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Proposals of the FTE of MEXICO

15. The fight against transnational

ABSTRACT: The current phase of capitalism is dominated by oligopolistic power of transnational corporations. They have acquired a weight similar to that of some states and higher than the most. Capital accumulation only benefits the corporations carrying a multitude of problems for workers, peoples and nations.

1. Introduction

Globalization is a large and complex stage of the development of capitalism. It covers the extension of the relations of production to almost all areas of the planet.

Impact on production and marketing of goods and services and parts of two distinct but closely facts articulated: a high development of the productive forces which brings the application of new scientific developments and technologies applied, and on the other hand, the need to find an exit from the vast production of wealth that brings with it, as national markets are not able to absorb the enormous economic surplus generated.

Driving this process are the large transnational corporations that settle in the international arena not only advances applied in industry, but also in trade and services, the foreign trade being a mechanism to convert the surplus value gain obtained in the production of goods.

The capital accumulation process is accompanied by the financial intermediary who aims to encourage production, regulate and

facilitate commercial transactions. In the absence of global standards to measure the needs, is much greater financial capital moving globally in relation to production.

This has redefined the state intervention in the economy. In most countries, regardless of their level of development, the public enterprise sector has been reduced. The same public enterprise sector has become loosen to the free play of supply and demand, i.e., the market, as regulatory environment for transformations. The commercial opening to the outside is almost unrestricted. This policy has been accompanied by an appropriate campaign through which legitimize these actions.

Transnational corporations in the current process set globally interconnected networks which are characterized by oligopolistic. Globalization is not just to eliminate national barriers to facilitate the exchange of goods and services; it also seeks to break down the barriers to capital flows. International financial markets have integrated not only countries but markets, institutions and financial instruments. This has brought greater competition and efficiency in intermediation.

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The creation of financial bubbles has led many international problems. In fact, the surplus money does not fully support the world output, they exceed it. The countries are left to the regulation of large private operators that mobilize and speculate for extraordinary gains.

The World Bank and International Monetary Fund have emphasized the role as agencies to which governments can not make it to one side, as protagonist agents in the formulation of economic policy that is decided and executed.

The current development of global capitalism is rapidly undermining the current basis upon which rests the sovereignty of nations becoming increasingly only as a formal expression.

2. Power of economic and political domination

In the early twenty-first century, the world had some 85,000 multinational companies with more than 900,000 affiliates and 54 million direct employees. These figures are steadily increasing.

According to "BusinessWeek" (2005) the 10 largest transnational companies in the world are: COCA-COLA, MICROSOFT, IBM, GE, Intel, Nokia, Disney, McDonalds, Toyota and Marlboro. Of these, most are US-owned, Nokia is Finnish and Toyota is Japanese.

According to Clairmont and Cavanagh, the annual turnover of the 200 largest multinational accounts for approximately one quarter (26.3%) of world production. Among these transnational companies are: Shell, General Motors, Ford, Exxon, IBM, Mitsubishi, Toyota, Philip-Morris, and General Electric.

The headquarters for these 200 companies are in just 17 countries. More than a third (74) is American. After U.S., Japan stands out, followed by Britain, France, Germany, Canada and Italy, so that the Group of Seven (G-7) binds 80% of multinationals. Outside this

group, only Switzerland, South Korea, Sweden, Australia and the Netherlands go to the dozen.

The 100 largest firms account for 13% of workers and 14% of global sales. The OECD countries employ 70 million workers, 20% of the gainful employment of non-agricultural activities, which represents between 2 and 3% of the economically active worldwide.

The transnational activity has a negative effect on employment, increasing unemployment and causing other important changes in the population like changes in consumption patterns with the support of the mass media.

The influence of transnational corporations has a political component to force governments to follow the guidelines defined by them and that benefit them. In addition, all corporations work together to make coups d'etat.

3- Conclusions

The transnational enterprises articulate their production processes and their business with a global vision, the world has become for some of them in an area without borders.

This process has been accompanied by capital flows increasingly important and that sometimes are out of phase with the production and trade of goods and services, causing serious problems between nations.

PROPOSALS

The FTE Mexico presents to the 16th World Trade Union Congress the following proposal:

- 1- The WFTU calls the workers of the world to fight against oligopolistic capital represented by transnational corporations.
- 2- The WFTU calls for the defense of the nationalizing process, sovereignty and independence of nations.