08. Demand the inclusion of international labour standards in AIIB
Policy Documents

Submitted by: Pakistan Federation of Building and Wood Workers (PFBWW)

PREAMBLE:

NOTING THAT the Asia Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is a new China-backed multilateral development bank with a specific focus on the Asia-Pacific Region. It is intended to fund some of the many proposed infrastructure development projects along the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), and will likely provide contracts to China’s large state-owned multinational construction companies.

CONCERNED THAT BWI affiliates organising workers on Chinese state-owned multinational construction company have come across widespread labour rights violations, including health and safety failures resulting in multiple deaths, systemic violations of the rights to freedom of association and collective bargaining, attacks on trade unionists, failure to pay minimum wages and other basic legal protection, the use of temporary or informal labour, and many other violations.

RECOGNISING THAT Large-scale public infrastructure investment projects offer significant opportunities to strengthen worker and human rights throughout their planning and construction process, and ought to be embedded throughout those processes and beyond.

OPERATIVE CLAUSES

WE enjoin the BWI statutory bodies to lobby and work with AIIB to:

1. Amend its policy documents — in particular its Environmental and Social Framework Environmental and Social Policy and the Environmental and Social Standard — to include direct reference to the ILO Core Conventions so that these projects comply with these international standards, and to ensure that workers have access to a fast and efficient grievance resolution mechanism.
2. Enter into a cooperation framework with BWI for joint inspection of work sites and accommodation to strengthen occupational health and safety policy and practice in light with international standards.

WE ENCOURAGE all BWI affiliates, in particular those from countries that are AIIB member states and those that will be the recipient of AIIB funding, to lobby their Governments' Labour and Finance Departments to promote the inclusion of the ILO Core Conventions and the joint inspections programme within the AIIB.

SIGNATURE:

[Signature]

General Secretary
Pakistan Federation of Building and Wood Workers (PFBW)