



TWARO 53rd EC Meeting ~ Summary of Decisions

The 53rd Executive Committee Meeting of TWARO, presided by TWARO President Shimada, was held on 26-27 September 2007 in Pondicherry, India. It was attended by all the TWARO Executive Committee members except the member from Pakistan. Brother Neil Kearney, General Secretary of ITGLWF, also participated in the Meeting.

Among the speakers who addressed the Opening on 26 September 2007 were Brother Shimada, President of TWARO; Brother V. R. Jaganathan, General Secretary of INGLWF; Brother Noriyuki Suzuki, General Secretary of ITUC-Asia Pacific; and Mr. Rangasamy, Hon. Chief Minister of Pondicherry.

The Meeting agreed to issue Resolution on Burma condemning the Military Junta in the country for the recent suppression and assault against the peaceful protestors and the unfair punishment against the six labor activists who tried to conduct a training program for workers. The EC entrusted the TWARO Secretariat to draft the text of the Resolution and send it to the military government in Burma on behalf of the 2.4 million membership of TWARO. For the details of the resolution, please see attached. Also, a resolution submitted by Indian National Textile Workers' Federation (INTWF) on improving poor working conditions in textile industry in Tamil Nadu was adopted.

With regard to the future activities of TWARO, the meeting endorsed a program of activities for the next year which included among others the followings: - (a) TWARO South Asian Young Leaders Training Course to take place in August 2008; (b) National women workshops including Cambodia, Jordan, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Vietnam; (c) Social Dialogue with Sporting Brands Companies and their suppliers to improve working conditions of workers manufacturing sporting brands goods, in conjunction with Beijing Olympics to be held in 2008.

The meeting also agreed that there should be a format for a project proposal to be submitted to TWARO for possible funding. The format will be prepared by TWARO Secretariat. From 2008, those affiliates that conduct activities assisted by TWARO will be requested to bear 5% of the total project cost.



As to the request by the TWARO Women's Committee to make sure that more than half of the participants to the next TWARO South Asian Young Leaders Training Course to be women, the Meeting agreed that the TWARO Secretariat pay particular attention to the gender balance of the nominees.

Following consultations with our Australian affiliate, TCFUA, the Meeting decided to hold the next 54th TWARO EC Meeting in Sydney in the week of 15 September 2008. In conjunction with the 54th TWARO EC Meeting, it was also agreed to hold the TWARO Women's Committee Meeting.

In the afternoon of the 1st day of the Meeting, Brother Doug Miller, the MNC Project Coordinator of ITGLWF, briefed on "PlayFair 2008", a major international campaign taking place in the lead up to the 2008 Olympic Games to push for respect for workers' rights in the global sporting goods industry. During the discussion on the campaign, it was proposed that the ITGLWF/TWARO should arrange a dialogue with sporting brands in Hong Kong.

During the 2-day Executive Committee Meeting, half a day was devoted to three Discussion Sessions under the following themes:-

- (1) Impact of WorkChoices and Union Campaign in Australia
- (2) Textile Industry and Unionization Development in India
- (3) Migrant Workers in Jordan

Some of the other important decisions taken by the Meeting were:-

1. Approved the TWARO Activities Report from November 2006 to August 2007
2. Approved the TWARO Financial and Auditors Reports for 2006
3. Approved the TWARO Budget for 2008



Appendix

TWARO 53rd Executive Committee Meeting **26-27 September 2007, Pondicherry**

Resolution on Burma Adopted by Meeting

53rd TWARO Executive Committee Meeting held in Pondicherry, India,

Noting with serious concern the recent suppression and assaults on demonstrators led by monks which resulted in killing of people,

Concerned that in spite of strong international pressures exerted on Burmese junta, there is no sign for democracy,

On the contrary, the military junta sentenced 6 labor activists, who were planning to conduct training to prison up to 28 years,

Condemning any form of violence to people who are exercising their rights in a peaceful manner,

Demanding the military junta to stop using forces against people unfairly,

Calling upon the military junta to take all necessary steps to restore democracy in Burma,

Pledge all the support for the people of Burma in their demand of restoration of democracy and their fundamental human and trade union rights.