

The 8th ITF Asia/Pacific Regional Conference
Organising to Build Strong Transport Unions in the Asia/Pacific Region
14-17 May 2013, Hong Kong

Agenda Item 4: Secretariat Report on Activities for the Asia/Pacific Region (2009-2012)

1. The period under review in this report was a difficult period for the global economy and to a similar extent the economy in the Asia Pacific region. Hard won gains in terms of achieving decent livelihoods and workers rights began seriously eroding in late 2008 with the onset of the economic and financial crisis. The net effect in the last four years was a roll back in gains in those countries and economic sectors where growth and well being were beginning to make some progress. In many other countries of the region the effect meant exacerbation of situation of millions of transport sector men and women already faced with hardships of informal and precarious working arrangements. Economic recovery has been very erratic and not uniform across the sub regional countries of Asia Pacific.
2. Generally speaking one of the common fallout effects of the crisis has been an increased push for privatisation and deregulation of transport sectors. Temporary, casual and short term contracts and increasing precarity and informalisation of work and out sourcing in complex supply chains has become a pervasive feature of most labour markets. Increasingly too young people are to be found swelling the ranks of those in precarious transport sector employment. Emergence of global operators in many of our sectors who put workers in same workplace on different wages and conditions under contractors and sub contractors have worsened the situation. All of this has had a ripple effect in discouraging workers from joining trade unions for fear of reprisal and weakening and denial of their fundamental trade union rights. From Hong Kong to Thailand and Indonesia to India transport workers and their Unions have shared same or similar stories of rights violations.
3. At the last APRC held in Kuala Lumpur in June 2009 after I was appointed as the Asia Pacific Regional Secretary it has been my endeavour to take forward the Asia/Pacific region through the challenging times we live and work in and this has only been possible because of the support and cooperation of all the affiliates and my colleagues in the regional and London offices of the ITF.
4. Based on the motion adopted at the 7th APRC in Kuala Lumpur on Enhancing A/P Regional Structure and the recommendations of the Regional Review, Mark Davis was appointed Deputy Regional Secretary in November 2009 with responsibility for the South Pacific and continued coordination of former ITF Seafarer Union Development Programme Asia/Pacific projects. Shannon O Keeffe was seconded to the ITF Sydney Office in March 2010 and is now ITF Campaigns Director. In 2011, as a result of secretariat changes in the region, Yuji Ijima was confirmed as Deputy Regional Secretary and full time head of the ITF Tokyo Office. Sangam Tripathy was promoted from Education Coordinator to Assistant Regional Secretary. Nishi Kapahi, Women & HIV Coordinator was given the additional responsibility of Education Coordinator for the region. Jasvinder Singh was designated FOC Coordinator for South Asia. Arvind Koshal who was earlier working on the GNT Ports Research project was confirmed as Researcher based in Delhi Office. Yuji Ijima retired from his position in December 2012 and Katsuji Taki was appointed Head of Tokyo Office. Ms. Junko Honma left the Tokyo Office in January 2010. Akito Taguchi joined the Tokyo office in April 2010. Mitsuko Yamaguchi also retired from Tokyo Office in October 2012.

5. Organising remained a key priority in the region, with focus on ports organising, global and express delivery workers and private and low cost aviation companies. The work is in progress through various organising projects in India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Hong Kong, PNG, Indonesia, Malaysia, Tonga, Vanuatu and now in Myanmar. Organising and integrating women and youth in union activities and raising awareness on HIV as a workplace issue also received focus.
6. Considering that the Asia/Pacific region is one of the most diverse and vast regions, the ITF regional secretariat has been putting extra focus on improving and revitalizing communication with the affiliates.
 - The Regional Office in Delhi has also set up an ITF Asia/Pacific Face book page. Visit the page on: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/ITF-AsiaPacific/212835812069342>
 - We also now have an ITF Asia Pacific blog on ITF Asia Pacific page on the ITF website. Visit the blog on: <http://www.itfglobal.org/itf-asia/index.cfm>
 - Publication of Global Delivery Briefings (English & Tamil) and the South Asian version of POC Campaign publication 'Organise' (English & Hindi).
7. Trade union education played a key role in developing the capacity of unions, the skills of union leaders, activists and organisers as well as the knowledge of trade union rights among grass roots level workers. You will receive more detailed reports on these priorities.

A. OBITUARIES

8. Over the last four years we lost many colleagues and friends. We pay homage and remember them for their valuable contributions in furthering the cause of transport and other workers.

2009

- Neil Kearney, General Secretary of the International Textile, Garment, and Leather Workers' Federation,
- Eisuke Masuda, Japanese National Railway Workers Union (KOKURO) and Director of the ITF Tokyo Office from 1972 to 1987,
- John Otay, General Secretary, Serikat Pekerja Angkutan Udara (Foreign Airline Worker's Union) and ITF Education Officer in Indonesia
- Arjun Cheran, General Secretary Tamil Nadu Road Transport Workers Federation, India

2010

- Captain Gregorio S. Oca; President of AMOSUP, Philippines and ITF EB member
- D.M. Stephen Fernando; ITF FOC Inspector and General Secretary of Tuticorin Port Mariners & General Staff Union; India
- C.S Menon, General Secretary, Western Railway Employees' Union, India
- Sujit Roy; Treasurer of AIRF, India
- Shunji Yamano; former President of Shitetsu Soren (Japan) and ITF EB member,
- Kazukiyo Doi; ex-President JSU (Japan) and ex-Chair APRC,
- Amir Shah; President of Peoples' Unity of PIA Employees, Pakistan
- Dr M. K. Pandhe; Vice-President FSUI and General Secretary of CITU, India
- The victims of the Pakistan floods

2011

- Manohar Kotwal, Senior Vice President TDWU, India, Chair of ITF Asia Pacific Dockers' Committee, ITF Fair Practice Committee member
- The victims of the devastating earthquake and tsunami in Japan and the earthquake in New Zealand

2012

- Suez Kondo, JSU, Chair of Asia/Pacific Fisheries Committee
- Saeed Ali Khan, Chairman, APSWU, Pakistan
- Makoto Tamura, Shitetsu Soren, Japan, Vice President of Rengo and Chair of ITF JCC.

B. GENERAL

9. The 26 year old Civil War in Sri Lanka ended in May 2009. Under mounting international pressure the government has been impressed upon to pave the way for reconciliation, rebuilding and reintegrating the neglected northern and eastern territory of the country affected by the war. During the last years or so the trade unions including in the transport sector have ventured to organise and reach out to the workers in these regions and integrate them in mainstream trade unions.
10. We grimly remember the devastating tsunami that hit Japan in March 2011. Unions speak of nearly 20,000 missing and dead in Eastern Japan. To add to the horror, the escape of radioactive material from the Fukushima TEPCO nuclear plant created fears for the safety of children in the area. The Japanese Unions and the International community were swift in extending support and relief assistance. The relief aid included a donation of £200,000 from the ITF. The unions used this to help the bereaved families of Union members to rebuild their lives.
11. In South Korea, the National Assembly passed a controversial law permitting multiple unions in enterprises from July 2012. While the law gives workers the option to choose among a variety of unions, it has led to mushrooming of rival unions and multiple new enterprise level unions away from the established national centres, thereby leading to fragmentation of the labour movement. Also under the new legislation the facility of a full time paid union official has been withdrawn which has led to lesser number of full time/ part time union officials and has had an adverse impact on union finances.
12. In Indonesia, joint action by the nation's trade unions helped win 'The National Social Security Law' (called BPJS) in 2011. Under the new law the BPJS will be formed on 1st January 2014 to provide health insurance to all Indonesians and expatriates who have worked here for at least six months. A second stage, to be implemented by July 2015, will provide accident and life insurance as well as a pension scheme. Also a new government regulation seeks to regulate outsourcing and manage holiday allowances (THR), annual leave and social security benefits for outsourced workers. It will also regulate the length of time that a company can hire an outsourcing company. The regulation will benefit 16 million workers who work under an outsourcing system in the country. This represents about 40% of Indonesia's workforce.
13. In India for two years in a row in 2012 and 2013, prominent central trade unions coming together succeeded in organising general strikes, which received very good support among workers from across the country affecting all vital sectors including transport. The trade unions' 10-point demands include measures to contain price rises, employment generation, strict enforcement of labour laws and universal social security cover for organized and unorganized workers.
14. In Myanmar, The Seafarers Union of Burma (SUB) which had been functioning in exile in Bangkok since 1991, at its 4th General Conference held in April 2012, based on the Congress theme 'Back home with dignity- Exercising trade union rights in Burma' decided to recognise the positive and democratic political changes taking place in Burma and conduct its future legitimate trade union activities inside Burma. The Regional Office in close cooperation with the Seafarers' Section is providing all necessary help including the establishment of a new office in Yangon which is

located very close to the port. I am happy to report here that union registration under the name of Myanmar Maritime Trade Union has been granted by the authorities. The Union has also launched a vigorous nationwide organising/recruitment campaign.

15. For China, a one day seminar was held coinciding with the APRC meeting in Colombo in September 2011. Subsequently the ITF Executive Board in its meeting decided to send a high level mission to China under the leadership of ITF President Paddy Crumlin and in conjunction with the ACFTU in January 2012. The same was postponed due to leadership changes in ACFTU. Relations with the Chinese Seamen's Union (which includes ports and road transport) are already in existence but the ITF had received an indication that the ACFTU organisations for railways and civil aviation would also like to establish contacts with the ITF.

C. SOLIDARITY & UNION RIGHTS STRUGGLES

2009

India

16. Two Indian seafarers on board m.v Hebei Spirit detained in South Korea since December 2007, were repatriated after a South Korean Supreme Court judgment which found them not guilty of an oil spill. Seafarer affiliates nationally and internationally extended full solidarity and support for their release.
17. Pilots of Jet Airways had to resort to strike after four pilots were dismissed following their efforts to establish a trade union. An agreement was reached with the union intervention, pilots were reinstated, charges withdrawn and it was agreed to form a consultative body to resolve pilots' industrial issues.
18. The Indian port and dock unions successfully negotiated a new wage settlement with government applicable for 5 years retrospective to 1-1-2007.

Pakistan

19. The aviation unions in Pakistan representing PIA workers signed a new collective bargaining agreement, which gave almost 9000 employees a 20% increase in salary and other allowances.

Sri Lanka

20. Dockers unions including ITF affiliated unions in Colombo resorted to a week-long industrial action for a wage hike of Rs 3000 (US\$64) per month in basic pay and allowances.

Thailand

21. The State Railway Workers' Union of Thailand (SRUT) highlighted the issue of fatigue and non-functioning safety systems in railways as the key reasons for the series of accidents in 2009. In response, management dismissed a locomotive driver and penalised his assistant. SRUT organised a campaign and resorted to strike action which management tried to sabotage by police action and the dismissal of 7 SRUT leaders. A complaint was lodged with the ILO Committee on Freedom of Association and a safety audit was conducted by the union and an ITF team.

2010

Japan

22. The restructuring in Japan Air lines led to large scale redundancies and created an industrial dispute in a section of cabin and cockpit crew. The new restructuring turnaround package implemented by the company resulted in some 15000 dismissals and redundancies. The matter is unresolved and sub judice.

Papua New Guinea

23. Around 350 Frabelle Fisheries (PNG) Ltd workers faced intimidation and victimisation for exercising their constitutional and legal right to be members of the union of their choice. Frabelle promptly threatened to sack the unionised workers unless they signed a petition to resign from the union. The commencement of these anti-union practices coincided with the submission to the company of union membership authority forms in May 2010. The ITF mobilised solidarity in support of the Frabelle workers and impressing upon the management to honour its legal responsibility to recognise the ITF affiliated PNGM&TWU and to engage meaningfully in all respects with the union on the workers issues.

Philippines

24. PALEA resisted the Philippines Air Lines restructuring plan to prevent retrenchment and outsourcing of jobs of over 50% of PALEA members. The ITF helped mobilise solidarity which led to the President of the country offering ultimately unsuccessful mediation. The stalemate continues.

India

25. After nearly two years of struggle with transport contractors which involved violence against workers and mobilisation of international trade union solidarity to uphold workers rights to join a trade union, the TDWU signed CBAs with two transport contractors in the APM-owned GTI terminal in Jawaharlal Nehru Port, Navi Mumbai.

2011**Philippines**

26. Philippines Air Lines continued with its plan to restructure resulting in over 2600 workers being locked out as the company outsourced their jobs. PALEA continued its struggle to reverse the outsourcing plans. ITF and its affiliates continued to support PALEA in its struggle.

Fiji

27. The military government resorted to attacks through unlawful detention of union leaders on charges of sedition and unlawful assembly. The Essential National Industries Decree resulted in the deunionisation of Air Pacific crew and the decimation of the ITF-affiliated Transport Workers' Union. The ITF with the ITUC demanded immediate restoration of human and trade union rights in the country and the ITF continues to assist the TWU to rebuild.

Australia

28. Qantas unions were in a row with the management over the impact on job security and wages/conditions of outsourcing some operations to Asia. Qantas grounded its fleet and declared a lock out but Fair Work Australia ordered the airline to reopen and set a 21-day period for negotiation with the unions before the matter is taken to arbitration. The ITF actively mobilised its global affiliates for the campaign and organised an international day of action on 16th November.

Thailand

29. The SRUT dispute continued and the management dragged the Union to court which confirmed the dismissal of seven leaders but also imposed a fine of 15 million Thai baht in compensation for the strike action in 2009. The ITF again mobilised solidarity and urged the government to resolve the dispute through negotiations with the union.

Pakistan

30. PALPA and Peoples' Unity of PIA Employees Union members were attacked, injured and arrested by police during a peaceful protest at Karachi Airport objecting to potentially detrimental PIA code-share agreements. The unions' 4-day strike which crippled PIA's operations ended when government acceded to all three union demands. Meanwhile, two active ITF affiliated union leaders were assassinated as a result of the continuing ethnic and sectarian violence in the country.

Sri Lanka

31. The NUSS led a successful fight against a port contractor who had fired 230 prime mover drivers in the SAGT terminal for demanding fair wages.

Bangladesh

32. The BNSF after a nationwide strike action achieved improved wages and other benefits for the inland navigation workers.

India

33. The TDWU signed CBAs with five contractors operating in GTI-APMT, NSICT-DPW and JNPT (state port) terminal in Mumbai. The PSA Sical Staff Union signed a four year CBA with the PSA management in Tuticorin. Organising in all 9 GNTs in India showed progress and early steps were taken to create a network of union activists and initiate dialogue with the terminal operators.
34. Yearlong efforts to organise DHL workers at various locations in India paid dividends when unionists took the decision to establish the All-India DHL Employees' Coordination Council at a meeting in Mumbai. This key development was aimed to unite more than 1000 directly employed DHL workers in India, plus subcontracted and agency workers, giving them the opportunity to speak with one voice. The new alliance is also aimed to offer management a one-stop union contact point.

2012

Australia

35. Aviation workers in Australia represented by the Transport Workers' Union (TWU) and employed by Qantas, won a new agreement in August 2012 providing them with significant improvements in pay and conditions. This followed a decision by Fair Work Australia (FWA), the national workplace relations tribunal. The agreement covers Qantas workers and employees of Q-Catering, and includes a three per cent pay increase backdated to 1 July 2011 and a commitment that there will be no compulsory redundancies as a direct consequence of the use of contracted labour. The union was particularly concerned about job security after Qantas' subsidiary company Jetstar began outsourcing work.

Bangladesh

36. The Bangladesh Naujan Shramik Federation (BNSF) representing over 30,000 inland navigation workers undertook a 3 days strike action which finally led to a tripartite agreement on 11 January 2013 giving the workers a 20 percent increase in salary. The Union had served their 16

points demands in June 2012, but the employers repeatedly failed to honour their commitment of fair negotiations leading to an impasse, which forced the workers to go on strike

New Zealand

37. The Maritime Union of New Zealand (MUNZ) has been trying to renew its CBA with Ports of Auckland Ltd since 6th September 2011. The local authority-owned port company has persisted with the strategy that it cannot settle a CBA unless it achieves full flexibility in hours of work and rosters and an increased capacity to use casual labour in order to successfully compete with another port in the country. The union's objectives are to settle a CBA, resist contracting out and casualization and maintain a measure of predictability of working hours and days. Despite MUNZ's highly successful strike and court action in March 2012, solidarity action from ITF affiliates, support from the public and the port company's largest customer Maersk Line and forced facilitated bargaining, a solution to the impasse has to this date not been reached.

Philippines

38. The Philippines Airlines Employees Association (PALEA) struggle against outsourcing/contractual employment that resulted in the illegal lock out of more than 2600 members of the union at Philippines Airlines is now nearing three years. The stalemate continues and there has been no satisfactory resolution to the impasse in spite of several campaigns launched by the ITF affiliates and the Union. On the request of PALEA a "PALEA Day of Action" was observed by the ITF regional affiliates on 27th September 2012 which marked the anniversary of the PALEA campaign against outsourcing and contractualisation.

Malaysia

39. Since January 2012, Megat Zamri, President of the West Port Employees' Union, Port Klang stands terminated from employment for his union activities and for participating in the ITF South-East Asia FOC Week of Action. The West Port management over the last 4 years has repeatedly attacked the West Port workers preventing them from forming, registering and obtaining recognition of a union of their choice. It was after many attempts that in 2011, the labour department granted registration to Union. Since then the management has dismissed the Union General Secretary and 3 other key office bearers on various false and trumped up charges. The Malaysian unions and the ITF regional and head offices have been persuading the management to resolve this dispute. The Union is again preparing to contest the recognition election due to be held in April/May 2013.
40. The controversial share-swap deal between MAS and Air Asia was cancelled as it had become an impediment to the recovery efforts of the loss-making flag carrier, MAS. The announcement came following weeks of fierce internal resistance from MAS Employees Union (MASEU) and other unions and associations. The unwinding of the share swap ultimately saw Khazanah (state asset manager) transfer its 10 per cent, or 277,650,600 ordinary shares, in AirAsia back to Tune Air, while Tune Air transferred its 20.5 per cent, or 685,142,000 ordinary shares, in MAS back to Khazanah.

Maldives

41. The Maldives Ports Workers' Union (MPWU) registered in May 2011 has been facing harassment from the Maldives Ports Limited management for exercising their rights to organise and conduct union activities. In August 2012 a new yellow union was registered and recognised by management. The management also resorted to reassigning workers to other ports in different islands. As of today 49 union members remain suspended and 6 key office bearers of the union have been terminated from employment. The ITF General Secretary has twice written to the President of Maldives and in November 2012, ITF launched a solidarity campaign. Some

Indian and Sri Lankan maritime Unions have been active in organising protests on Maldives bound ships, but the stalemate continues.

India

42. The organising project in DHL Express India Private Limited, continued to achieve progress and DHL units at Delhi, Kolkata and Jaipur were unionised and affiliated to the ITF. Charter of demands for these workers have now been submitted for negotiations. Organising efforts are on at Bangalore & Ludhiana. It may be noted that DHL Express in India has a long history of victimising their employees for Union activities through dismissals and transfers.

D. MAJOR REGIONAL MEETINGS

- a. ITF Asia/Pacific Civil Aviation Section Conference, Colombo, 19-20 November 2009
- b. ITF Asia Pacific Seafarers' Regional Committee and Asia/Pacific Regional Committee, Manila, 12-14 May, 2010
- c. ITF Asia Pacific Seafarers' Regional Committee, Manila, 2 March, 2011
- d. ITF Asia Pacific Railway Section Conference, Bangkok, 29-30 July 2011
- e. ITF Asia Pacific Regional Committee Meeting, Colombo, 22-23 September 2011
- f. ITF Asia Pacific Tourism Conference, Taipei, 3-4 November 2011
- g. ITF World Women's Committee Meeting, Singapore, 05-06 December 2011
- h. ITF Asia Pacific Seafarers Regional Committee Meeting, Jakarta, 12-13 June 2012
- i. ITF Asia Pacific Fisheries Regional Committee Meeting, Jakarta, 14th June 2012
- j. ITF Asia Pacific Civil Aviation Regional Committee Meeting, Kuala Lumpur, 19-20 July 2012
- k. ITF Asia Pacific Road Transport Regional Committee Meeting, Kathmandu, 7-8 August 2012
- l. ITF South & South East Asia Women & youth Meeting, Bangkok, 22-24 November 2012

E. RELATIONS WITH OTHER ORGANISATIONS

- a. Wada & Sharma attended the Asian Development Bank (ADB) meeting with GUF representatives on 25-26 May 2009 at Manila, Philippines.
- b. Sharma attended the ITUC-TUSSO meeting on 24-26 November 2009 at Singapore.
- c. Sharma attended the FES India Partners Meet on 13 December 2009 at Manesar, India.
- d. Tripathy and Arvind Koshal attended the ASETUC Planning and Consultation Meeting, 28-30 November 2010, Jakarta, Indonesia
- e. Sharma attended the ITUC-GUF's-TUSSO Coordinating Meeting, 8-10 December 2010, Singapore
- f. Kapahi attended the ITUC-Asia Pacific Meeting on Elimination of Violence Against Women
- g. Sharma attended the ADB Board of Governors Meeting held in Hanoi, Vietnam from 3-5 May 2011
- h. Sharma attended the ITUC-A/P Conference held in Singapore from 11-13 May 2011
- i. Sharma attended the ITUC Asia Pacific Regional Council Meeting held at Singapore on 21-22 November 2011
- j. Sharma and Davis conducted the ITF-VGCL Workshop to Share Experiences of Transport Workers, 24-25 November 2011, Hanoi, Vietnam
- k. Sharma attended the ILO Asia Pacific Regional Conference held at Kyoto, Japan from 3-7 December 2011
- l. Sharma attended the ITUC-GUF's-TUSSO Coordination Meeting held at Singapore on 13-14 December 2011
- m. Tripathy attended the FES Indian Partners Meeting held at Kolkata on 29-30 October 2011
- n. Sharma attended the GUF-ADB Meeting at Manila from 30th April to 6 May 2012
- o. Sharma attended an ITUC –AP Regional Conference on Green Jobs & Decent Work – the Way forward for Sustainable Development Post Kyoto Protocol at Singapore from 2-4 April 2012.

- p. Sharma attended the ITUC Regional Council Meeting at Amman from 2-3 November 2012.
- q. Davis attended the VGCL-GUF/TUSSO 4th Information Sharing & Cooperation Meeting, 27-28 November 2012, Hanoi, Vietnam

43. I will briefly report here about our relationship with two organisations ASETUC & SPOCTU and seek your advice on our future role and relationship with these organisations.

ASETUC

44. Currently the ASEAN Service Employees Trade Union Committee (ASETUC) promoted by UNI, BWI & PSI claims members from Unions in ASEAN countries. None of the national centres in any of these countries are members of ASETUC. ASETUC is registered and functions from Jakarta. As ASEAN is in the process of developing as a common market by 2015, ASETUC is keen that they should be included as a representative forum in the process of social dialogue with ASEAN. Transport being a major priority sector in the ASEAN region, ASETUC is keen for ITF to join it. Earlier in 2011, ITF reps from Delhi Office attended two ASETUC meetings as fraternal delegates. On ASETUC's request ITF also did research for on the Civil Aviation Industry and Trade Union Scenario in the ASEAN region. This research funded by FES was completed by Arvind Koshal and highlighted issues of aviation workplaces, fragmentation and outsourcing etc. in the industry.
45. While ITF has not joined the ASETUC, our affiliates in the ASEAN countries need to advise us on whether they see any possible benefits of ITF joining this organisation.

SPOCTU

46. The restructuring of South Pacific & Oceanic Council of Trade Unions (SPOCTU) was designed to move it from being an infrastructure-based to an activity-based organisation where meetings are held to coincide with other sub-regional trade union activities. National centres were to continue to be constituent members and the role of GUFs was recommended to be strengthened. Unfortunately SPOCTU has had no activities since the restructuring. We also need advice from our Pacific affiliates about whether we should maintain an interest in SPOCTU in its present condition.

F. REGIONAL PRIORITIES

47. I would like to place here below for your consideration and subsequent discussion in the plenary and the sectional meetings, some current organising priorities in the region. These include organising the newly established Global Network Port Terminals, Inland Container Depots (ICD) and Freight Forwarding Stations, existing non-unionised ports, private and low cost airlines, urban transportation systems – metro rail, buses and taxis; seafarers and fishery workers; Global delivery operators such as DHL, TNT, FEDEX, UPS and the major regional and national delivery and logistics companies.
48. Sub-regionally I would place the following organising priorities for your consideration and discussion for the next four year period:

FAR EAST: (Membership: 542,011 – Hong Kong, Japan, Korea, Mongolia and Taiwan)

Japan: GNTs, new civil aviation companies.

Korea: To establish relations with Asiana Airlines, Ko-Rail and subway unions in Seoul, Pusan and other cities.

Taiwan: Kaohsiung Port, fisheries and global delivery networks.

Hong Kong: Port organizing, Cathay Pacific ground staff and other aviation groups.

SOUTH EAST ASIA: (Membership: 176,249 –Burma (Myanmar), Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand)

Indonesia: Develop effective national dockers' union and affiliate it; local passenger transport both city and intercity; bring ground staff union of Garuda Airlines and other private airline and airport workers within the ITF fold; global delivery networks; offshore and fishery workers; strengthen the structures of the affiliated railway unions through the current education project. Work with IKAGI to continue supporting the Air Asia (Indonesia) employees' association AKAASIA to organise and register as a trade union.

Philippines: Organising domestic shipping; port terminals – ICT, North Harbour in Manila and others; help PALEA and organize other civil aviation workers, airport workers including PAL-Lufthansa Technik MRO; aviation companies like Cebu Pacific, road transport and passenger bus services both intercity and city based, as well as the taxi and jeepney workers; metro train and LRT in Manila area. Establish Fisheries affiliate.

Thailand: Re-affiliate Port Authority union; organize various terminals of Laemchabang port (Hutchison, DPW, PSA & APM); private passenger and freight transport; fisheries including the migrant fishery workers; inland navigation and ferry services in Bangkok; develop the seafarers union. Utilise new SASK project for private sector transport organising.

Burma: Continue to support establishment and development of Myanmar Maritime Trade Union and help them in organizing the migrant seafarers and fishery workers, establish and develop unions in railway and road transport sector.

Malaysia: Organise Air Asia and other low cost carriers; assist development and consolidation of unions in West Port (Port Klang), Tanjong Pelapas (Johor), Penang and ports of Sabah and Sarawak; Global delivery networks; urban transport systems, LRT in Kuala Lumpur; develop new leadership of NUSPM and promote sustainability through MISC National Flag CBA

Singapore: Continue the dialogue with NTUC to get Singapore Airlines and Singapore Airport and Aviation Services unions back in the ITF fold.

Cambodia: Organize civil aviation, airport authority and railway workers

Vietnam: Continue close cooperation with maritime union VNUSLW and map the sector including the regional federations of labour. Increase activities with the Vietnam Airlines Union with a view to affiliation of this union and VNUSLW. Continue the strong relationship and cooperative activities with the fisheries' union VNUARDW and develop relations with railways and road transport unions.

SOUTH ASIA: (Membership: 246,257 - Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka)

49. Organize the Global Network Port Terminals (India/Sri Lanka and Pakistan), Inland Container Depots and Special Economic Zones adjoining ports, minor ports; metro rail corporations in India; fishery workers; private and low cost airlines, urban transport; global delivery networks / companies both international and national; in India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Sri Lanka. Assist and consolidate port union in Maldives. Lobby for ratification of MLC in South Asian countries.

SOUTH PACIFIC (Membership: 96,422 - Australia, Fiji, Kiribati, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu)

Sub-regional: Organising regional carriers, mapping inter-island shipping, mapping Pacific Islands' dockers, increase FOC Campaign cooperation & coordination, assist low-lying island nations deal with climate change, promote MLC and Work in Fisheries conventions.

Fiji: Assist in rebuilding TWU and coordinate solidarity with IndustriALL for affiliates enduring rule by decree.

Kiribati & Tuvalu: Promote multi-sector organising, sustainability and climate change initiatives

PNG: Build on success of LNG and ITF/IUF fisheries organising projects

Tonga: Intensify seafarer union organising as first step in wider transport and private sector union development

Solomons & Vanuatu: Revitalisation through civil aviation & maritime organising

Timor-Leste: Promote sustainability through land-based transport and logistics organising and maintain pressure for training and jobs in offshore and maritime sectors

STAN COUNTRIES (Membership: 10,370 - Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan)

50. Organise education programmes and support the democratization process for affiliates

FOC – POC CAMPAIGN

- Foster greater cooperation and understanding amongst seafarers and dockers.
- Support unions and Inspectorate to gain access to GNT terminals and for establishing minimum standards of workers' rights and health and safety in all ports
- Continue FOC WOA in Far East Asian, South & South East Asia countries
- Focus FOC Campaign work in GNTs.
- South/South East/East Asia annual meeting to integrate and accelerate coordinated FOC-POC campaign activities.
- Regional office to continue FOC campaign training work in countries of South & South East Asia.

I commend this report to the Conference.

Mahendra Sharma
Regional Secretary, Asia Pacific Region