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UNI P&L

Bulletin

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Welcome to 2011! Best wishes from UNI Post & Logistics for 2011!

1 January 2011, European postal market opens!

Now the bad news for 2011, as from 1 January 2011, in Europe the 3rd Postal Directive has come into force and the postal market in 17 of the European Union countries has been fully opened to competition and we can expect a deluge of social dumping and job losses. But for UNI Post & Logistics the FIGHT GOES ON. Join our action to demand that the European Parliament deals with this issue and get your European MEP to sign the Written Declaration to the EU parliament.

Full details can be found on our campaign blog at; <http://www.uniglobalunion.org/Blogs/ProtectOurPost.nsf/>

UNI asks MEP's to save Europe's postal services

UNI has been asking MEP's to sign a Written Declaration on the future of post. The Declaration can now be signed after it was launched at the last plenary session of the European Parliament. The Declaration is aimed at preventing the adverse effects of the implementation of the 3rd Postal Directive which will fully open the internal market of EU postal services. The declaration was supported and signed by representatives of the 5 big political groups in the European Parliament EPP, S&D, ALDE, Greens and GUE/NGL. Dennis de Jong (GUE/NGL), Georges Bach (EPP), Maria Harkin (ALDE), Said El Kahdouri (S&D) and Isabelle Durant (Greens) are the initiators of the declaration. Dennis de Jong stressed the importance to safeguard postal services for the future to avoid the negative consequences now seen in the Netherlands. The declaration demands a clear impact assessment of the negative consequences of postal liberalisation. The declaration



is open to be signed until 9 March and Members of the European Parliament can with their signature contribute to secure, sustainable and quality postal services in Europe. Cornelia Berger from UNI Europa Post & Logistics said; "The European Commission has failed in preparing the member states for the new challenges that the full opening of the postal market will bring. Therefore this declaration is necessary to ensure quality postal services in Europe in the future. UNI europa Post & Logistics will take all necessary steps and actions to make this declaration a success and to again bring the topic up in the European Institutions." 35 MEPs signed at the first day of the plenary session with the hope to achieve at least 350 MEPs signatures and to make the declaration and its content public to all MEPs and the European institutions.

The documents are available on the web page of the European Parliament under: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/activities/plenary/writtenDecl/wdFastOngoing.do?language=EN>

UNI europa Post & Logistics together with MEPs have prepared a campaign and materials to make this dec-

laration a success, full details of which can be found on the campaign blog at; <http://www.uniglobalunion.org/Blogs/ProtectOurPost.nsf/>

Union in Costa Rica challenging the dismissal of eight DHL employees

Eight workers, represented by the Sindicato Industrial de Trabajadores Eléctricos y de Telecomunicaciones (SITET), were told by DHL Costa Rica management on 18 November that they had been sacked and that they need not attend work on the following day. The SITET activists discovered that the workers had not been paid what they are entitled to by law nor had they been given notice of their dismissal in writing. It has been reported that the company dismissed the workers to avoid paying them a Christmas bonus. What about DHL's claims to respect workers' rights?

To read more on this story please visit: <http://www.itfglobal.org/global-delivery/index.cfm/newsdetail/5448/region/1/order/1>

World AIDS Day: For better protection of Human Rights



"The international community marked World AIDS Day again on 1st December. It is almost thirty years since AIDS, caused by the Human Immuno-deficiency Virus (HIV) first began to have a devastating effect on individual lives, workplaces and societies. Currently, about 33 million people are living with the virus globally. There are another 7,500 new cases of infection every single day. Workplaces can play a key role in the HIV response according to the first international labour standard on HIV and AIDS adopted by the ILO last June". Young women are particularly vulnerable and at greater risk of becoming infected with HIV/AIDS. Young people represent over half of newly infected HIV victims worldwide; over 60% of them are women. Please read the

ILO recommendation concerning HIV/AIDS and the World of Work adopted - with an overwhelming majority - by governments, employers' and workers' representatives from ILO Member States at the International Labour Conference in June 2010, on: http://www.ilo.org/aids/lang--en/docName--WCMS_142706/index.htm

UNI calls on newly formed Syndicom to “change the rules of the game”

Switzerland's second largest union was born on 3 December as the 47'000 strong, newly created Syndicom brings together the former Union of Communications, which represented workers in post, telecoms and IT, with Comedia, which represented workers from the graphical and broader media sector. The joint presidents of Syndicom will be Daniele Lenzin and Alain Carrupt the former presidents of Comedia and the Communications Union, respectively. UNI Global Union General Secretary Philip Jennings addressed the 300 participants, drawing parallels with the creation of UNI in 2000 and Syndicom. “Our approach was to make it clear from day one that we were build-

ing something new. We would forge a new identity, a new global union,” he said of UNI's formation ten years ago. In a rousing speech he demanded that Syndicom make its presence felt in Switzerland and to “fight for a Switzerland that is fairer, more equal, that not only has social peace but also social justice.” He called upon Syndicom to change the rules of the game in Switzerland to fight for a minimum wage and for every branch of the economy to be covered by a collective agreement.



What the Canada-European Union-Trade Agreement means for postal workers

Canada and the European Union (EU) are currently negotiating a trade agreement (CETA) which threatens many aspects of workers' lives, from public services, to jobs, the environment, food, local cultures, telecommunications, water and resources – even the postal service. There have been five rounds of talks to date, the sixth will take place in Brussels during the week of 17 January 2011 and the seventh round will

be in Ottawa in April 2011. Trade negotiators for Canada and the EU are hoping to conclude an agreement by mid 2011. UNI Post & Logistics' affiliate, CUPW, has been working with the Canadian Labour Congress and the Trade Justice Network (TJN), a coalition of groups and unions, to oppose this unjust trade agreement and demand that the Canadian government take a variety of measures to protect the public interest. These measures are outlined in *Open Civil Society Declaration on a proposed Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement between Canada and the European Union* (see Open Declaration at <http://tradejustice.ca>). The postal and courier section of the draft CETA agreement sets up a system to facilitate competition for all postal and courier services liberalized under the agreement. There are provisions for licensing and independent regulatory bodies. These are features normally seen in deregulated markets.

To find out more, go to Campaigns, Activities and Issues and then Free Trade on CUPW's website: <http://www.cupw-sttp.org>.

Week of Action 6-12 October Global De- livery Review of Ac- tivities

You can find a press review as well as an update of activities on the Action week at:

<http://www.uniglobalunion.org/Apps/iportal.nsf/pages/homepageEn?OpenDocument&exURL=http://www.uniglobalunion.org/Apps/UNINews.nsf/0/AD5E-B7086F85F4ACC12577FC005533CC>

Can Postal Financial Services be an alternative measure to the crisis?



The 12th UNI apro Post and Logistics Committee meeting to discuss various issues focusing on the postal financial services was held in Bangkok from 16 to 17 December. Mr Takeuchi, President of UNI apro Post and Logistics, stressed that we were in the midst of a crisis and we should focus

on postal financial services especially at this time, because this was a possibility for our survival. Mr Ismaal, President of SEWU-THP, described the Thai postal situation and welcomed the discussion for survival. Mr Ito, Director of UNI apro Post and Logistics, shared a report on UNI apro Post and Logistics activities such as the conclusion of an MOU with APPU, UNI apro East Asia Postal Forum, Regional economic integration of ASEAN and Organising, which the committee adopted. All participants visited the APPU to celebrate the conclusion of the MOU between APPU and UNI apro. An updated report was given on universal postal services including the challenges we are facing such as deregulation, privatization and mail volume declining etc. Major discussions took place on Postal Financial Services. Finally, participants discussed the 2010-2011 Work Plan and adopted it unanimously.

More information can be found here:

<http://www.uniglobalunion.org/Apps/iportal.nsf/pages/homepageEn?OpenDocument&exURL=http://www.uniglobalunion.org/Apps/UNINews.nsf/0/AD5E-B7086F85F4ACC12577FC005533CC>

[ews.nsf/0/68CCE99709173F90C12577FF0018CD37](http://www.uniglobalunion.org/Apps/UNINews.nsf/0/68CCE99709173F90C12577FF0018CD37)

Postal workers block London street in Royal Mail sell-off protest



Angry postal workers took police by surprise and blocked a major street near the UK Parliament in a mass protest at Con-Dem plans to sell off the Royal Mail. Waving union banners and placards, hundreds of Communication Workers Union (CWU) activists staged the demo just yards from the scene of recent police battles with students. For half an hour nothing moved along Victoria Street as the protesters spread right across the road outside the office of Business Secretary Vince Cable, chanting: "Royal Mail, not for sale." The demonstrators had streamed across from a protest rally in Central Hall Westminster where CWU leaders warned of

Unsurprisingly, some of the personnel at the Sorting Centre have gone out on strike. DHL is not reported to have conducted a thorough investigation on the workload of their employees at this centre, nor has DHL discussed their decision with Dutch unions. More information can be found here:

<http://www.uniglobalunion.org/Apps/iportal.nsf/pages/homepageEn?OpenDocument&exURL=http://www.uniglobalunion.org/Apps/UNINews.nsf/0/C7CE5A58BCE1A5B4C1257800005A470C>

Next Events:

UNI europa Post & Logistics Committee,
5-6 April, Brussels, Belgium

UNI Post & Logistics World Conference,
3-5 May, Washington DC, USA

UNI ITF Global Delivery Meeting,
23-24 May, Frankfurt, Germany

UNI apro Conference and P&L Committee Meeting,
1-6 July, Manila, Philippines

UNI europa Conference,
4-6 October, Toulouse, France

UNI europa Post & Logistics Committee,
6-7 September, Luxembourg

UNI europa Post & Logistics Committee,
21-22 November, Brussels, Belgium

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