



Executive Committee

Geneva, May 29-30, 2013

Item 3: 26th Congress: The Organize, Fight and Win mandates in practice

(b) Occupational Health, Safety & Environment

Introduction

The IUF's training and capacity building work on HSE continues to be mainly through trade union development projects in the regions and updates on activities are contained in the project activity report (agenda item 4) and the regional reports (agenda item 6). However, through the TNC work we are engaging more directly with companies on HSE issues.

The global sugar project and the global HSE project have both been working with affiliates to increase capacity to bargain on OSH (Occupational Safety & Health). See agenda item 3 b (ii).

Impressive gains have also been made in the **Franco-phone West Africa OHS project** which covers Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Togo.

On OSH and gender - Over 200 women have benefited from OSH training in Burkina Faso, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Togo. Special training was also provided to women and market gardeners engaged in organic agriculture in Benin, Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Mali, Niger, Senegal and Togo in 2012 and in November 2012 in Cotonou (Benin).

TNCs' activities in the project have focussed on:

- Training of OSH committees;
- A mobilization campaign to reduce outsourcing;
- A campaign to mobilise temporary workers;
- Participation in product quality control;
- Implementation of a programme of unionization of women workers in TNCs.

Wins have been achieved through the establishment of 12 occupational safety and health committees in Niger, 9 OSH committees in Benin and 8 OSH committees in Burkina Faso in the sectors and the TNCs (including Accor, Unilever and Castel) covered by the IUF and a sectoral occupational safety and health committee in the hotels and catering sector in Niger.

A planning meeting in Dakar of the regional and sub-regional projects working on OSH agreed that future activities for 2014-2016 will include work on using HSE as an organizing tool, on campaigning for ratification of ILO Conventions on OSH, ensuring gender concerns are included in IUF's HSE work and establishing a regional reporting system for occupational accidents and diseases.

For **April 28, 2013 Workers' Memorial Day**, the IUF joined with NGOs **Berne Declaration and Pesticides Action Network** to lobby for stronger controls on the use of paraquat as a step towards a total ban.