

## INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

*Organization.* The Congress meets every 4 years. It elects the Executive Board of 50 members nominated on an area basis for a 4-year period; 5 seats are reserved for women, nominated by the Women's Committee; and the Board meets at least once a year. Various committees cover economic and social policy, violation of trade union and other human rights, trade union co-operation projects and also the administration of the International Solidarity Fund. There are joint ICFTU-International Trade Secretariat committees for co-ordinating activities.

The ICFTU has branch offices in Geneva and New York, and regional organizations in America (Caracas), Asia (Singapore) and Africa (Nairobi).

*Headquarters:* Bd. Emile Jacqmain 155, Brussels 1210, Belgium.

*Website:* <http://www.icftu.org>

*General Secretary:* Bill Jordan (UK).

*Publications.* *Free Labour World* (monthly); *Occupational Health and Safety Bulletin*; *Survey of Violations of Trade Union Rights* (annual); *World Economic Review* (annual).

## WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS (WFTU)

*Origin and History.* The WFTU was founded on a worldwide basis in 1945 at the international trade union conferences held in London and Paris, with the participation of all the trade union centres in the countries of the anti-Hitler coalition. The aim was to reunite the world trade union movement at the end of the Second World War. The acute political differences among affiliates, especially the east-west confrontation in Europe on ideological lines, led to a split. A number of affiliated organizations withdrew in 1949 and established the ICFTU. The WFTU now draws its membership from the industrially developing countries like India, Vietnam and other Asian countries, Brazil, Peru, Cuba and other Latin American countries, Syria, Lebanon, Kuwait and other Arab countries, and it has affiliates and associates in more than 20 European countries. It has close relations with the International Confederation of Arab Trade Unions, the Organization of African Trade Union Unity as well as the All-China Federation of Trade Unions, all of which participated at its Congress in Damascus in 1994. Its Trade Unions Internationals (TUIs) have affiliates in Russia, the Czech Republic, Poland and other East European countries, Portugal, France, Spain, Japan and other OECD countries.

The headquarters of the TUIs are situated in Helsinki, New Delhi, Budapest, Paris and Moscow. The WFTU and its TUIs have 130m. members, organized in 92 affiliated or associated national federations and 6 Trade Unions Internationals, in 130 countries. It has regional offices in New Delhi, Havana, Dakar, Damascus and Moscow and Permanent Representatives accredited to the UN in New York, Geneva and Rome.

*Headquarters:* Branicka 112, CZ-14701 Prague 4, Czech Republic.

*Website:* <http://www.wftu.org>

*President:* Indrajit Gupta (India)

*General Secretary:* Aleksandr Zharikov (Russia).

*Publications.* *Flashes From the Trade Unions* (fortnightly, published in English, French, Spanish and Arabic), reports of Congresses, etc.