



Ministry of Labour announces line of credit to motorcycle couriers in São Paulo



The ministry **Carlos Luppi**, from the Minister of Labour and Employment came to São Paulo this Tuesday, June, 9, to announce new measures related to the line of credit to buy motorcycles, aiming to renew the motorcycle fleet. The initiative of bringing the minister came from **GUW (General Union of Workers)** and its affiliated union, **Sindimoto (Union of Motorcycle Couriers of São Paulo)** to show the benefits that the opening of this line of credit will bring to the class.

The resolution 600/09 from **Codefat (Deliberative Council of Aid Fund to the Worker)**, makes it possible the release, through the ministry of Labour and Employment, of R\$100 million to buy new motorcycles. The measure was proposed by **GUW** and will stimulate the opening of new job positions besides guaranteeing maintenance of many others, ranging from motorcycle producers to retails and even professionals that find in these vehicles their work tools, as assured by the **president Ricardo Patah**, that engaged at the most, in the sense of achieving the approval along with the Federal Government.

Patah says that motorcycles sold through this line of credit will have specific colors and the vehicles will be safer, besides that the trunks should have a special design so that they can be disguised from other regular motorcycle users. The **president of GUW** also suggested that all the motorcycle couriers that are benefited from the loan, attend a safety course to use the vehicle at work. **Patah** assures that these suggestions from **GUW** are based on the principles of the central, that defends the education as one of the main ideas to improve the life quality of the citizens.

According to **Gilberto Almeida dos Santos**, aka Gil, **president of the Union of Motorcycle Couriers**, the financing will be done through public banks and will help renewing the motorcycle fleet of the country. "We will be able to purchase new motorcycles, with the safety items regulated by the National Traffic Law so that the initial insurance of the motorcycle might be financed; the financing will respect the limit of R\$ 8.500,00, up to 48 shares", he states.

"The agreements along with Codefat had a unanimous support of the workers and the financing will help renewing the motorcycle fleet of the country, enlarge the safety of the motorcycle couriers and heat the motorcycle industry, creating more job positions", states **Canindé Pegado**, that represents **GUW (General Union of Workers)** at Codefat.

Unionist of G UW is murdered in Santana do Araguaia - Pará



The body of **Josenaldo Alves da Silva** was found around 11:30 P.M., with three shots in the head, at a side way in the suburb of the town. The crime, according to the sheriff Clovis, responsible for the Police Station of Santana do Araguaia, happened at the night of June, 1.

It all leads to a contract murder, once nothing was stolen from Josenaldo, native of the state of Maranhão, single, 25 years old, **director of the Union of Commerce Workers of Redenção** and an employee at Bertin meat packing industry.

Josenaldo was responsible for the union delegacy of Santana do Araguaia and as investigated by the **Federation of Commerce Workers of Pará and Amapá - FETRACOM** and by **G UW**, to which the union is affiliated with, the unionist, who was an employee of **Bertin meat packing company - one of the largest in Latin America and part of the blacklist of the Amazon deforestation** - was being threatened for being active on the defense of the rights of the cold storage company employees.

The **president of FETRACOM and G UW - Pará, José Francisco Pereira (Zé Francisco)**, strongly repudiates the episode and informs that the directors of unions affiliated with **FETRACOM** and **G UW** in southern Pará are going over to Santana do Araguaia. They are going to accompany the work of the police with the objective of identifying the authors and the people who ordered the crime, which leaves everyone in shock and in mourning, with another act of savagery against a citizen who was fulfilling his duty to fight for a better life quality to the workers.

Unionist goes through an attempt in Guarulhos

The president of **Sitraadete (Union of Workers and Instructors in Drivers Education Schools, School Transportation from Guarulhos and Region)** affiliated with **G UW**, **Alexandre Gerolamo de Almeida**, political coordinator of the election of **Claudemir dos Santos to the presidency of Sincoverg (Union of Conductors of Guarulhos)** went through an attempt of murder on May, 31, at night, in front of his house, in Cangaíba, East Side of São Paulo.

While parking his vehicle at home, Almeida and his wife, **Maria de Lourdes**, were overtook by a green Pointer vehicle that had three people inside who shot against both. Almeida was shot in the arm and in the right leg. His wife was shot in the foot. According to the **General Secretary of Sincoverg Domingos Lopes de Souza**, nearly 10 shots were fired against the couple. Souza also denounced the constant threats that members of the slate which Claudemir dos Santos is a member of have been going through in the last months.

"We are all scared. Claudemir has been suffering several treats including vehicles that won't stop circulating around his street and residence", regretted the secretary. Souza believes that the attempt happened due to the fact that Almeida had been the coordinator of the "election" where Claudemir was elected president of Sincoverg. The case was filed at the 10th Police Station, located in the Penha district, in São Paulo.

Solemn session marks 68 years of the Commerce Workers Union



A solemn session held on May, 29, at the Legislative Assembly of the State of São Paulo marked the celebration of 68 years of the **Commerce Workers Union of São Paulo**, institution affiliated with **GUW (General Union of Workers)**.

The initiative came from a combined solicitation from the deputies **Simão Pedro** and **Vicente Candido**, both from the PT party. "In this session we'll be paying a homage to the largest union in Latin America", stated the deputy Simão Pedro, who presided the leading table.

Simão Pedro emphasized the history of fights and conquests of the union and its representability in different regions of the city: "there is not a single neighborhood that has no commerce worker, whether in a small shop or in a market". The deputy showed a special affection for the class and the directorship of the union, for its almost seven decades since its foundation, or for the more than 400 thousand workers in its foundation, and also for being this union the place where he started his first job.

All the deputies that were present at the event emphasized the combativeness of the union in the interest of its affiliated members. **Olimpio Gomes (PV party)** reminded the fight of the current directorship to accomplish the recognition of the commerce worker profession and stated: "The home of the people from São Paulo whenever praising the union means the same people praising commerce workers".

Davi Zaia, who has the positions of **2nd vice-president of the Assembly** and also **vice-president of the General Union of Workers**, central that gathers 553 affiliated union, among them, the **Commerce Workers Union**, expressed the importance and responsibility of a union that has more than 400 thousand affiliates. "A very expressive number. The current directorship has been doing a revolution in the union, affiliating and capacitating commerce workers. A union that deserves all of our respect", he ended.

The president of the **union, Ricardo Patah**, reminded the combativeness of the last three directorships and said he's been in charge of the current one for five years. "For the last years we have been facing many adversities, mainly concerning employee turnovers. There are businessmen that renew their employees framework entirely every year. Thanks to this expedient, the real increase that we managed to accomplish end up being lost. But we have been emphasizing the creation of the first job program and investing a lot in social inclusion, through a work along with needy communities, such as the adoption of a slum in the Rio Pequeno district". Patah also reminded the preoccupation that the union has with the capacitation of commerce workers: "we signed an accord with more than 100 education institutions".

Vicente Cândido, one of the sponsors of the event, was coherent with the colleagues and also emphasized the importance of the union and his respect towards the class. During the solemnity an institutional video was shown, telling a little about the history of the union and showing the accomplishments of the current directorship. Memorial plaques were also delivered to the male directors and a flower bouquet to the female directors.



Global Jobs Pact

Warning of a possible six to eight year employment and social protection crisis due to the economic downturn, **International Labour Organization (ILO) Director-General Juan Somavia** called on delegates to the 98th International Labour Conference to adopt a **"Global Jobs Pact."**

Mr. Somavia cited a range of dire economic challenges facing the world of work, ranging from rising unemployment and increasing poverty to stress on businesses, adding, "all of this put together means that the world may be looking at a jobs and social protection crisis of six to eight years duration."

He also said the global economy will need to create around 300 million new jobs up to 2015 just to keep up with the increase in the labour force, adding "but things are going in the opposite direction" and "unemployment is projected to continue rising at least until the end of 2010, maybe 2011."

Noting that there are signs that the economic downturn may be losing speed, he said "we know from past crises that employment recovers pre-crisis levels with a lag of between four and five years on average."

"Our tripartite responsibility is to propose policies that significantly reduce the lag in employment recovery", Mr. Somavia told the plenary. He said a global Pact would imply a commitment by the ILO tripartite constituency to make employment and social protection a central element of all economic and social policies; and promote a productive vision led by investment and enterprises, social protection and job creation.

"Much will depend on the success of overall economic and social policies and stimulus packages adopted by countries and a functioning financial sector," he said. "Our immediate task is to fashion a strong tripartite agreement on a recovery through Decent Work policies."

"The Pact is not an international legal obligation," he said. "It is an agreement on common policy approaches, eventually leading to national and international programmes."

Mr. Somavia said the proposed Global Jobs Pact is based on a series of tried and tested policies which, if adopted in a comprehensive fashion, could "reduce social tensions, protect people in the downturn and, most importantly, stimulate aggregate demand and prepare the growth of tomorrow".

"So I call on you, on the tripartite International Labour Conference – the highest governance instance of the ILO – to shape and fashion your Global Jobs Pact as a national, regional and global initiative to help workers, families and enterprises weather the first systemic crisis of the global economy and build the foundations of a decent work path to recovery and sustainable growth," Mr. Somavia said.

More than 10 Heads of State and government, six vice presidents, Ministers of labour, workers and employers and other economic and labour leaders are to participate in an ILO Jobs Summit on 15-16 June at this year's ILO meeting. Nearly 4,000 delegates from the Organization's 183 Member States are expected to attend the 16 day Conference in Geneva. (*ILO News*)

GUW at the Administrative Council of ILO - Since June 2008 GUW has a seat at the workers bench of the administration Council of ILO. **Arnaldo Benedetti** represents workers since his election at the 97th International Labour Conference. He's one of the representatives from Latin America and his mandate is valid until 2011. **Arnaldo de Souza Benedetti** is secretary of the **International Relationships Department of GUW** and **vice-president** of the **Federation of Bank Workers of the State of São Paulo and Mato Grosso do Sul**.

June 12, 2009

World Day Against Child Labour



The **World Day Against Child Labour** will be celebrated on 12 June 2009. The World Day this year marks the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the landmark **ILO Convention No. 182**, which addresses the need for action to tackle the worst forms of child labour.

Whilst celebrating progress made during the past ten years, the World Day will highlight the continuing challenges, with a focus on exploitation of girls in child labour.

In Brazil there are still millions of children and teenagers that work and are deprived from basic rights such as education, health, leisure and individual freedom. Many of them are, still, exposed to the worse types of child labour, being involved in activities that damage in an irreversible way, their full physical, psychologic and emotional development.

Let's talk about Decent Work

The text **"Hablemos de Trabajo Decente: Guía de lectura básica para organizaciones sindicales"** (Let's talk about Decent Work: Guide to basic reading on union organizations) is the result of an idea shared by the **FSAL/ACTRAV Project** and by the **ILO Regional Library** and responds to the need of providing a tool to support unions to a largest knowledge and comprehension of the concept of "decent work" and the issues related to it.



The content of this project was ordered to **Edgardo Balbín**, an ILO consultant, professor at the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Peru and a specialist in union education, that counted on the advices and collaboration **Jorge Coronado** and **Rosario Barragán**, professionals of the ILO Regional Library. All of them under the direction and orientation of **Luís Fuertes**, main technical coordinator of the project.

The selected documents are part of the great bibliographical collection of ILO and are available at the libraries and webpages of ILO in the region, where the access is free. *(Suggestion of Carmen Benitez Gambirazio, regional specialist in Machinist Education of ILO - ACTRAV).*



"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
UGT World – the International Newsletter of the UGT - General Workers Union

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