

Resolution No. 19

SPRING REVOLUTION

The Conference notes that since the end of 2010, the Arab world has been living a state of popular upheavals and protests demanding freedom, dignity, social justice, and calling for the elimination of corruption and political and social repression. All revolutions were triggered by the protests which started in Tunisia in December 2010 and ended up with regime change in Tunisia and Egypt and led to destabilising the rest of repressive Arab regimes.

The revolutions and upheavals have resulted in significant numbers of martyrs and wounded and displaced people, as well as the victims of torture, marginalization and starvation.

The Conference further notes that these events have made clear to the entire world:

- the depth the ties between the Arab peoples despite their multiple countries and fighting regimes
- the failure of the development policies adopted by these regimes
- high poverty and unemployment rate
- widening class differences, spread of corruption and nepotism
- low level of health care services and social security
- deterioration of the education quality
- failure of the policies of repression, killing, humiliation
- restriction of freedoms against the legitimate demands of democracy and
- freedom of ,religion and expression.

The Conference raises concern at regimes' pursuit to brutally suppress the society and dominate its institutions and organizations, including the free and independent trade unions.

The Conference expresses solidarity with the peoples of the region seeking their fundamental rights and freedoms. The courage demonstrated fighting the major sources of tyranny, democratic deficit, social inequalities and social marginalization are a inspiration to all workers.

The Conference salutes all those who sacrificed their lives for the sake of democracy and freedom in the Arab world mainly in Tunisia, Egypt, Bahrain, Yemen, Libya and Syria.

The Conference calls upon the ITUC-AP to:

- continue to promote genuine democracy in the region by working closely with the affiliates in their struggle;
- assist in the development of independent and democratic trade unions
- assist in capacity building in the region;
- to allocate more resources; and

- promote core labour standards, in particular 87 and 98 and to liaise closely with the ITUC Amman office and monitor the developments and take appropriate action.