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Inside this number:

UGT wants more dialogue on Reform 01

Workers demand respect 02

MP 746 knocks down National Education Forum 02

Strike of bank workers continues 03

BRICS Trade Union Forum wants recognition 03

UGT training course discusses the moment 04

Court excludes prevalence of agreement 04

4th Plenary of Commerce Workers of UGT 04

Decent work and Youth 04

UGT wants more dialogue concerning the Social Security reform

Through a meeting with Geddel Vieira Lima, Minister of the Government Secretariat, representatives of UGT made an appeal for the Presidential Palace not sending the proposed Social Security reform to the Congress before having a dialogue with trade union centers.

Earlier this month, President Michel Temer made a promise to present the project before the municipal elections, which take place on October 2, but representatives of workers and retirees have been opposed to sending the matter without prior discussion.

After the meeting, **Ricardo Patah**, president of **União Geral dos Trabalhadores - UGT**, said he realized that the minister is "touched" by the need for dialogue. According to him, Geddel will talk to President Michel Temer on Monday (26) regarding the subject



"[We need to discuss] how we can build a pension plan that does not remove, for example, the possibility of the poor and miserable young people to retire, which are those who start working at the age of 13 and 14. No one knows, not even he knew, that the average age of entry in the labor market France is 24.5 years. In Brazil, it is 16 years. So, there is a very big difference. It is very easy to require a minimum age of 65 years over there," Patah exemplified.

According to the president of UGT, the next meeting with the government, which will count on the presence of all trade union centers, will be scheduled in "no more than ten days." Despite the request, the Presidential Palace has not yet officially announced any change of position.

During the meeting, Geddel even agreed with the arguments of the union that reforming Social Security is "problematic" in several places in the world from the point of view of the reaction of society. "Brazil is no different and it will not happen without some nudges", the minister said according to one of the participants of the meeting.

The announcement of the reform submission meets some allied base parties, which charge a commitment to fiscal adjustment of the government. When asked about the promise made by the government, Ricardo Patah said the discussion with the unions is important.

"I imagine, by the sensibility of Temer, and since he was three times speaker of the house of representatives, he will value the dialogue in both places [Legislative and trade union centers]. But he cannot disobey [the agreement] he had with workers, with society, with the millions who are touched by it. I believe that out of ten parliamentarians and 50 million workers who are in this situation, he will choose the people", Patah said.

Moacyr Pereira, UGT's finance secretary, Chiquinho Pereira, UGT's National Secretary of Organization and Trade Union Policies, and Miguel Salaberry Filho, UGT's Secretary of Institutional Relations, attended the meeting.

UGT É CONTRA REFORMAS QUE RETIREM DIREITOS DOS TRABALHADORES

Fazemos de tudo para constituir reflexos em disponibilizar e com aplicação plena de transparência na gestão, garantindo a eficiência e a eficácia das ações públicas.
Mas Estado para a cidadania e o desenvolvimento, com custos para todos, reduzindo despesas, aumentando a segurança pública e investindo social, é investir Estado para os brasileiros e os brasileiras.

REFORMA DA PREVIDÊNCIA
Nossa luta é exigir que, salvo o legislador (defensor), a consideração das reivindicações de 10 milhões de trabalhadores e servidores públicos não seja desconsiderada. De maneira clara, somos demandantes à necessidade na elaboração final, pelos três poderes, da constituição de instituições que temam bem os direitos e ores a sua permanência e a sua sustentabilidade.

REFORMA DA PREVIDÊNCIA
Avaliamos a necessidade de garantir a sustentabilidade e a estabilidade do sistema de previdência social, garantindo a integridade das aposentadorias, reparações e reabilitações para as pessoas que contribuíram e contribuem para a permanência e a sustentabilidade.

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UGT in defense of workers

Workers demand respect

Ricardo Patah – national president of União Geral dos Trabalhadores

The intention of passing a steamroller on labor rights was evident in the words of Rodrigo Maia, speaker of the House of Representatives, who is currently occupying the position of interim president. By not allowing Minister Ronaldo Nogueira to act when it comes to the proposal of labor reform, Rodrigo made it clear that the forces of delay do not want to allow time for the necessary dialogue with the trade union movement.

So far, the announced reforms have as the major goal removing worker's rights. The light at the end of the tunnel, however, came this week when Ronaldo Nogueira, Minister of Labor, announced that the Government will not present a self-made project and there will be no removal of workers' rights, nor an increase of working hours, end of the Christmas bonus salary, vacation and paid weekly rest. Besides, he secured a broad dialogue to reach a consensus on the labor reform.

That's what the trade union movement expects. We, from UGT, support the modernization of labor relations, but without removing rights. We are confident that the Minister of Labour will not betray the workers and that the reform will undergo a broad discussion with the trade union movement. Statements of the acting "Sergeant" at the Planalto do not frighten us. On the contrary, they only reinforce the unity of the labor movement in the struggle to defend the rights achieved by workers.

We expect a positive and democratic dialogue giving the tone of the conversation that the Government intends to have in the discussion of reforms at all levels. Reforms that our country needs to be broad, through policy and tax reform. We are vigilant that nothing is done in the dead of night, as it was intended while trying to approve a project that would exempt prison for those who used resources as slush fund in political campaigns.

São Paulo, 22 September 2016

Provisional measure 746 knocks down National Education Forum



**Antonio Bittencourt Filho,
Secretary of educational policies of the UGT**

The edition of the provisional measure 746, which was published in the official gazette on September 23, came as a surprise to people, institutions and collegiate bodies by radically changing provisions of the Law 9,394, which deal with public high schools.

A few days earlier (19 and 20) representatives from several institutions of society that make up the National Education Forum had a meeting in Brasilia to discuss monitoring actions of the National Education Plan, plan the launching of CONAE (National Education Conference) 2018 and forward the national seminar on the BNCC (National Common Base Curriculum).

Although the changes in high school are scheduled to take place in 2018, after the publication of the contents of the National Common Base Curriculum, whose studies are still being developed, the removal of some disciplines of the teaching curriculum greatly concerned the trade union movement of UGT. These disciplines are important for the construction of citizenship of the young, such as philosophy and sociology, arts and also physical education.

Other striking provisions of the provisional measure 746 refer to the increase of working hours within the duration of the course of three years, from the current 800 hours to 1,400 hours distributed in 7-hour daily classes; the current curriculum that goes from the 13 compulsory subjects to 5, namely: languages, Math, natural sciences, humanities and technical and professional training, only Math and Portuguese

In this preliminary analysis we can only say that, in light of recent data released by IDEB signaling meager student performance, something needed to be done in terms of changing the high school organization. But not in a hurry, as it has been done, without going through a process of discussion with society, especially one that takes care of education. (...)



UGT
commitment to
crisis exit

Strike of bank workers continues

The National Banking Commission of Negotiations rejected the new offer of the National Federation of Banks (Fenaban) of salary increase of 7% plus R\$ 3,500.00 retroactive to September 1, 2016 and the transfer of inflation plus 0.5% of increase in real terms for next year (09/01/2017).

Negotiations are scheduled to continue on Friday 30, which still has no scheduled time. Fenaban said it will consult the banks to return to the table.

While banks wind in the negotiations, the strike remains very strong until Fenaban meets the fair demands of the bank workers class.



Five largest banks fire more than 13 thousand and make a profit of R\$ 29,7 billion

In full economic crisis the five largest Brazilian banks (Bradesco, Itau Unibanco, Santander, Bank of Brazil and Caixa Economica Federal) summed up a net income of R\$ 29,7 billion in the first half of 2016. Even with significant profits, the five banks terminated more than 13,600 jobs over the same period of 2015 and, together, closed 422 bank branches.

On average, in the analyzed period, revenues from services and banking fees increased by 8.7%, totaling R\$ 55 billion. This is what data on the performance of these banks made by a Dieese (Inter-Union Department of Statistics and Socio-Economic Studies) survey shown.

Bradesco was the bank that terminated most jobs. They fired 4,478 people, representing 4.8% of the staff in June 2015.

Itaú Unibanco, which has decreased its staff since March 2011, terminated 2,815 jobs in this period. As for Santander, which increased its staff last year, fired 1,368 people in the 1st semester, out of which 1,268 only between March and June 2016.

Caixa terminated 2,235 positions, reversing a trend observed since 2004. Bank of Brazil terminated 2,710 jobs. In these two federal banks the reduction of job positions resulted from the implementation of encouraged retirement plans in 2015.

BRICS Trade Union Forum wants recognition

Representatives from trade union centers of the countries that are part of BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) issued a joint statement on September 27 to charge the authorities to recognize the BRICS Trade Union Forum. Divided into 11 points, the plan also outlines alternatives for the recovery of jobs worldwide, as well as goals related to sustainable development.

According to the statement, the engagement of the union sector in the official meetings of BRICS "will strengthen the spirit of a tripartite social dialogue [workers, government and the business] defended by the ILO [International Labour Organization]."

According to the group, promoting agriculture and agro-industry is extremely important for job creation and for the development of the world economy. "A large number of multinational agribusiness violates the workers rights in these areas that are poorly unionized.

The BRICS Trade Union Forum requires the governments of their respective countries to achieve an "active participation of trade unions in order to generate more employment, eradicate the pay gap in existing job positions, and decent work deficits". "We also demand governments to constitute a permanent tripartite body to monitor the decent work agenda on sustainable development program in 2030," the document adds.

Regarding the informal labor and slave labor, the statement says is the state's duty to provide "decent working conditions and formalization of rights. We take the concerns coming from all over the world, including climate change, to reiterate environmental protection through several measures, including the sustainable use of natural resources," the statement emphasized.



Read more about
the Wage
Campaign of
Bank Workers
2016



UGT training course discusses the current moment

The challenges of the Brazilian trade union movement concerning the current political and economic crisis. This was one of the main approaches of the 4th Course on Politics and Trade Union Training promoted by UGT's State branch of Rio de Janeiro (RJ-UGT) from September 20 to 22 in Teresópolis, mountainous region of the State.

Alvaro Garcia Sanches, secretary general of UGT-RJ, at the time representing Nilson Duarte Costa, president of that branch, opened the program by welcoming the 46 participants leaders. He talked about the importance of the initiative for the qualification of trainees and for the trade union center, which is now the largest in Rio in number of affiliated entities and represented workers.



With the main theme named "The current trade union movement and the political role of trade union leaders", the course was taught by Erledes Elias da Silveira, who has a Masters in Education. Advisor of UGT's National Department of Political and Trade Union Organization, he points out that training is proposed to discuss anything that involves the struggle of the labor movement.

Other leaders linked to the following trade unions also attended the course: Trade Union of Security Guards of Petrópolis, Nursing Technicians (Sintec), Craftsmen of the Coastal Region (Soiabaixada), Cleaners of Niterói (Sintacluns), Heavy Construction Workers (Sitraicp) Workers of Detran (Department of Traffic) - Sindetran, Sailors and Young Machine Operators for Maritime Transport (Sindifogo), of Realtors (Sindifogo) and Telecommunications of Campos (Sintel Campos). (*UGT Rio de Janeiro*)

Court excludes prevalence of agreement on the CLT

Yesterday, the en banc session of the Superior Labor Court (TST) understood that not every collective agreement should prevail over the Consolidation of Labor Laws (CLT). This decision, agreed by a majority vote, removed the clause on payment of time travel (commuting). It was the first time that the collegiate body expressed its position on such controversial issue.

"We had a historic trial, setting parameters which will guide us in the TST," minister Ives Gandra Martins Filho, presiding judge, said after the trial that brought together 26 judges had won.

In the decision, most ministers recognized that collective bargaining autonomy is not absolute and that the precedents of the Supreme Court (STF), in the opposite direction, would not apply to the case. They understood that, in the analyzed case, the clause should be removed for not having compensation for workers.

4th National Plenary Session of Commerce Workers of UGT



Decent work and Youth

Transitions from school to work of young men and women in Brazil

This report presents the results of a research held with young people within the project "Work4Youth".



Trabalho Decente
e Juventude

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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