



Multi-Sectoral Construction Summit – 26 to 27 August 2009

The Campaign for Decent Work Towards and Beyond 2010 has hosted a successful conference in Johannesburg from 26 to 27 August 2009. It brought sixty (60) construction trade union representatives and over 30 campaign partners ranging from ITUC, SASK, to Street Net and funders together to jointly work on a programme of action for the campaign.

Comrade Crosby Moni, Chairperson of the 2010 Campaign Steering Committee, chaired the first day and he reminded the participants that the World Cup in South Africa should leave a legacy built on effective infrastructure, coupled with decent living and working conditions. The President of SABAWO, Comrade Audrey Montsho chaired the second day.

FES acknowledged the proactive approach in the World Cup campaigns used by the Unions, contrary to the reactive approach and called upon their BWI affiliates to intensify their approach through social dialogue and meeting with various stakeholders

- **ILO, Decent Work, - Joni Musabayana.**

Decent work is captured in four strategic objectives: fundamental principles and rights at work and international labour standards; employment and income opportunities; social protection and social security; and social dialogue and tripartism. These objectives hold for all workers, women and men, in both formal and informal economies; in wage employment or working on their own account; in the fields, factories and offices; in their home or in the community.

- **FIFA LOC – Itumeleng Dlamini**

Updated on the status and readiness of the WC. She informed the audience that World cup on 2010 must live a legacy that is based

- Raising the profile for the South Africa
- Raising media attention
- Technology improvement
- Boosting economic growth based on increased trade, tourism and investment
- African pride and solidarity
- Stronger regional integration

- **ITGLWF, Steve Grinter** - provided insights on the “Trade unions and Decent Work: The Two Elements of Fair Games”. He expounded on the Play fair 2008 which included efforts by the Clean Cloth Campaign, ITUC and ITGLWF. He warned of the danger of “race to the bottom” and the need to address emerging issues such as failure to disclose locations of productions and suppliers in the supply chain, the right to unionise, the fight for living wage as part of sustainable living and the bargain for high prices to ensure high incomes. A lot still need to be

done to address imbalances in the supply chain, where Steve shown how labour constitutes less than 1% of the total cost.He concluded with call for **“fair play on and off the football field”**

- **Paper by Professor Tony Samara read by Eddie Cottle** - The representation dwelt on the Construction workers and Mega –event Development. What emerged from this study was that investment that does not flow downstream and that the development that not necessarily stop the race to the bottom. Workers continue to live in the periphery; there is massive redistribution of wealth upwards, violation of human rights, poor housing conditions, low pay, increased accidents at workplace.

Another session during the confrence concentrated on Achieving Decent Work in sports Events: Models and possibilities.

- Comrade Crecentia highlighted on the BWI Campaign for Decent Work, Towards and Beyond 2010 Models and possibilities. She gave situational analysis of the construction sector in South Africa and roadmap undertaken by BWI affiliates' in South Africa toward and beyond 2010. The four pillars of negotiation, organizing, research and campaign that drove the 2010 World Cup were highlighted. Further she emphasized the challenges facing the unions in construction sector ranging from shortage of skills. Lessons on the BWI-FIFA joint stadia inspection were also mentioned.
- Comrade Kristin Bloom of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) highlighted on the Play Fair Global Campaign. She reported that there is a lot of exploitation and abuses in the sportswear industry and that the high profile from the Olympic games creates an opportunity to address some of the concerns. There strategy include engaging the IOC,NOC and the OCOC. **“No medal for the Olympics on labour rights”** She called for increased union participation on 7th October when marking the Decent Work campaigns.
- Pat Horn from the Street Net International highlighted on the World Class Cities for All (WCCA) campaign, from the perspective of the informal traders/street vendors. She expounded on the NEDLAC framework Agreements and the challenges faced in implementing the framework. She called for coalition in addressing basic human rights issues, social protection and inclusive planning. she reminded the participants that**“nothing for us without us”**
- Tarja Valtonen- Samao,Programme Officer for Africa,Trade Union Solidarity Centre of Finland(SASK) concluded the session with highlights on**“ playing fair here and there”** she cited examples on sports as tools for joint campaigning and highlighted on fair play football in junior football tournaments in Finland .

The conference concluded with a Declaration. Please see attached document

Declaration by the Building and Woodworkers International multi-stakeholder conference for decent work towards and beyond 2010

The international affiliates of Building and Woodworkers' International, South African Affiliates, NUM, BCAWU and SABAWO, FAWU, LECAWU, SACTWU and international organisations such as the ITUC, IUF, PSI, ITGLWF, Finnish Construction union – Rakennusliitto, SASK, FES, LRS, StreetNET involved in lobbying and struggling for better working conditions for workers in industries associated with major sporting events like the 2010 World Cup, met in Johannesburg from the 26th to the 27th August 2009.

The Conference agreed that Decent Work includes making sure that workers have a right to a decent wage and that they participate in the decisions that affect their work life. Furthermore, Decent Work means that workers have secure jobs and that workers' rights are protected at the workplace.

The Multi-Sectoral Conference on Decent Work Towards and Beyond 2010 agreed that Mega-Projects such as the World Cup and the Olympic Games have not in any way improved the lives of workers whether in retail, hospitality and construction sectors of the economy.

The conference noted that the vast majority of workers involved in the mega-sporting projects earn an income well below a living wage – they earn poverty wages. The conference delegates are appalled by the practice of evicting informal traders from the public spaces such as in Warwick Market Precinct that they have trade from, ahead of Olympic Games and Soccer World Cups. This intolerable practice has continued in South Africa, despite promises by government to the contrary.

The Conference recognizes that FIFA has for the first time made free tickets for construction workers who built the 2010 stadiums but are concerned that the current delays in issuing the tickets may mean that they may not become a reality for construction workers. The conference expresses dismay at the fact that the FIFA LOC has still not reached agreement with NEDLAC partners on the proposed framework agreement for the 2010 FIFA Soccer World Cup. Conference is also dismayed at the rampant use of labour brokers and subcontractors by the companies building the World Cup stadiums and other mega projects and that most workers are employed in precarious employment arrangements. The organisations present at the BWI Multi-stakeholder conference hereby agree;

1. To continue to lobby FIFA and the Olympic games committees to ensure that they commit themselves and hosting nations to the principles of decent work.
2. That as international and national organisations we will continue to be consistent in advancing the decent work arrangements in our negotiations with employers and will strengthen trade unions to make decent work a living reality.
3. That governments all over the world where these mega-sporting events are to be held should on condition be signatories to the ILO decent work declarations.

The organisations present have further agreed that the common issues facing them all are;

1. To strive for the elimination of all forms of precarious employment including banning labour broking and to ensure no downward variation of labour standards in subcontracting arrangements.
2. Develop stronger international and national links with fraternal organisations that are committed to the decent work agenda.

3. For the health and safety of workers to be prioritized – no more deaths or injuries of workers while preparing to host meg-sporting events.
4. Strengthen the research and documentation of the supply chains.
5. To campaign for a living wage.

We hereby announce our intention to campaign on these areas:

A. Nationally, agree to campaign for:

1. FIFA and the Local Organising Committee to urgently finalise the proposed framework agreement with business, labour, government and civil society in NEDLAC.
2. The immediate banning of labour brokers from the final stadium work.
3. The strengthening of the decent work campaign locally in all sectors beyond 2010.
4. To support the World Class Cities For All Campaign.

B. We will campaign internationally for:

1. To have a 'fair kick' campaign at 2010 at International Labour Conference to be hosted by the ILO
2. To step up our efforts to publicise the negative impact of the World Cup and future mega-sporting project on workers, the poor and street vendors
3. To share information with each other, prioritise research and launch a newsletter
4. To hold press conferences where soccer stars champion our cause
5. To set up a joint website so that we have one common platform
6. To hold a decent work event in every country, every October
7. To encourage massive participation in the Facebook group "Campaign for Decent Work"

Further: Actions

7 October – World Day for Decent Work

25 May Africa Day - WCCA

1 May – promote decent work agenda

Building and Woodworkers International

August 27th 2009