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WFDY NEWS

World Federation
of Democratic Youth's
Bulletin

In this issue:

- WFDY in JMPLA Congress
- Latin American regional meeting
- FGCI Italy Congress
- & more...



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Editorial

This issue of WFDY News for the month of October reflects on some improvements in our fight against imperialism as many events occurred around the globe, specifically organisers of the so called Nobel Peace Prize gathered together with other pundits WHO were lined up to witness this event. But instead of playing it safe for the sake of keeping the peace in a fragile war environment, the organisers gave it to Mr Barrack Obama who was at that same time sending a 40 000 contingent troop to the fragile war in Afghanistan. As already indicated, there were two notable aspects to this prize that is, further showing US dominance in the peace affairs of the world and offer an inflammatory status to the people of the world against this man with disguised ambitions for a higher office. The so called international media which is by itself a serious weapon of mass deception, instantly justified him as a correct material for this award.



This bulletin takes you to the Middle East with a mind-boggling issue that the Palestinian leader Ahmed Sa'adat is being further detained in the dubious prisons in Israel with continuous isolation, without basic human rights with much exposure to the nefarious prison officers. Thus further exposing the naked truth of their intolerance for his freedom of association and their pathological hatred for an independent Palestinian State other than anything else that is useful. On a lighter progressive note, in the same region a historic event was held in Lebanon last September which mainly focused on Young Artists under the auspice of ULDY.

We also invite you to discover the growing ties between WFDY and UNESCO as witnessed by the attendance of several meetings by WFDY members organized by UNESCO in France and Thailand. Fete de l'Humanite in France and Avante Festival in Portugal were also major events which took place in Europe and WFDY graced these events.

In South America and the Caribbean the WFDY strongly recommends the Organisation of American States for their frantic efforts in facilitating negotiations to enable the return and restoration of President Zeleya of Honduras. WFDY regional meeting for Latin America and the Carribean was succesfully held in Chile in the intervening period. JCP Paraguay also held their congress in Asuncion.

In Asia, the All Asia Students Federation held its congress which then-how concided with the Asian WFDY regional meeting in India, New Delhi. WFDY attended many events in Africa, specifically the congresses of ZANU PF YL and JMPLA where the new leadership were ushered in, and WFDY extended its solidaity with the people of these countries. Being guided by our programme of action, the mission to Western Sahara and Colombia will be launched in December with some WFDY events lined up in these countries. These missions will enable us to liase with vulnerable groups who have been battered by the illegal agendas of imperialist occupation.

The way forward for our struggles is for all youth continue educating, sharing information and exposing our enemies who are reactionary sell-outs who suffer from false and treacherous belief that there is nothing like imperialism and neo-colonialism, those who believe that democracy should be rewarded by a token in form of money. The fight against imperialism is never dull but it has its own challenges which force us to be bound by the unity of purpose to conquer these challenges. So its exciting that in this edition you will find more on these and other issues as we struggle against imperialism.

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International News

Latin America regional meeting and visit

Over September 16, and 17 The Latin-American and Caribbean region had its regional meeting in Chile with the participation of 12 organizations from the region. At the same time it celebrated an International Seminar where the delegates made a big discussion against the Militarization, specially the increased of the Militarization in our region.

In the Regional Meeting, the political situation in the region was debated and also the role that the unity of the youth organizations can play, specially under the probability that in the next future right governments will be in power. Another important thing was the participation in the tour of the historical monuments as Salvador Allende Monument, the monument for all the disappeared people in the dictatorial period, and the Monument of Gladys Marin, who was The General Secretary Youth Communist of Chile. We also participated in the big celebration for the Anniversary of the Young Communist of Chile.

We also went to Argentina and Paraguay. In Argentina, WFDY's delegation met with a lot of youth organizations and the comrade from Young Communist Federation from Argentina hosted our delegation, where we did a lot of activities on behalf of WFDY, as a good example that we can do a lot of things with the support of our member organizations. At the same time we participated in the National Congress of the Communist Youth of Paraguay, in this Congress the main discussion was how the Communist Youth increased the role in order to continue the struggles, for the new progressive government. The comrades of Paraguay expressed their congratulation to WFDY's Delegation because it was the first time that one delegation for WFDY visited the country.



WFDY participates in UNESCO event in Thailand



The Power of Peace network organized by UNESCO communication section convened in its 2nd Global meeting in Bangkok, Thailand on October 28-30 2009. WFDY, as an organization that has operational relations with UNESCO and that is deeply involved in the struggle for world peace as is mentioned in its constitution and goals, participated in the meeting and took part in many of the discussions of the forum.

WFDY also was a main speaker in the plenary session about the role of the ICTs (Information and Communication Technologies) in the peace making, with emphasis on youth leadership in the process.

The forum gathered about 60 participants from different areas of the world working on peace issues in its various domains starting from conflict resolution in Congo or Indonesia to bringing people together as the case in many nongovernmental organizations, and of course though political anti-imperialist struggle as the case of WFDY. WFDY evaluates its relations with United Nations agencies including UNESCO as positive and beneficial for us to have our say on the real role of youth in bringing peace and progress to this world, and the forum of Power of Peace in Thailand was one more place where we advocate the right of youth in a fair, just and peaceful future.

WFDY History

The 12th World Festival of Youth and Students - Moscow - 1985



In 1985 WFDY celebrated 40 years of the foundation, Moscow putted all their wished in order to organize the great party of all the youths people around the world with the unanimous support off all the force who keep the pace in this world, specially the ideas to show the superiority of the socialism over the capitalism, and to keep the solidarity to the position of not war, defending by the Soviet Union. One vibrant dove or pace, friendly and ant imperialist solidarity to take over the center of the flowers, in order to chair. The slogan "For Anti-Imperialist Solidarity, Peace and Friendship", brought to the country of soviet to more than 20.000 young people from 157 countries between July 27 to august 3 1985. Around the world youths peoples received this news about XII Festival with happiness, they recognize that this news was a grace significance, that implicated the recognition of all the force made by the Soviet Union, in favor of pace and the full disarmament.

Over the XII Festival there were a lot of cultural, artistic and sport activities with contributions from young people from all over the world, young people was able to share their experience about economic and the effect off the mass unemployment, the right of the national independence and self determination and problems of nuclear disbarment, they expressed their ideas in a free and open democratic way trough meeting, round tables, exhibitions and film, the Festival was closing in august 3 as a great youth event.

WFDY Activities

FGCI Italy Congress

On the October 16 and 17 WFDY's Delegation Participated in the National Congress of the Youth Communist Federation of Italy, in Forigno City. The congress was a very important moment where the Communist comrades from Italy made a big discussion about the political situation and specially the real situation that the left movement lives in their country. Other important things were discussed like the way that they should find in order to make the unification of the two Communist Youth Organizations, with the same line of the unification of the Communist Party.

Over the Congress WFDY's delegation received a lot of solidarity expression with the struggles that all WFDY's Member and friend organizations lead in all the country, and at the same time on behalf of WFDY we expressed our best wishes that the concrete ideas that the comrade will take in the congress will be successful in the future, specially if it contributes to increase the struggles against imperialism.



JMPLA VI Congress

From the 16 to the 17 October took place the Congress of JMPLA Angola in the capital city of the country, Luanda. Together with WFDY several international guests from different parts of the world took part in this Congress, that was the VI of JMPLA history and the second after the end of the war that throughout decades devastated Angola.

The congress of JMPLA had the presence of about 1000 delegates from all the 18 provinces of the country, also reflecting the huge increase of the last 6 years (date of the last congress), as JMPLA passed from 500 thousand to 2.5 million members.

There were dozens of national guests to the congress, mostly veterans and people from the central or regional governments of the country, from which the Prime Minister of Angola and the General Secretary of JMPLA are to be mostly highlighted and were given the floor in the closing and opening, respectively.

The congress was also very interesting on the cultural level since in the night between the two days of congress all provinces brought a cultural presentation of their roots and presented to all other delegates.



WFDY solidarity towards Gholan Heights

Upon the invitation of the General Union of Arab Students (GUAS) and our member organizations in Syria, WFDY participated in the International Forum for Solidarity of the Golan Heights which convened under the slogan: "Golan will be back".

A big number of participants came from different organizations including youth, students, labor unions, lawyers, media associations and political parties from more than 30 countries from around the world. The total number was about 2000 participants including about 400 youth and students.

WFDY had the floor to speak in the seminar on the "Role of Youth in Liberation", and emphasized the vital role that anti-imperialist youth played in all liberation and resistance movements around the world. Examples from the Palestinian and Lebanese resistance were emphasized. WFDY also asserted the importance of the ideological offensive of imperialism and its media propaganda to brain wash the minds of young people through saying that resistance is terrorism and that capitalism is the end of history.

The event was a success and it was concluded in a big rally near the barb wires separating the free and the occupied lands in Golan where Israeli occupation soldiers stood few meters away.



The youth struggle in... Senegal

Experience has shown that Senegal is currently facing the harshest period in its history. In every province of the country, problems and tensions grow stronger, deeply caused by the social and economic crisis. The crisis is worsening and is mostly fueled by the neo-liberal policies being implemented by the government since 2000. Agricultural sector is shrinking rapidly; industries are collapsing (illustrated by the case of the phosphate and related chemical industries which have gone from the status of industry leader to that of a company under perfusion in a matter of few years). Economic growth is down to 1 to 2% from 6% in 2000, a year that saw the voting out of power of the Socialist Party after 40 years of rule. Unemployment is rampant and affects specially the youth in both rural and urban areas. That being the case, young people feel these differences and reverse considerations which affect the whole country. In other terms, youths are more exposed and better placed to endure these diverse problems.



The socio-economic crisis is strongly affecting the education sector. As an example, University of Dakar which was designed for a capacity of 10 000 students is currently home of more than 60 000 students. Overcrowding is therefore combined with the inadequacy of reading materials and the ever-rising cost of education. Consequently, the majority of students are dropping out of tertiary education due to these, among other factors.

The high level of unemployment and the lack of serious policies of employment creation and development is pushing thousands of youth on the path of emigration. It's about years that young people are trying to reach the European coasts particularly Spain, while believing that Europe is the El Dorado. Indeed, the consequences remain very harmful. Thousands traveling on traditional fishing boats perish in the sea before reaching the coasts.

In the Eastern region, there is the highest level of poverty in Senegal. Over 64% of the population live on less than \$1 a day whilst the region witnesses a feverish competition among big mining companies (gold, iron ore , uranium and other minerals). The impact on the environment and social conditions are already bringing resistance from local residents.

The year 2008 has been a moment of social mobilization and campaigns against the consequences of mining. Thousands of young people who protested in Kedougou were members of UJDAN who played a significant role. Law enforcement agents who arrested youths and detained them for several months without trial heavily suppressed these demonstrations.

Above all, UJDAN is unifying different youth segments towards a common goal mainly to get rid of the current parasitic and corrupt regime. The last local elections witnessed a strong implication of young people in the popular mobilization that led to the overwhelming victory of the opposition in March 2009.



UJDAN commemorated its 30th anniversary on the 5th of August and coincided with the seminars on education. The youth witnessed 30 years of mobilization for their rights for a democratic and progressive social system in Senegal. UJDAN has maintained its anti-imperialist and internationalist status and is working to develop a progressive youth agenda.

It is working to develop and groom young activist who are able to combine UJDAN's progressive platform with those coming from the diverse youth front, both locally and internationally. The coming years will witness a more coherent, focused and strong youth front in Senegal.