working class, while seeking to expand its methods of action, with ethics, courage and the certainty that Brazil can be better and more just. "

Ricardo Patah – UGT's President

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