

INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT WORKERS' FEDERATION

44th Congress Singapore, 16 October 2018 Railway Section Conference

REPORT

The Railway Conference took place on 16 October 2018.

Agenda Item 1: Adoption of Agenda

The Conference **adopted** the agenda, as presented.

Agenda Item 2: Election of Rapporteur

Luciano Salomon (Argentina) was elected Rapporteur.

Tim Beaty (USA), Henrik Horup (Denmark), Katarina Mindum (Croatia) and Wayne Butson (New Zealand) were elected scrutineer and tellers.

Agenda Item 3: Congress Theme Document

The **General Secretary** gave a presentation on the Congress Theme Document, which focused on the Section's priorities. He commented that the ITF Railway Section continued to lead the fight against privatisation, adapting their tools and targets for the future of rail. He also highlighted that affiliates in CIS countries were building mass membership along the new supply chains crossing Asia and Europe.

The Conference **endorsed** the Congress Theme Document, as presented.

Agenda Item 4: Work Programme

The **Chair** stated that the 5 year work programme was a living document which would need to change in line with developments in the sector. With further challenges to come for rail unions around organising, outsourcing, precarious work, automation and new technologies which were changing workers' jobs, the future of rail depended on workers' ability to shape and influence change. The railway systems over the world were in very different stages of development. Ownership models and the structures of the companies were different. Transport models differed from country to country, as did the effects of automation; there was no one size fits all when it came to addressing issues on our railways and so we needed to be adaptable. There was a need to focus on organising both in the private and public companies to ensure we continued to fight for a people's railway that benefited all.

The Conference **noted** the ongoing and planned activities in the ITF Railway Section, which included:

- Continued support for the training of young rail members in India and building policy to fight violence and harassment, as well as for women's rights;
- Setting up a network of technical specialists, where affiliates could contact and ask specific questions and receive a rapid response. This group would be able to provide strategic advice, mobilise solidarity as well as provide legal support at an international level and if needed take issues to the ILO when companies were in breach;
- Database sharing information and best practices on how unions had dealt with privatisation;
- ITF Railway Facebook page that had regular updates on railway development and union responses to issues of privatisation, safety and industrial action; and
- The significance of the ITF mutual understanding with CIS countries and its potential to grow mass membership across the region.

During a discussion the following points were raised:

- The new pension scheme in India would have an impact on young and women workers in the future;
- Health and safety was a major concern with standards being forced down across the industry endangering worker's lives due to privatisation;
- There was a need to engage educate and organise young workers;
- The need for deeper analysis of global railway unions and their internal capacities and density; and
- A large number of affiliates were affected by fragmentation of the railway industry with increased awareness of outsourcing and its impact.

The Conference **adopted** the section related priorities for 2019-2023, as presented.

Agenda Item 5: Motions

The Conference considered the motions referred by the Resolutions Committee, as follows:

Motion 10: Safe access

The Conference **adopted** the motion, as presented.

A Motion on Building Claims Convergence had been presented by the CGT, France; the Conference **agreed** to remit to the next ITF Railway Section Steering Committee.

Agenda item 6: Elections

The Conference **noted** there was an error in the names under Europe in the composition prior to the elections, this was clarified, agreed and **endorsed** by the Conference.

The following were elected by the Conference:

Chair	David Gobe (CGT Cheminots, France)
1 st Vice Chair	Julio Sosa (LA FRATERNIDAD, Argentina)
2 nd Vice Chair	C J Rajasridhar (AIRF, India)
3 rd Vice Chair	Raul Sengo (SINPOCAF, Mozambique)
Women Transport Workers' Representative	Simi Lalsingh (NFIR, India)
Young Transport Workers' Representative	Luciano Salomon (ASFA, Argentina)

The Conference agreed the composition of the Railway Committee, attached as **Annex 1**.

Agenda Item 7: Any other business

Gold Award

A Gold Award was presented at the Conference to Øystein Aslaksen by the General Secretary for outstanding service to the cause of transport workers internationally, in defence and furtherance of the interests of those workers, and for the preservation of trade union freedoms and rights:

RAILWAY SECTION COMMITTEE
As of 16 October 2018

Section Officers	
Chair	David Gobé (CGT Cheminots, France)
1 st Vice Chair	Julio Sosa (La Fraternidad, Argentina)
2 nd Vice Chair	C A Rajasridhar (AIRF, India)
3 rd Vice Chair	Raul Sengo (SINPOCAF, Mozambique)
Women Transport Workers' Representative	Simi Lalsingh (NFIR, India)
Young Transport Workers' Representative	Luciano Salomon (ASFA, Argentina)
Africa	
Vice Chair	Jean Bedel Ndundula (CSC, Democratic Republic of Congo)
Vice Chair	Irene Nthulane (SATAWU, South Africa)
Vice Chair	Raphael Benjamin Okoro (NUR, Nigeria)
Arab World	
Chair	Ahmed Rachid Sennouni, UMT, Morocco
Vice Chair	Larbi Yacoubi (SNCFT, Tunisia)
Asia/Pacific	
Chair	Wayne Butson (RMTU, New Zealand)
Vice Chair	Pinyo Rueanpetch (SRUT, Thailand)
Vice Chair	C A Rajasridhar (AIRF, India)
Vice Chair	<i>Vacant</i>
Women Transport Workers' Representative	Jaya Agarwal (AIRF, India)
Young Transport Workers' Representative	Banpot Sungkasuk (SRUT, Thailand)
Europe	
Chair	Giorgio Tuti (SEV, Switzerland)
Vice Chair	Maria Cristina Marzola (FILT-CGIL, Italy)
Ordinary Member	David Gobé (CGT Cheminots, France)
Ordinary Member	Marion Carstens (EVG, Germany)
Women Transport Workers' Representative	Daniela Zlatkova (FTTUB, Bulgaria)
Young Transport Workers' Representative	Christian Tschigg (FIT-CISL, Italy)
Latin America/Caribbean	
Chair	Julio Adolfo Sosa (La Fraternidad, Argentina)
Vice Chair	Edison Alvarado (FENTRAFEVE, Venezuela)
Vice Chair	Helio de Souza Regato de Andrade (FNTF, Brazil)
Vice Chair	<i>Vacant</i>
North America	
Co-Chair	Bob Orr (UNIFOR, Canada)
Co-Chair	Joseph Condo (TCU, USA)