

- Labour news from UNI global union - for trade unions in a global services economy. -

UNI Postal Global Union Committee meeting in Gold Coast, Australia, 13- 15 December 2006



Brian Balk and John Pedersen



Rolf Büttner and John Pedersen

The Committee expressed its full support to UNI Postal's affiliate, the CEPU, and the whole Australian trade union movement in their struggle against the government's anti-trade union law and condemned the Australian Government for its anti-democratic initiatives and behaviour. The Australian trade unions are fighting back and conducting an intense campaign: Your Rights at Work - Worth Fighting For.

The Committee welcomed the decision of the US Congress concerning the US postal reform, keeping postal services as a public service (see web-article of 9.12.2006) and congratulated UNI-Americas affiliates, the American Postal Workers' Union, the National Association of Letter Carriers and the National Mail Handlers' Union, in their efforts to pursue this.

The Committee gave its full support to UNI-Europa Postal's campaign against the EU Commission's proposal to totally liberalise European postal services in 2009. The reports of UNI-Europa Postal affiliates actions and manifestations on 11 December 2006, and the decision taken by the ETUC Executive Committee, to support UNI-Europa Postal's campaign during the run-up to decisions in the Council of Ministers and the European Parliament, was well received.



The Committee agreed to step-up activities towards further organising within multinational companies such as DHL, TNT, UPS and FedEx and encouraged UNI Postal Global Union to continue cooperation with the ITF concerning the Integrator companies.

Much focus was given to the changes in employment and working conditions following the increased liberalisation in the postal sector and an action plan will be drawn up to deal with the increase of part-time and casual workers, contracted self-employment, individual contracts and other negative elements arising from these trends.

The main theme of the Committee meeting was on Organising in general and detailed plans were put in place.

The Committee noted the positive developments in UNI Postal's relations with the Universal Postal Union (UPU) and ongoing and future joint activities with the UPU as well as with the ILO, including a joint project concerning migrant workers' remittances.

The Committee decided that special missions to China and India should be carried out in 2007.

The Committee made preparations for the UNI Postal Global Union World Conference to be held in Athens, Greece from 27 to 28 April 2007 and, in principle, gave its acceptance to the draft discussion paper which will form part of the background material for deciding upon UNI Postal Global Union's Action Programme 2007 - 2011. The Committee decided to put forward a proposal to change the name of UNI Postal to UNI Post and Logistic Global Union. A few draft resolutions will also be drawn up on Human Rights and on HIV/AIDS.

The Committee thanked its outgoing President, Brian Bauk, of the CEPU, Australia, and appointed Rolf Büttner, ver.di, Germany, as its new president.

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