

Congress News

ISSUE #2

TUESDAY

19 JUNE 2012

Metalworkers give green light to IndustriALL

800 delegates gathered at the IMF Congress in Copenhagen voted yesterday to join forces with mining, energy and textile workers and create the new 50 million-strong IndustriALL Global Union.

Opening the meeting IMF and IG Metall President Berthold Huber spoke of the global challenges the trade union movement needs to meet today. He also underlined that the new organization should be stronger than any of the three



founding union federations IMF, ICEM and ITGLWF.

Addressing the delegates, IMF General Secretary Jyrki Raina welcomed delegates reminding them of the proud history of the IMF, first established in 1893 by thirty members from metalworkers' unions in eight countries.

"Time has come to make a new important step and form IndustriALL Global Union," said Raina.

Delegates approved the positions of directors of industrial departments, and committed to a higher representation of women in leadership positions.

Delegates approved the set of merger documents as well as the Statutes of IndustriALL Global Union, which will hold its first Congress today at 14:00.

TUESDAY

08:00

REGISTRATION OPENS

08:30EUROPE REGIONAL
CONFERENCE**09:30**AFRICA REGIONAL
CONFERENCE**10:30**LATIN AMERICA
REGIONAL
CONFERENCE**11:30**MIDDLE EAST & NORTH
AFRICA REGIONAL
CONFERENCE**12:30**LUNCH SERVED IN
HALL B3**14:00 – 17:00**INDUSTRIALL GLOBAL
UNION FOUNDING
CONGRESS

TWEET OF THE DAY

kivanc eliacik @kivanceliacik

Metal, Tekstil, Kimya, Enerji ve Maden işçilerinin uluslararası örgütleri birleşiyor. #IndustriALL

Tweeted by Kivanc from DISK, in Turkish to his hundreds of followers. Turkish is one of dozens of languages spoken in Copenhagen today at the IndustriALL founding congress.

Selected by Eric Lee, LabourStart



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posting daily news
casts from Congress at
www.radiolabour.net

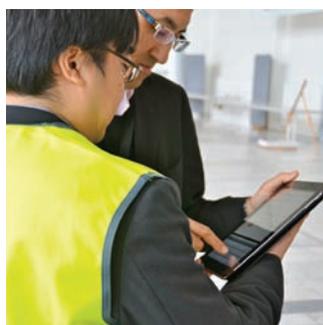
CONGRESS PARTY

Nordic-IN and CO-industri invite you to a party at the Bella Center Tuesday 19 June 2012 from 18:15 to celebrate the founding of IndustriALL Global Union.

Find Out More

To find out more about
Congress go to:

www.building-power.org



CONGRESS SURVEY

Tell us about trade union rights violations in your country and sign up for **ACT NOW** email alerts. Please answer the Congress Survey by speaking with one of the survey volunteers or at:

www.building-power.org/survey

FINAL ICEM CONGRESS RUBBER STAMPS NEW UNION

Minutes after the IMF Congress' decision, the sixth and final Congress of the ICEM confirmed the new organization, IndustriALL Global Union.

Under the guidance of President Senzeni Zokwana, who chaired the Congress, 640 delegates unanimously backed the Statutes of IndustriALL Global Union, a new force uniting energy, mining, textiles and manufacturing workers.

"This may seem to be the end," said President Senzeni, "but it is only the beginning, we must remain committed."

Congress paid special tribute to ICEM General Secretary Manfred Warda, noting his considerable contribution to the organization.

"Thank you all very much for giving me the privilege of working with you. I feel very confident that the future of IndustriALL will be a good one," said Warda.

Warda reported to the ICEM Congress the hotspots of action since the last Congress in Buenos Aires in November 2011, namely in Colombia, Mexico, and Indonesia, in efforts for new labour legislation in Turkey, and for striking miners in Spain, in Iraq, and Palestine, to name a few.



Textile unions unanimously approve foundation of IndustriALL

The 11th World Congress of the ITGLWF voted in favour of the establishment of IndustriALL Global Union.

ITGLWF Congress delegates followed in the footsteps of the IMF and ICEM delegates and unanimously voted to join the new global union.

Full backing was also given to the nomination of Hisanobu Shimada as Vice-President and Monika Kemperle as Assistant General Secretary of IndustriALL.

Speaking at the Congress, ITGLWF General Secretary Klaus Priegnitz said, "Forming IndustriALL is the best way to protect the interests of workers in our sector."

The women's caucus expressed their pride in the long history of the ITGLWF, which has led the global trade union movement in supporting the human and trade union rights of the poorest paid and most vulnerable women workers.

VOX POPS

We asked Congress delegates: What is the key global issue you think IndustriALL should focus on in the next five years?

1 MOLLY DHLAMINI, NUM, South Africa

I think that IndustriALL should ensure that workers receive a living wage and should also push for programs and campaigns that deal with issues of health and safety at work, particularly for sectors like mining, chemical and energy. IndustriALL should also fight against contract and agency labour and labour brokers.

2 ADAM LEE, USW, USA

The big challenge for us as unions is to match the power of some of the global corporations that we have to bargain with and organize at. I think that IndustriALL should focus on building unity amongst all of the affiliates in order to effectively take on these nasty global employers.



3 HELGA SCHWITZER, IG Metall, Germany

Everywhere in the world people are still working under miserable conditions and are being suppressed and work in precarious employment. It is therefore good that we unite as IndustriALL and use all our strength to fight against oppression and give people more dignity.

4 REBECA AZEVEDO, CNM/CUT, Brazil

In the next five years it will be very important to strengthen the unions and to work on the issue of precarious work, that is, fight attempts to make working conditions precarious, improve working conditions and find more jobs for women.