Resolution No.2

Burma

The ITUC-AP Regional General Council meeting on 21-22 November 2011 at Singapore;

WELCOMES the release of sixteen FTUB members, calls for the release of 22 FTUB members still detained and calls on the international community, the UN, the ILO and the governments to stand by the struggle of the people of Burma for freedom and democracy;

ACKNOWLEDGES the initiatives between the "new" Government and the NLD led by Daw Aung San Suu Kyi;

BUT DEPLORES the continuing reign of repression, ruthless exploitation of people, denying political freedom and trade union rights and use of military force and chemical weapons against the ethnic nationalities;

CONDEMNS the unabated resort to forced labour with impunity in spite of ILO Commission of Inquiry and the Supplementary Understanding. People reporting cases of forced labour continue to be prosecuted and many remain in prison. There is no let up in cases of reprisals against complainants;

CALLS for stopping of forced labour, recruiting of child soldiers, eradication of narcotics and stopping of money laundering which are the key issues that induced sanctions on Burma;

CAUTIONS the international community that recently passed Labour Organization Law is still to be practiced and the registration of the Agriculture and Farmers Federation of Myanmar (AFFM) and other trade unions that will register needs to be accepted when practicing their rights;

NOTES that there are increasing incidents of direct action including strikes by discontented workers and farmers in Burma;

COMMITS the ITUC-AP, working with affiliates and the GUFs to:

- campaign extensively for restoration of genuine democracy in Burma;
- extend solidarity support to the democratic trade union movement in Burma; FTUB is the legitimate organisation of workers in Burma;
- campaign for lifting immediately the ban on FTUB and
restoration of trade union rights in the country; and
• campaign for introduction of labour laws which will ensure full workers’ rights.