

Resolution No. 3

SOLIDARITY WITH THE INDIAN WORKERS' STRUGGLE AGAINST THE ANTI-LABOUR POLICIES OF THE GOVERNMENT

The 20th ITUC-AP Regional General Council Meeting, 10-11 March 2021, Virtual

- EXPRESSES** serious concern over the increasing incidence of violations of fundamental rights of workers in India;
- CONDEMNS** the Government of India for failing to fulfil its duty to protect its people and for attacking workers' rights;
- RECALLS** the previous resolution condemning the decision of the Government to prohibit the participation of Indian National Trade Union Congress (INTUC), the largest trade union centre in the country and ITUC-AP's affiliate, in various tripartite bodies, including international fora like the International Labour Organization (ILO) on grounds of frivolous charges and imaginary court cases;
- NOTES** the continuing countrywide campaigns, including nationwide total strikes by Indian trade unions, in the past few years to protest against the violation of hard-won labour rights and the anti-labour and pro-employer codification of labour laws that violate existing labour laws and ILO Conventions;
- EXPRESSES** deep concern over the amalgamation of 44 central labour legislations into four labour codes: (i) wage code; (ii) industrial code, (iii) social security code; and (iv) health and safety code. Such amalgamation and the framing of the rules of the four codes were done without proper consultation with the stakeholders;
- COMMENDS** the unity and the struggle of the trade unions to restore the fundamental freedoms for workers in India;
- URGES** the ITUC and the ITUC-AP to take the following actions:
- send a mission to India in support of the workers' struggle for the protection of labour rights in compliance with the ILO Core Labour Conventions;
 - call for a global day of action in solidarity with the Indian working class – to mobilise affiliates, allies, and supporters from different countries to express solidarity in various means, including, but not limited to, holding demonstrations outside Indian embassies/missions, sending protest letters to key Indian government officials, and organising social media campaigns that amplify the demand of the Indian unions to include them in the process of amending the labour laws;
 - lend support in reporting cases of trade union rights violations to the ILO;

- develop a plan of action aimed at pressuring multinational enterprises (MNEs) and their Indian trading partners to adhere to the OECD Guidelines for MNEs and the UN Global Compact; and
- continue to monitor the developments in the labour situation in India and periodically report to their governing bodies.