

THE XIth ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE TRADE UNIONS
INTERNATIONAL OF THE CHEMICAL, OIL AND ALLIED WORKERS.

The XIth Administrative Committee of the TUI was held in Prague from the 16th to the 19th May 1961.

This XIth session was of a particular importance due to the period of its meeting and to the deep changes that happened lately in the world. These changes are characterized by the considerable progress of the socialist countries in all fields: politics, economy, social life, technics and science.

Such new progress of the socialist countries also shows the incontestable recoil of the capitalist system, its contradictions, and the incapacity of capitalism to counteract the prodigious advance of the socialist countries.

The Resolutions published in this Bulletin demonstrate the justness of these statements when dealing with the situation in our industries in connection with the general boom.

The grandiose development of our industries in the socialist countries is closely connected with their planning of the rapidly developing economy. This development corresponds to the satisfaction of existing, and also to that of future needs. Like this, the development of our industries in these countries is harmonious.

In the capitalist countries, however, even while our industries develop at an exceptional rate, this development is subject to the law of capitalism, to competition and anarchy. The rivalry between the monopolies does not permit a planned development and, like this, the progress of our industries in these countries has no well-founded basis.

The Administrative Committee thoroughly studied the development of our industries and their growing monopolisation, together with its consequences for our workers. Monopolisation is progressing on an international level, and the Administrative Committee attentively examined the repercussions of this monopolisation on the conditions and struggles of the workers.

The Administrative Committee stated the sharpening of the struggles in our industries in all capitalist countries.

These struggles against the monopolies show higher standards and the growing conscience of our workers. Their economic struggles are often closely tied up with political aims, as in the case of Belgium

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where the workers were fighting against the law of austerity, and in France, where economic struggles go hand in hand with the fight for the independence of Algeria, and against personal power.

In Latin America the victory of the Cuban Revolution and its repercussions all over the continent opened up new perspectives for the oil and chemical workers struggling against foreign monopolies; the nationalisation of the oil industry in Cuba was of particular significance in this respect.

In Asia and Africa our workers are fighting for the satisfaction of their economic demands and against the domination of the monopolies, as in Japan and in the newly-independent countries.

The workers' struggles in countries such as Austria and England, where the oil and chemical workers' trade unions are of a reformist tendency, develop and extend more and more as shown by many strikes.

The analysis of the situation in our industries lead the Administrative Committee to the conclusion that unity in the trade union movement on the international level was a crucial problem, and that the workers must oppose their united front to the international monopolies.

The Administrative Committee did not limit itself to formulating this wish; it worked out practical measures to promote the unity of our workers on the international level.

Practical initiatives were worked out, and incorporated in the Resolutions of the Administrative Committee; these Resolutions show the way to be followed by our affiliates and the friendly organisations, by the industrial Commissions, by the leading body of our TUI.

The Administrative Committee decided to grant the largest support to the Vth World Trade Union Congress to be held towards the end of this year.

The Vth World Trade Union Congress will be an opportunity for our TUI to implement the decisions of the XIth Administrative Committee.

The Administrative Committee welcomed the affiliation of the Oil and Chemical Workers' Federations of Cuba to our TUI; it congratulated our workers in Cuba on this occasion.

We think the Administrative Committee did useful work and the carrying out of its Resolutions and Decisions will contribute to the victories of our workers.

GENERAL RESOLUTION OF THE XIth ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE TRADE UNIONS INTERNATIONAL OF THE CHEMICAL, OIL
AND ALLIED WORKERS.

(Prague, May 16-19, 1961)

The XIth Administrative Committee of the Trade Unions International of the Chemical, Oil and Allied Workers, having met in Prague from May 16th to May 19th 1961, has discussed and approved the reports on the activities and tasks of the TUI presented by the Secretariat. It established the working plan of the TUI until its next session.

The XIth Administrative Committee also noted the appreciation of the international situation given by the XXII. Executive Committee and the XI. session of the General Council of the World Federation of Trade Unions. It approves, without reserve, the appreciations of the WFTU contained in the Resolutions of this body.

1) Towards the Vth World Trade Union Congress.

The Administrative Committee thinks that the TUI must attach the greatest importance to the preparation of the Vth World Trade Union Congress, summoned for December 1961, according to the decision of the XXII. Executive Committee.

Preparations for the Vth World Trade Union Congress must be in the center of the activities of the TUI. The Administrative Committee, therefore, urges the Secretariat of the TUI, the member organisations and the friendly organisations to join their efforts in the preparation and the carrying out of the Vth World Trade Union Congress.

The member organisations are particularly invited to intervene with the organisations not affiliated to the WFTU, with whom they entertain relations, to increase the participation of these organisations in the Vth World Trade Union Congress.

The Secretariat of the TUI must make use of the many contacts it will make, with affiliated organisations, trade union personalities, or with not affiliated organisations, to popularize the aims, the united character and the general characteristics of the Vth World Trade Union Congress, and to assure a broad participation of the workers of our industries in the Congress.

The Administrative Committee reminds that in the center of the preoccupations of the international trade union movement there is the

struggle for the safeguarding and consolidation of Peace. In this regard the XXII. Executive Committee of the WFTU insisted

" on the need to unite all forces of the working class and trade unions in powerful actions:

for a ban on nuclear weapons and an end to the arms drive launched by the imperialist camp;

for the evacuation of imperialist military bases throughout the world which are a permanent danger for peace and a violation of the national independence of the peoples;

for universal and complete disarmament and a policy of peaceful coexistence;

for the end of colonialism everywhere;

for the signing of a Peace Treaty with the two German States and for a free, demilitarized city of West Berlin; for support of the tireless efforts of the trade unions in the German Democratic Republic to unite workers throughout Germany against the remilitarisation and atomic armament of the West German revenge seekers;

for the abrogation of the Japan- US Security Pact which creates tension in the Far East, and support for the magnificent mass campaign of the workers, trade unions and people of Japan."

The acts of the imperialists in this last period, particularly the aggression against Cuba, the intervention in Laos, and South Korea, the pursuing of the Algerian war prove - if it ever was necessary to prove it - that such action is badly needed. These actions also prove that we must redouble our watchfulness because

"imperialism, headed by the United States, is doing everything to halt the progressive march of history and to hinder the developing struggle for national liberation."

(Resolution of the XXII, Session of the Executive Committee of the World Federation of Trade Unions.)

2) The situation in our industries.

The XIth Administrative Committee states that the evolution of the international situation in the chemical, oil and allied industries confirms the statements of the III. World Conference of Leipzig.

In the socialist countries:

In the socialist countries the rhythm of the development of production in our industries surpasses by far that of the capitalist countries which is also exceptional. This development goes in harmony with the increase of production in other industrial sectors, aimed at increasing the prosperity of mankind.

The big successes in the development of economy, technics and science in the USSR and in all socialist countries assure the constant increase of wages, the improvement of the living and working conditions, shorter working hours, a higher cultural standard of the workers.

All these factors show the superiority of the socialist system over the capitalist system in a striking way.

In the countries on the way to progress:

In the countries on the way to progress the development of the chemical, oil and similar industries is a factor of the consolidation of national independence.

In the capitalist countries:

In the capitalist countries the exceptional development of our industries progresses according to the laws of capitalism: the seeking of maximum profits, anarchy, lack of balance, all the elements of the germs of a crisis. We can note already the signs of the capitalist system's being out of breath:

reduction of the oil production in the US, the first petroleum producing country of the world,

stagnation in the rubber industry in Europe,

troubles in the petrochemical industry.

In conformity with the laws of the capitalist regime the domination of monopolies is extended by different means:

cartel agreements;

concentration through the absorption or liquidation of small and medium enterprises and through the merging of big societies;

creation of common subsidiaries for several big societies, on the national as well as on the international level;

The monopolies also extend their power to the ex-colonial countries of Latin America.

The trend of concentration was strengthened in Europe through the creation of the Common Market and the Free Trade Zone.

Like this, there exists the trend to constitute one organised bloc aiming at imposing its law and to oppose a united front against the workers' demands, and aiming at the establishing of the living and working conditions according to those of the workers living in the most disadvantageous conditions.

This state of things resulted in the vigorous reaction of the workers and struggles are increasing considerably.

The Administrative Committee cordially welcomes the many struggles which developed in recent times in our industries, particularly in Belgium, in the United Kingdom, in Italy, in France, in Austria, in Indonesia, in India, Japan, Cuba, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Brasil, Argentina, etc. All these struggles have the full support of our TUI.

There are more struggles and their level is higher. Very often economic struggle is closely connected with political struggle. This is the case in Belgium in fighting against the austerity law; in France the struggle for demands is connected with the struggle for putting an end to the Algerian war. This is also the case in Latin America and in Asia where the struggle for demands is closely connected with the struggle against imperialism and the domination of monopolies.

3) Workers' demands.

The Administrative Committee states once more that the particular task of the TUI is the determination of economic and professional demands common to the workers of all countries, and the coordination of the indispensable united action to make them succeed.

The Administrative Committee insists particularly on:

1. the demands concerning the working hours. The intensification of the rhythm of work, the considerable increase of production per hour express the sharpening of capitalist exploitation. The working conditions become more and more dangerous for the health of the workers, as shown by the recrudescence of accidents on the job and professional diseases, as well as by the many cases of premature permanent invalidity.

This situation imperiously calls for shorter working hours, particularly in our industries.

a) the first thing is to satisfy the demand on the working week of 40 hours in 5 days.

This demand will be satisfied only through the united fight of all workers in the capitalist countries, powerfully encouraged in this action by the achievements of the socialist countries, particularly by the 41-36, respectively 30 hours' week already established in the USSR.

The partial results already attained in certain capitalist countries also inpire to persevere vigorously in this struggle.

b) pensioning at an earlier age,

c) longer paid holidays.

2. But it would be in vain to obtain the satisfaction of these demands if, at the same time, the wages were not, beyond being maintained, substantially increased.

If it would not be like this, the workers would be forced to make overtime work - which must be only exceptional - or they would have to do a second day's work.

3. Particular attention must be paid to the constant struggle for preserving the health of the workers dealing with noxious and dangerous products.

A claim must be formulated hereto: that no new process of manufacture be applied and no new product be manufactured without making at the same time the most thorough research work to find out these dangers and the means to prevent them.

Hereto, the Administrative Committee decides that all member organisations, particularly those of the socialist countries should immediately put at the disposal of the Secretariat all their documentation on the toxicity of the products dealt with in our industries, and the measures of prevention to be applied. This will enable the Secretariat to establish a list of the products, their character and the means of prevention, which will be extremely useful to all organisations, affiliated or not, and to all workers.

4. the struggle for demands involves the full freedom for trade union organisations to fulfil their mission, the free exercise of trade union rights on all levels, and, first of all, on the working place, in the enterprise itself.

The exalting example of the achievements of the socialist countries:

The Administrative Committee stresses that in their struggles the workers of the capitalist countries are mightily encouraged by the achievements of the socialist countries. How could they not be encouraged, when they fix aims to be achieved which have been quite naturally attained in these countries.

The Administrative Committee, therefore, decides that an exact documentation must be very soon forwarded to every organisation, containing the principal indications on the working conditions, legislation, rules and agreements, and on the role of the workers and the trade unions in the enterprises in each socialist country and in every industrial sector.

4) The industrial Commissions.

Implementation of the professional tasks renders necessary the strengthening of the activity of the industrial Commissions which make possible a close approach to reality and laying the basis for rallying all workers and organisations, whether affiliated or not. The Administrative Committee invites the TUI and its members to develop all initiatives aimed at helping the work of the industrial Commissions.

The industrial Commissions must promote the development of professional relations by inviting to their meetings not-affiliated organisations.

The industrial Commissions must also seek the means to organise practical international struggle against the monopolies.

To this end, the Administrative Committee supports the existing initiatives trying to establish contacts between the workers' organisations of the same trusts in Europe and thinks that this is a good way to be followed.

5) Unification of the workers' struggles.

The Administrative Committee examined the appropriate means to unify and to strengthen the struggle of the chemical, oil and allied workers in all countries.

in Europe:

The Common Market.

All our efforts must be aimed at intensifying the action in all

Common Market countries, including those where there are no affiliates: Holland, Belgium, West Germany.

Bearing in mind the overwhelming importance of the chemical industries in Western Germany, the role played by the German chemical monopolies in the outbreak and conducting the second world war, and bearing in mind the role they are still playing in war preparations, the Administrative Committee decides:

a) to remind the workers and public opinion of the acts of the IG Farbenindustrie, using hereby the archives of the Nuremberg process,

to show the role played at present in Western Germany by the members of the IG Farben and the societies born from its pretended decartelisation,

to denounce with vigour, particularly in France and in Italy, the agreements concluded between the various monopolies, and those of Western Germany, material and spiritual successor of the IG Farbenindustrie.

b) that close cooperation between the Federations of the German Democratic Republic, France and Italy must be brought about aiming at establishing with the workers of Western Germany close permanent contacts permitting to develop common actions against the disastrous consequences of the Common Market.

In this connection the Administrative Committee considers that certain statements formulated on the Common Market in the preparatory report of the Dortmund Congress of the Federation of the Chemical, Paper and Pottery Workers of West Germany (July 1960) show the existence of bases for common action.

In this report it states the menace:

that the advantages of the big European Market will be profitable only to the trusts and holdings,

that the Common Market develops to a closed bloc which would worsen the division of Europe; and:

that the reduction of duties does not lead to reduced prices.

These fears seem to us, of course, to be very timidly expressed as we have pointed out from the beginning that these dangers were just the aims fixed by the "constructors" of the Europe of Six.

But it is not less true that the expression of such fears in Dortmund shows that there are common concerns, and, like this, the possibilities of common action.

The Free Trade Zone.

Other European countries are grouped in the Free Trade Zone; and the TUI must make a particular effort to create indispensable relations with the organisations of the Scandinavian countries, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, etc.

By the creation of these relations the existing good relations with the chemical workers of Austria and Finland will be particularly valuable.

in Asia:

The Administrative Committee states the development of our friendly relations with the trade unions of Japan, and foresees to establish closer bonds with these organisations by proposing them to participate in our industrial Commissions.

The Administrative Committee approves the missions foreseen to Indonesia and India, to broaden the relations with these countries.

As to the countries of the Middle East, the TUI must examine how to help the workers of these countries, particularly as to the application of trade union rights practically nonexistent in these countries.

in Africa:

The TUI must give practical help to the African workers.

Particularly, by all means at its disposal, it must help the Algerian people to obtain their independence.

To this end the TUI must support the struggle of the Algerian and French trade unions who met in Geneva last February.

In this fight we must not forget the role of the oil and chemical monopolies, including the German monopolies who want to maintain or extend their domination on the riches of Algeria - particularly the riches of the Sahara - and who, because of this fact, are the main hindrance to the independence of Algeria.

in Latin America:

The Administrative Committee enthusiastically greets the struggle of the oil workers of Cuba, and welcomes the adherence of the oil and chemical workers of Cuba to the TUI. The TUI will give its full support to these trade unions.

The Administrative Committee also welcomes the initiatives of the trade unions of our industries to support the struggle of Cuban workers against American aggression.

The Administrative Committee vigorously condemns this aggression and calls on our workers to act firmly in case of an attempt to renew the aggression.

The example of the nationalisation of the chemical and oil industry in Cuba had enormous repercussions among our workers in the whole of Latin America.

The Administrative Committee welcomes the support of the Latin American workers to the Cuban Revolution who found in this example new strength for their struggle to shake off the rule of the US and to affirm their independence.

At the same time, struggles for demands are larger and the TUI must make efforts to help the trade unions of Latin America, also on the spot, through a delegation of its Secretariat.

6) The International Labour Organisation.

The Administrative Committee notes the activities of the TUI and of its affiliates within the commissions of the ILO.

It considers that in the next future the TUI must broaden its activities within this body, particularly on the occasion of the next chemical commission, where we note the presence of two new countries, the USSR and Poland.

The Administrative Committee charges the Secretariat to intervene with the ILO to summon tripartite meetings of the representatives of the paper, rubber, glass and pottery industry.

7) The publications of the Trade Unions International.

The most solid bonds and the most fruitful relations are those established from man to man.

However, the Administrative Committee meetings, the Commission meetings, the visits of the Secretariat, the exchanges of delegations between the different countries cannot be so frequent as to ensure permanent relations.

To guarantee this permanence, it is indispensable that the TUI make a big effort concerning its publications.

These publications must be of two kinds:

a) the periodical information bulletin, dealing with the life of the TUI and its affiliates, or not affiliates, the struggles, successes and difficulties of the workers.

To enable the Secretariat to publish such a Bulletin, to make it rich and interesting, it is absolutely necessary that all affiliates and, in the first place, the members of the Administrative Committee and of the Commissions furnish the most important information in due course.

b) special bulletins or booklets, dealing with a determined subject:

For the sake of publishing such bulletins and booklets it is indispensable

on the one hand, that the Secretariat and the affiliates make useful suggestions,

on the other hand, that the Secretariat, responsible for the editions, appeal to the members of the Administrative Committee and the affiliates to cooperate; this cooperation must be granted without reserve.

D E C I S I O N

of the XIth Administrative Committee of the Trade Unions International of the Chemical, Oil and Allied workers on the affiliation of Cuba.

(Prague, May 16-19, 1961)

The XIth Administrative Committee, after examining the demands of affiliation of the Chemical and Oil Workers' Federations of Cuba, declares that it is glad to accept these new affiliations.

The Administrative Committee avails itself of this opportunity to congratulate our workers in Cuba for their magnificent struggle for political, economic and social independence.

The Administrative Committee stresses the importance of the Cuban Revolution and of its achievements, an unprecedented example for all workers of Latin America struggling for political, economic and social independence.

The Cuban Revolution showed that it was possible for the peoples and workers of Latin America to wage a victorious fight against the American monopolies and imperialism.

The workers of our industries welcome the victory of the Cuban workers against the forces of American aggression; our workers who vigorously opposed this aggression affirm that they will do everything in their power in case American imperialism wanted to repeat this attempt.

The Administrative Committee decides to offer a place within the Administrative Committee to the workers of our industries in Cuba as to their being represented in this body.

On the proposal of the Cuban trade unions, the candidature of José Antonio Domínguez, General Secretary of the National Federation of the Chemical and Similar Industries' Workers of Cuba, is approved.

D E C I S I O N

of the XIth Administrative Committee of the Trade Unions International of the Chemical, Oil and Allied Workers on trade union liberties in Iraq.

(Prague, May 16-19, 1961)

The XIth Administrative Committee, being informed of the situation of the oil workers and their organisations in Iraq, and of the measures taken by the Government against the Oil Workers' Federation of Iraq, states that

- anti-democratic measures were taken against this Federation resulting in the dissolution of its legal leading body, and its being replaced by a leading body loyal to the Government;

- the Administrative Committee deems such practices as illegal and violating the most elementary democratic and trade union rights;

- the Administrative Committee denies the right of any Government to substitute itself to the workers for the choice of the orientation of their trade unions and for the choice of their leaders;

the Administrative Committee supports the initiatives of the World Federation of Trade Unions for establishing real trade union rights in Iraq and for reestablishing all the trade union rights conquered by the workers in their fights against the oil monopolies and against tyranny;

the Administrative Committee protests against the repressive measures applied against the Oil Workers' Federation of Iraq and demands the setting free of the arrested trade union leaders and members.

D E C I S I O N

of the XIth Administrative Committee of the Trade Unions International of the Chemical, Oil and Allied Workers on the balance of the year 1960, the budget for 1961, and on the report of the Auditing Commission.

(Prague, May 16-19, 1961)

After hearing the report of the Secretariat on the budgetary questions, the balance of 1960 and the budget for 1961 the Administrative Committee of the Trade Unions International approves the financial administration of the TUI as well as the budget for 1961.

The Administrative Committee also approves the report of the Auditing Commission on the financial activities of the TUI,

It charges the Secretariat of the TUI to conform itself, in its working plan for 1961, to the provisions in this budget.

No.219/61

Dear Com. Sundaram,

Your letter. We have already advised our State TUCs - West Bengal, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi and Tamilnad about the visit of Com. Vanhaute and Com. Pal.

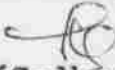
They have been requested to contact you directly inform you whatever they may like to suggest in the matter of Com. Vanhaute's programme.

I believe that will be done by the STUCs.

Com. KG is not here.

With greetings,

Yours fraternally,


(Sadhan Mukherjee)

LT

GEORGE VANHAUTE
TRADEUNION INTERNATIONAL CHEMICAL OIL WORKERS
BUDAPEST 76

(HUNGARY)

VISA GRANTED CONTACT INDIAN EMBASSY BUDAPEST
CONFIRM RECEIPT AND ARRIVAL DATE

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Recd on
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at 6:22