



elektron

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Affiliated organization to the WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS
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Towards the 16th World Trade Union Congress

The World Federation of Trade Unions invite to affiliated organizations to take initiatives in preparation of the 16th World Trade Union Congress, will hold at Athens, Greece.

16th WORLD TRADE UNION CONGRESS
Athens, Greece, 6 – 9 April 2011



Circular No.2

Athens, June 1st 2010.

To all our affiliates and friends,

Dear colleagues,

As you already know, the WFTU is preparing the 16th World Trade Union Congress. We

announced the Congress on this year's May Day because we wanted a) **to symbolize** the

2010 elektron 10 (173) 2, FTE in México

faith of the WFTU in the working class, in its history and its modern objectives and b) to have enough time to discuss, to think, to exchange opinions and thoughts, **confirming** thus the democratic, open and class-oriented nature of the WFTU.

10 Points

With this Circular No.2 we would like to bring 10 important points to the attention of all our members and friends.

1. Each WFTU-affiliated or friendly organization has the right to participate in the 16th World Trade Union Congress with two delegates. For those two delegates the WFTU will cover their accommodation in Athens in double rooms, their meals and local transport. Unfortunately we are unable to cover air tickets. If, however, we find that our budget does allow us to help some organizations, priority will be given to those which organise the most sizeable, militant action on the Action Day called by the WFTU for September 7th 2010.
2. We ask all affiliates, friends and independent trade unions, experts, personalities and fighters to propose topics for discussion in the Congress. We request them to send texts, positions, proposals, observations and criticisms in order to enrich the documents of the Congress. The texts have to be sent by November 30th 2010 in one of the following languages: English, Spanish, French or Arabic. You will soon receive a more detailed and concrete circular regarding the documents and the texts
3. Those members and friends who want to propose changes in the

The announcement of the Congress has been received with enthusiasm by members and friends, who have sent us many positive messages. We thank them all.

- Statutes of the WFTU can do so by sending concrete proposals for changes and additions. The proposals should be received by November 30th in English, Spanish, French or Arabic.
4. To honour the 16th World Trade Union Congress, a competition is being held from today until November 30th 2010 for a) a poster for the 65th anniversary of the foundation of the WFTU (1945-2010), b) a poem dedicated to the 65th anniversary of the WFTU and c) music to set the poem to. The winners of these competitions will attend the 16th World Trade Union Congress free of charge and will be honoured in a special celebration. The poems can be sent in English, Spanish, French or Arabic.
 5. Soon a public dialogue will open through the internet with questions, answers, comments, etc. There all our affiliates and friends will be able to exchange opinions and make their proposals.
 6. WFTU affiliates and friends are called on to send their financial contribution to support the 16th World Trade Union Congress now, in accordance with the unanimous collective decisions of the Presidential Council:

- Each organisation should send to the Headquarters in Athens the amount of 2000 euros.
- Each TUI should send 5000 euros.
- Organisations with larger memberships should send the amounts that they have agreed to.

In Greece PAME has already begun a big public financial campaign and thousands of workers are making every effort to ensure its success.

7. Beginning today and until the Congress, all organisations and all militant trade unionists should organise activities, seminars, conferences etc. so as to promote the objectives of the 16th World Trade Union Congress in conjunction with the 65th anniversary of the WFTU. They should use the annual ILO Conference in Geneva to present a briefing and prepare their own program in time for the Action Day of September 7th 2010: They should make known the objectives of the 16th World Trade Union Congress to all workers with statements, posters, etc.
8. All representatives to the Congress from Asia, Africa,

Latin America and the Middle East will need Schengen Visas for their entry to Greece. To issue a Schengen Visa the embassies of European Union member-states need 30 days. The process is formal and strict. We have discussed this with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Greece in order to facilitate the process for the delegates. However, it is necessary take the personalized invitation from the WFTU and to go to the Greek Embassy or to the authorised embassy.

9. In the 16th World Trade Union Congress simultaneous interpretation will be provided in the languages English, Spanish, French, Arabic, Russian, Portuguese and Greek.
10. For any communication regarding the Congress and for any information you may need, do not hesitate to contact the WFTU Headquarters in Athens, the Regional Offices and TUIs. The e-mail: wftu-16congress@hotmail.com is already working, especially for subjects related to the Congress and to facilitate all our members and friends.

With militant greetings.

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2010 elektron 10 (173) 4, FTE in México



The PAME will be hostess organization of the 16th World Trade Union Congress



Greek workers in fight already prepare to the 16^o World Trade Union Congress

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