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THE WORLD BANK

Washington, D.C.

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The World Bank

1818 H Street NW

Washington DC 20433

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 Liaison - International Confederation of Free Trade Unions - Volume 01



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RETURN TO  
GENERAL FILES



President :  
ARNE GEIJER

General Secretary :  
O. BECU

(to whom all communications  
should be addressed)

Our ref. : REL/mb

Your ref. : .....

# INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS

*Internat. Conf. of Free Trade Unions*  
Telephone :  
11.53.45 - 11.96.15 - 11.98.25  
Telegrams :  
INTERCONFED, BRUSSELS  
Bankers :  
BANQUE DE BRUXELLES  
Agence Lombard Acc. 5779

24, rue du Lombard  
Brussels 1 (Belgium) 9 January 1963

In reply please quote :  
Circular No. 1 (1963)

TO ALL AFFILIATED ORGANISATIONS  
TO ALL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS  
TO ALL REGIONAL ORGANISATIONS  
AND OFFICES  
TO ALL INTERNATIONAL TRADE  
SECRETARIATS  
TO CERTAIN OTHER INTERNATIONAL  
ORGANISATIONS

Dear Friends,

New ICFTU Headquarters Building

PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS

As from Monday 21 January 1963, the entire ICFTU Headquarters secretariat will be occupying new premises situated in the centre of Brussels. The new address, to which all future correspondence should be sent, will be :

37-47, rue Montagne aux Herbes Potagères

Bruxelles 1

Belgique

Telephone : 17.80.85

Telegrams : INTERCONFED, Brussels

Yours sincerely,



General Secretary

1963 JAN 25 11 21 AM  
RECEIVED

RECEIVED  
GENERAL FILES  
CORRESPONDENCE

1963 JAN 22 AM 9:11

GENERAL SECRETARY

Don't miss it!

Telephone : 13-80-82

Teletype : INTERCOMED' Brussels

Belgium

Brussels 1

22-43' rue Montagne aux Herbes Potagères

Correspondence should be sent, with the  
the centre of Brussels. The new address, to which all future corre-  
spondence should be sent, will be occupying new premises situated in  
as from Monday 27 January 1963, the entire ICFLU head-

NEW ICFLU HEADQUARTERS BUILDING

PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW ADDRESS

Dear Friends,

- ORGANISATIONS
- TO SECRETARIES OF INTERNATIONAL
- SECRETARIATES
- TO ALL INTERNATIONAL LEADS
- AND OFFICES
- TO ALL REGIONAL ORGANISATIONS
- TO ALL EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS
- TO ALL AFFILIATED ORGANISATIONS

OPTIONAL NO. 1 (1963)  
in reply please quote :

Brussels 1 (Belgium) 27 January 1963  
24, rue de Commerce

Don't miss it!

Our ref : **BEF\wp**

Special Secretary :

**O. BERT**

President :

**YVIE SIEFF**

President :

# OF FREE TRADE UNIONS INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION

Address : 24, rue de Commerce  
Brussels 1

INTERCOMED' Brussels  
Teletype :

13-80-82 - 13-80-82 - 13-80-82  
Telephone :

*Handwritten notes and signatures at the bottom right.*

*League Int. Confederation of  
Free Trade U.*

September 24, 1962

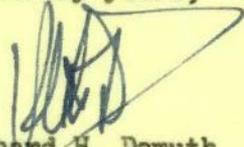
Mr. Omer Becu  
General Secretary  
International Confederation of  
Free Trade Unions  
24, rue du Lombard  
Bruxelles 1, Belgium

Dear Mr. Becu:

Mr. Black has asked me to acknowledge receipt of your letter of September 17 enclosing a statement which the ICFTU issued in connection with the Annual Meeting of the Governors of the World Bank and the IMF.

As you know, Mr. Black, in his annual address to the Governors, made a strong plea for an increase in the IDA resources and the Governors adopted a resolution calling upon the Executive Directors of the Association to study this matter promptly.

Sincerely yours,



Richard H. Demuth  
Director  
Development Services Department

RHD:tf

*Liaison Int. Confederation  
of Free Trade U.*

<b>ICFTU</b>	INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS
<b>CISL</b>	CONFEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES SYNDICATS LIBRES
<b>IBFG</b>	INTERNATIONALER BUND FREIER GEWERKSCHAFTEN
<b>CIOSL</b>	CONFEDERACION INTERNACIONAL DE ORGANIZACIONES SINDICALES LIBRES

President - Président Präsident - Presidente <b>Arne GEIJER</b>
---

ESP/jb

24, rue du Lombard,  
Bruxelles 1, Belgique.

17 September 1962

General Secretary - Secrétaire général Generalsekretär - Secretario General <b>Omer BECU</b>
--

Mr. Eugene R. Black  
 President  
 International Bank for Reconstruction  
 and Development  
 1818 H Street, N.W.  
WASHINGTON 25 D.C.  
 USA

Sir,

Aid to developing countries

I have the honour to bring to your attention a statement which we have issued today in connection with the annual meeting of the governing bodies of the World Bank and its associated institutions and the International Monetary Fund.

I should be grateful if you would do what you can to see to it that the most sympathetic consideration is given to this statement, particularly in so far as it concerns the World Bank and the International Development Association.

Yours faithfully



General Secretary

Encl

SEP 20 1962

*ack Sept 24*

RECEIVED  
GENERAL SECRET

1962 SEP 19 11 41 AM

*the staff*

SECRET

GENERAL SECRETARY

LOUIS IAFFRINELLA

Association

In so far as it concerns the World Bank and the international development the most sympathetic consideration is given to this statement, particularly

I should be grateful if you would do what you can to see to it that

Monetary Fund

policy of the World Bank and its associated institutions and the international we have issued today in connection with the annual meeting of the governing

I have the honor to bring to your attention a statement which

and to developing countries

BT

URV

WASHINGTON 22 D.C.

1010 H Street, N.W.

and Development

INTERNATIONAL BANK FOR RECONSTRUCTION

PRESIDENT

MR. EUGENE W. BLACK

Bruxelles 1, Belgique

19 September 1962

24 rue de Commerce

OMEL BECU	
Generalsekretär	- Secretario General
General Secretary	- Secrétaire Générale

ALMO CEITER	
Präsident	- Presidente
President	- Presidente

ESP/JP

C I O 2 T	CONFEDERACION INTERNACIONAL DE ORGANIZACIONES SINDICALES LIBRES
I B E C	INTERNATIONALE BUND VRIJER CEWERKSGHAPTEN
C I 2 T	CONFEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES SYNDICATS LIBRES
I C E I U	INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS

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# Press and Radio Service

OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS

## ICFTU CALLS FOR MORE DEVELOPMENT AID

On the occasion of the annual meetings of the governing bodies of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund in Washington from 17 to 21 September 1962, Omer Becu, General Secretary of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, has addressed an urgent appeal to these two bodies to take action to increase the flow of financial assistance to the developing countries.

The ICFTU has for several years been advocating that the industrial countries should regard one per cent of their national income as an indispensable minimum contribution from public sources to economic and social progress in the developing countries. The target has not yet been reached, however, by most industrial countries, and a resolution of the ICFTU Seventh World Congress (Berlin, July 1962) urged the governments concerned to take steps to increase the flow of aid to developing countries with a view to achieving the target as soon as possible.

"The Washington meetings provide the opportunity for such action", Mr. Becu declared. "The ICFTU believes that there is an especially urgent need for increased aid from international sources and that this should include an extension of loans from international institutions with easier terms of repayment and reduced rates of interest as compared with loans on ordinary banking terms in order to lessen the burden which repayment of debts imposes on the economies of developing countries."

"We therefore call for an expansion of the activities of the International Development Association which was established for the very purpose of making such so-called 'soft' loans, and consequently for a sizeable immediate increase in its resources. We also appeal to the World Bank to modify its own lending policies so as to be able to make loans at substantially lower rates of interest and with longer periods of grace before repayment becomes due than at present. At the same time, we call upon the International Monetary Fund to continue to work for the necessary expansion of international monetary reserves and to liberalise its operations, particularly with a view to assisting developing countries."

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PRS/mfm - Com. 43/62

17 September 1962

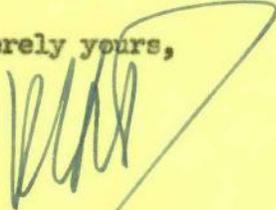
December 20, 1961

Mr. H. A. Tulatz  
Assistant General Secretary  
Confederation Internationale  
Des Syndicats Libres  
24, rue du Lombard  
Bruxelles 1, Belgique

Dear Mr. Tulatz:

Mr. Black has asked me to acknowledge receipt of your letter of December 11, 1961, enclosing a copy of a resolution on the contributions of the international financial institutions to economic development adopted by the ICFTU Executive Board at its 30th meeting in Brussels.

Sincerely yours,



Richard H. Demuth  
Director  
Development Services Department

SEBoskey:ml

ICFTU  
CISL  
IBFG  
CIOSL

INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS  
CONFEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES SYNDICATS LIBRES  
INTERNATIONALER BUND FREIER GEWERKSCHAFTEN  
CONFEDERACION INTERNACIONAL DE ORGANIZACIONES SINDICALES LIBRES

President - Président  
Präsident - Presidente  
**Arne GEIJER**

ES/md

24, rue du Lombard,

Bruxelles 1, Belgique.

11 December 1961

General Secretary - Secrétaire général  
Generalsekretär - Secretario General  
**Omer BECU**

Mr. Eugene R. Black  
President  
International Bank for Reconstruction  
and Development  
1818 H Street, N.W.  
Washington 25 D.C.

Sir,

Resolution of ICFTU Executive Board

I have the honour to bring to your attention a resolution on the contributions of the international financial institutions to economic development which was adopted by the ICFTU Executive Board at its 30th meeting (Brussels, 30 October - 2 November 1961).

I should be grateful if you would give sympathetic consideration to the resolution and particularly to that part which concerns the activities of the World Bank.

Yours faithfully,



H.A. Tulatz  
Assistant General Secretary

Encls: 1

ack Dec 20

INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS

EXECUTIVE BOARD

Brussels, 30 October - 2 November 1961

RESOLUTION ON THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS  
TO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The Executive Board, having considered the contributions of the international financial institutions to economic development in developing countries,

STATES with satisfaction that the views of the free trade union movement about the need for substantial contributions from public sources of the industrial countries to the financing of economic and social development plans have come to be widely accepted by governments and international organisations;

NOTES, however, with deep concern that the funds being made available for these purposes by the international financial institutions have failed to increase adequately to meet the needs of the developing countries;

DECLARES that there is an urgent need for an extension of loans from international institutions with easier terms of repayment and reduced rates of interest in order to alleviate the burden which repayment of debts imposes on the economies of developing countries;

WELCOMES the commencement of activities in this field by the International Development Association, but regrets that its resources are much too small for the task, and calls for a sizeable increase in these resources;

URGES the Board of Governors of the World Bank to modify its lending policies so that it may give loans at substantially lower rates of interest and with longer periods of grace before repayment of the loan becomes due; and

CALLS UPON the Executive Directors of the International Monetary Fund to seek a substantial expansion in the Fund's regular resources by an increase in the quotas of member countries and to liberalise the conditions on which drawings on the Fund are permitted and grants of stand-by credits are given.

RECEIVED  
BANK MAIL ROOM  
1961 DEC 15 AM 8:38

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20540

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Faint, mostly illegible text, likely a memorandum or report, containing several paragraphs of text. The text is mirrored and appears to be bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. Some words like "UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE" and "INTERNATIONAL TRADE ADMINISTRATION" are faintly visible.

January 31, 1961

Dear Mr. Becu:

In the absence of Mr. Black I have pleasure in acknowledging your letter of January 27, 1961, enclosing a copy of a resolution adopted by the second Asian Transport Workers' Conference during their session last November.

The Bank has been active in financing transport development in many Asian countries and expects to continue doing so. We also will be inaugurating in the near future loan operations of the Bank's new affiliate, the International Development Association, and we have no doubt that this institution will also be providing substantial sums for the development of transport facilities in the Asian countries. We are particularly interested in the problem of achieving maximum coordination and integration among the different forms of transportation, and considerations of this kind are taken fully into account in reviewing loan proposals.

Sincerely yours,

J. Burke Knapp  
Vice President

Mr. Omer Becu  
General Secretary  
International Confederation of  
Free Trade Unions  
24, rue du Lombard  
Brussels 1, Belgium

 JBK/ep/jb

President :

Arne GEIJER

General Secretary : Omer Becu

~~J. H. OLDENBROEK~~

(to whom all communications should be addressed)

Our ref. : ES/B/md - 19

Your ref. : .....

# INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS

*Liaison ICFTU*

Telephone :

11.53.45 - 11.96.15 - 11.98.25

Telegrams :

INTERCONFED, BRUSSELS

Bankers :

BANQUE DE BRUXELLES

Agence Lombard Acc. 5779

JAN 30 REC'D

24, rue du Lombard,

Brussels-1, (Belgium)

27 January 1961.....

Mr. Eugene R. Black,  
President,  
International Bank for Reconstruction  
and Development,  
Washington 25, D.C.  
U.S.A.

Dear Mr. Black,

I have the honour to draw your attention to a resolution on transport policy and planning in Asia which was adopted by the second Asian Transport Workers' Conference convened by the International Transport Workers' Federation. The International Transport Workers' Federation is an International Trade Secretariat associated with the ICFTU.

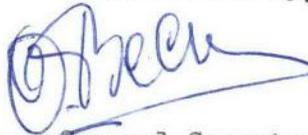
The conference, which was held in Kuala Lumpur from 7 to 11 November 1960, was attended by delegates from 22 trade unions in nine Asian countries representing close to one million transport workers (seafarers, dockers, and inland transport workers).

The resolution, copy of which I am enclosing, holds that government investment in transport - to be financed by long-term low-interest loans - should have high priority but should be based on "planning of the utmost care so as to prevent wasteful parrallelism and imbalance in developments, with premature expansion on the one hand and neglect on the other."

We are sure that the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development as well as the International Development Association can play an essential part in fostering transport investment based on the principles enunciated by the Asian Transport Workers' Conference.

We should be grateful to you for any observations you may wish to make on the resolution and we should be glad to inform the International Transport Workers' Federation of your views.

Yours sincerely,



General Secretary

*ack Jan 31*

Encls: 1

Policy and  
Resolution on Transport/Planning in Asia  
adopted by the Second ITF Asian Transport  
Workers' Conference

( 7 - 11 November 1960 )

The Second Asian Transport Workers' Conference of the I.T.F. held in Kuala Lumpur, Federation of Malaya, from 7th to 11th November 1960,

IS OF THE OPINION that investment by governments in basic services and facilities such as transport, should have high priority among measures to secure well-balanced social and economic development in the countries of Asia and that such investment should not only be adequate but that loans should be made over a long term and at low rates of interest. The development of an efficient transport system embracing railways, roads, inland waterways, ports and airfields is one of the most important tasks in laying a foundation on which a vigorous economy can be built. The Conference

CONSIDERS that in giving priority to transport it is essential that there should be planning of the utmost care so as to prevent wasteful parallelism and an imbalance in development, with premature expansion on the one hand and neglect on the other;

IN VIEW OF the complex pattern of the transport industry as a whole, wherein public ownership prevails in some branches, whilst in others private undertakings make use of facilities provided by public funds, such as roads, inland waterways, ports and airfields,

IS CONVINCED that it is imperative to set up in every country either a statutory regulatory authority, with the task of co-ordinating investment, services and available capacity so as to provide effective and reliable transport services at the lowest possible cost to the national economy, or to integrate the whole transport industry into a transportation enterprise owned by or under the direction of the government, thus eliminating wasteful competition and the mushroom-like growth of small privately-owned undertakings which, as experience in advanced countries clearly proves, pay no regard to social requirements or safety of operation;

EXPRESSES ITS HIGH APPRECIATION to the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East for its activities in the field of transport in general and transport co-ordination in particular, which, with considerable assistance from the International Labour Organization, the United Nations Technical Assistance Administration and other specialized agencies, should make it possible, notwithstanding the manifold vested interests such as the motor manufacturing industry, road construction undertakings and the oil industry, to avert the unhappy experiences of commercialization and cut-throat competition in transport which, with their deplorable social repercussions, have afflicted advanced countries;

APPEALS TO ASIAN GOVERNMENTS to participate fully in the work of all official international organizations and calls particularly upon the I.T.F.'s affiliated organizations in Asia to take an active interest in the work of those bodies, bearing in mind that the terms of reference of the Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East empower that body to deal with the social aspects of economic development and the inter-relationship of economic development and social factors; and

CALLS UPON THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE I.T.F. to ensure, in consultation with the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, that it obtains full information on the activities of E.C.A.F.E. and other international governmental organizations in Asia, so as to be able to give the unions appropriate advice on matters of concern to them.

1961 MAR 30 10:51

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*Trans - Int'l Conf. Free Trade Unions*

January 25, 1960

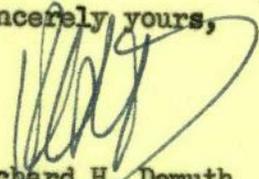
Your ref.: ES/B/md

Mr. J. H. Oldenbroek  
General Secretary  
International Confederation of  
Free Trade Unions  
24 rue du Lombard  
Brussels 1, Belgium

Dear Mr. Oldenbroek:

I want to acknowledge receipt of and to thank you for your letter of January 5 to Mr. Black, enclosing a copy of two statements adopted by the Sixth World Congress of the ICFTU. We have examined both statements with interest. I note that you are sending the Bank, under separate cover, a copy of a study on the subject of foreign investment in the economically underdeveloped countries which forms the basis of the statement adopted on that subject. We will examine this document when it arrives and, if we have any comments we then wish to make on the study, I will communicate with you again.

Sincerely yours,



Richard H. Demuth  
Director

Technical Assistance and Liaison Staff

RHD:tf

President :

Arne GEIJER

General Secretary :

J. H. OLDENBROEK

(to whom all communications should be addressed)

Our ref : ES/B/md

Your ref : .....

# INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS

Telephone :

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Telegrams :

INTERCONFED, BRUSSELS

Bankers :

BANQUE DE BRUXELLES

Agence Lombard Acc. 5779

JAN 11 REC'D

24, rue du Lombard,  
Brussels-1, (Belgium)

5 January 1960

Mr. Eugene Black,  
President,  
International Bank for Reconstruction  
and Development,  
1818 H Street, N.W.  
Washington 25 D.C.

*Mr. Demuth  
Any  
Comments?  
EHS*

Dear Sir,

Foreign Investment in Economically Underdeveloped Countries

I should like to bring to your notice a statement setting out the views of the free trade unions on the subject of foreign investment in economically underdeveloped countries which was adopted by our Sixth World Congress held in Brussels from 3 to 11 December 1959. The statement was the outcome of a study on this subject which was submitted to our Sixth World Congress and which has now been published. Copy of the statement is enclosed and a copy of the study will be sent you under separate cover.

I would particularly draw your attention to paragraphs 12 and 13 of the statement which refer to the International Bank and to other international institutions supplying funds for economic development, and to the reference which has been made to the International Bank in Chapters VII and VIII of the study. I would welcome any comments you may wish to make on either the statement or the study.

I am also enclosing for your information copy of a statement which was adopted by our Congress on the achievement of a dynamic world economy in the fight against poverty.

Yours faithfully,

*J. H. Oldenbroek*  
General Secretary

Encls: 2

INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS

SIXTH WORLD CONGRESS

Palais des Congrès, Brussels, 3-11 December 1959

STATEMENT ON FOREIGN INVESTMENT  
IN ECONOMICALLY UNDERDEVELOPED COUNTRIES

After having examined the problems of foreign investment in economically underdeveloped countries, the Congress

1. states with dismay that the gap between the extremely low living standards in economically underdeveloped countries and the standards in industrially advanced countries is still widening;
2. insists, as an essential prerequisite of any substantial improvement in living standards, upon rapid economic and social development in the underdeveloped countries, which in turn requires large investments of capital funds;
3. observes that, due to the low living standards of the populations, domestic savings and investments cannot in the immediate future be expected to be sufficiently large to meet the requirements of rapid development, and
4. is of the opinion that an immediate substantial increase in domestic savings would in the present circumstances require sacrifices from the working population of a magnitude which it could not bear and that, therefore, and in order to promote a democratic development, a very considerable influx of foreign capital funds for investment purposes is indispensable.
5. The Congress notes that the needs for foreign investment, as reflected in the development plans of various underdeveloped countries and as they can be estimated in a general way, can be met to a very limited extent only by the present influx of capital funds from abroad and that a considerable increase in foreign investments is required to meet these needs more adequately.
6. For these reasons and in view of the fact that public investment - from governments and intergovernmental organisations - constitutes the bulk of foreign capital funds which flow into underdeveloped countries and that, contrary to private investment, their supply depends on political decisions, the Congress appeals to all governments in industrially advanced countries to increase to a very substantial degree, be it through contributions to international institutions or directly, the flow of public capital funds into economically underdeveloped countries.
7. While it should be recognised that certain industrially advanced countries have already been making noteworthy contributions to meeting the needs of economically underdeveloped countries for foreign investment, the World Economic Conference of Free Trade Unions has found, and the study undertaken by the ICFTU Secretariat has confirmed, that an annual contribution for this purpose from public funds of one per cent of the national incomes of industrially advanced countries should be considered an indispensable minimum.
8. Although foreign investment from private sources can by its very nature be expected to benefit only a limited number of industries, its contribution to economic development can be valuable and should be encouraged by various methods; it must, however, be understood that foreign investors should be fully aware of their social and economic obligations.

9. In view of the huge development tasks which economically underdeveloped countries have to face, foreign investors must be expected to reinvest reasonable proportions of net revenues from their capital invested in these countries.
10. Whereas all employers of labour, domestic or foreign, should be made to abide by fair labour standards and working conditions and to recognise the workers' collective bargaining rights, foreign investors must be expected to give a lead in establishing improved working and living conditions.
11. The Congress holds that financial aid from intergovernmental sources constitutes the most desirable form of development assistance and expresses its regret at the fact that these sources have not yet been adequate for the purpose.
12. The Congress welcomes the fact that the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the chief instrument for international financial assistance for economic development, has increased the scope of its operations and decided to widen its capital basis; that the United Nations has established a Special Fund to assist underdeveloped countries in preparatory measures for development projects; and that under the sponsorship of the International Bank, an International Development Association will be founded, designed to give financial assistance for basic development projects on the most favourable terms.
13. The Congress expresses the hope that the governments of the economically advanced countries will endeavour to give sufficient financial support to these institutions in order to enable them to meet the needs of the underdeveloped countries for adequate international assistance in their economic development efforts.
14. The Congress notes with satisfaction that a beginning has been made with supplementing the existing international development institutions by regional organisations and hopes that further institutions of this kind will be created and that governments of economically advanced countries will associate themselves with them and make substantial contributions to their capital funds.
15. The Congress is aware that even in the wealthiest countries neither the labour movement nor the cooperative movement disposes of considerable funds available for investment abroad, but it expresses the hope that as far as possible these organisations will also make contributions to development plans in those fields on which their activities are concentrated and in which their contributions would be most desirable and effective.
16. The Congress states that the influx of foreign capital into economically underdeveloped countries can be of lasting benefit to these countries only if they make all efforts themselves to create favourable conditions for economic and social progress, particularly by developing and securing democratic institutions, modern economic and social legislation, full trade union rights, and adequate educational and public health institutions.
17. The Congress also holds that in order to narrow and ultimately close the gap between the need for and the domestic supply of capital funds, the underdeveloped countries will have to make all efforts to increase domestic savings and investments, particularly by rational and equitable tax systems and by the development of appropriate savings institutions.
18. The Congress further emphasises the imperative need for balanced economic development, especially for a proper balance between economic and social investments, between investments for the development of the infrastructure and of industry, between agriculture and all other industries, as well as between particular industries, and in this connection points particularly to the urgent need for diversification of industries in all those instances in which the economy of a country at present depends on one or very few industries.

19. The Congress declares that the concept of democracy requires that the working population, particularly through the trade unions, be given the opportunity to participate actively in the planning and execution of all development plans and in the work of all public development institutions; and
  20. addresses an urgent appeal to all international and regional organisations concerned, to the governments and parliaments of all economically advanced and underdeveloped countries, and to all free trade unions to make the most serious efforts to help effectively in the implementation of this programme of action for economic development and social progress.
-

INTERNATIONAL CONFEDERATION OF FREE TRADE UNIONS

SIXTH WORLD CONGRESS

Palais des Congrès, Brussels, 3-11 December 1959

STATEMENT ON THE ACHIEVEMENT OF A DYNAMIC WORLD ECONOMY

IN THE FIGHT AGAINST POVERTY

The Sixth World Congress of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, meeting in Brussels, 3-11 December 1959,

- DECLARES that it is profoundly disturbed at the fact that hundreds of millions of workers, composing the majority of the world's population, live in conditions of appalling poverty, lacking adequate standards of food, clothing, housing, medical care and other essential elements of a decent existence;
- DEPLORES the slow rate of economic progress in the economically underdeveloped countries, a consequence of which is that the gap between the standards of living in the wealthier countries and those in the underdeveloped countries is continuously increasing;
- INSISTS that, in spite of recent increases in the flow of financial aid from governments and international institutions and in private foreign investment, the problem of raising the living standards of the people of the economically underdeveloped countries is still not being treated with anything like the energy and the urgency that it requires;
- CONDEMNNS the failure of the governments of leading industrialised countries to maintain consistently policies of full employment and economic growth, thereby accentuating the difficulties of the countries producing primary commodities and causing acute distress to many millions of workers in their own and in other countries;
- INSISTS that technological advance, including such developments as the introduction of automation and the application of atomic energy, which makes possible steadily rising productivity must reflect itself in increasing living standards;
- DRAWS ATTENTION to the fact that such technological advance is frequently giving rise to serious problems for many workers in the field of employment, and that these require urgent solutions on the basis of a consistent full employment policy;
- STRESSES the compelling need for the world community to find workable guarantees for ending the use of the atom for military purposes in order to release this new source of energy for peaceful purposes only;
- EMPHASISES that in the use of atomic energy there must be full regard for the health and safety of the workers concerned, and that the industrialised countries must take steps to enable the economically underdeveloped countries to share in the application and benefits of it;
- DRAWS ATTENTION to the important problems of international trade which face countries at different stages of economic development, including the fact that the export trade of the economically underdeveloped countries (particularly countries producing primary commodities) is failing to expand as fast as that of the industrialised countries and the fact that industrialised countries are being subjected to increased competition in trade from countries which have lower wage rates but which may be using the same technology;

ENDORSES the proposals contained in the statement on world economic problems adopted by the World Economic Conference of Free Trade Unions (Geneva, 18-19 March 1959);

WELCOMES in particular the paragraphs advocating a minimum contribution by wealthy countries of one per cent of their national income for the development of economically backward countries and calling for measures by countries with adequate monetary reserves to stimulate imports of commodities and exports of capital;

CALLS UPON all affiliated organisations to do all in their power to persuade their governments to act upon those proposals, and in particular to urge their governments

1) to cooperate with other governments in concerted measures to eliminate obstacles to international trade and indeed to expand international trade for the benefit of all while ensuring that such trade is based upon the maintenance of international fair labour standards;

2) to devote their full energies domestically to the problems of maintaining full employment and economic growth, by ensuring that the fruits of new industrial developments flowing from automation, technological advance and the application of atomic energy, rather than leading to large-scale unemployment, lead to rising living standards generally and are used as a positive force by the industrialised nations in their efforts to assist the economically underdeveloped countries; and

3) to join with the governments of other nations, through the United Nations and appropriate Specialised Agencies in an all-out effort to end poverty, ignorance, disease and the exploitation of labour so that all people everywhere may share in the higher living standards, greater educational opportunities, individual fulfilment and a fuller measure of meaningful leisure that developing technology makes possible.



g.v. Conf  
✓ X 14 AM

Mr. Davidson Sommers

April 10, 1959

W.A.B. Iliff

International Conference of Free Trade Unions

I shall be grateful if you will look at this correspondence and then perhaps we could discuss it.

I hope this is not the beginning of a campaign for the resurrection of the Advisory Council.

It occurs to me that it might be worth our while to consider whether we should invite a representative of the Confederation to attend as an observer at the Annual Meeting of the Bank Board of Governors.

} X 14 AM

Presumably the Confederation have taken up the same questions with the Fund. I have not checked on this.

WAB Iliff/eb

Leasi - 9th Aug -  
9th Contd. of F.T.U.  
✓ X 14 AM.

Mr. W.L. Bennet

September 11, 1959

M.M. Mendels *mm*

International Confederation of Free Trade Unions

Following our conversation I return herewith the Bank's General File on the above, together with letter dated July 24, 1959. Messrs. Braunthal, Kemsley and Seidman called on Messrs. Black and Knapp yesterday.

Nothing was said about the attendance at the Annual Meeting but I suggest you list Messrs. Braunthal and Kemsley as accepted guests. You might check this by telephone with Mr. Seidman.

It was agreed at yesterday's discussions that Messrs. Braunthal and Kemsley will be placed on the Bank's maximum mailing list to receive reports, press releases etc. Please arrange that this is done and have advice go to both that they will be on this mailing list for the future.