

ALTERNATIVA DEMOCRÁTICA SINDICAL DE LAS AMÉRICAS



SINDICALISMO DE VALORES Y PRINCIPIOS

III ANNIVERSARY OF TRADE UNION DEMOCRATIC ALTERNATIVE OF THE AMERICAS

PRONOUNCEMENT OF TRADE UNION DEMOCRATIC ALTERNATIVE OF THE AMERICAS - ADS, IN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE THIRD ANNIVERSARY 2017 - 2020

The Continental Board of Directors of the Democratic Union Alternative of the Americas –ADS, meeting virtually, on 04/17/2020, on the occasion of its Third Aniversario, approved the following pronouncement with regard to workers, and global public opinión.

During these 3 years of existence, ADS consolidates itself by reaffirming its commitment to unionism of values and principles, with autonomy, democracy, unity and solidarity. In defense of workers' rights, in defense of employment, health, social security, Democracy, Social Dialogue, Collective Bargaining, Decent Work, the Environment, Sustainable Development, and an economic model with Justice Social, and better living conditions and dignity for society in all the countries of the Americas, the Caribbean and the world.

ADS, was founded in 2017, in a context and very difficult situation in the region and the world. With economic, political and social crisis, unemployment, attack on labor and union rights, crisis of trade unionism in the region and worldwide, bankruptcy and threat of democracy, and the intensification of dictatorships, and the establishment of governments with authoritarian tendencies in various countries in the region, such as Venezuela, Nicaragua, Cuba, Brazil, among others.

We consider that at this time, 3 years later, the situation in the Americas, the Caribbean, and the world has not changed, and on the contrary has deepened, and worsened with the crisis of the Coronavirus pandemic,

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COVID 19, which it has become the greatest health, economic and social crisis of all humanity.

Union Democratic Alternative of the Americas, considers that the pandemic of the new Coronavirus - COVID 19, is a common enemy of all humanity, which has already infected more than 2.5 million people, with a balance of more than 170,000 deaths throughout the world. We must fight and act tirelessly with unity and solidarity to defeat him.

ADS expresses its solidarity with workers, unionism and with all peoples, due to the serious health situation, and the economic and social impacts that we are facing in almost every country in the world. We express condolences to all the families who have lost their loved ones who are victims of COVID 19.

We reject all harmful actions, measures and projects, which have been proposed and implemented by various governments and business sectors, which seek to take advantage of the health crisis to obtain undue and bad faith advantages, undermining rights, violating collective bargaining, and laws. Constitutional laws of the countries, unaware of the unions, the mechanisms of social dialogue, tripartism and international labor standards of the International Labor Organization-ILO.

We denounce the violation of human and union rights in several countries in the region, especially Venezuela, Nicaragua, Cuba, Brazil, Colombia, among others, and which are characterized by authoritarianism, attack on rights and unions, violence and persecution, against activists, union and social leaders who work in defense of rights, democracy, social justice and better living conditions for the population.

The serious pandemic crisis, COVID 19, indicates that we must all make efforts and contribute to the fight against the epidemic, initially focused on saving lives, public health, and the well-being of people, and involving drastic

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measures such as isolation, quarantine and health prevention measures, as the best way to prevent and contain the rapid spread of the virus.

For which the State, democratic institutions and the private sector must allocate economic resources for the food subsistence of all people, and safeguard employment, rights and a minimum and adequate functioning of the economy, during the period of isolation, quarantine and the state of public calamity, at the national, regional and global levels.

We consider that the scenario and perspectives of serious economic, political and social impacts, in the Americas, the Caribbean and globally, will require the effort and contribution of the States, the productive and financial sectors, social and union sectors, and the whole of the society, to seek consensus and agreements that allow the resumption of economic activities, having as a compass and objective, the imperative to overcome and improve the deep economic and social inequalities in the Americas, the Caribbean and the world.

In this sense, it is essential that governments and business sectors create the conditions and spaces for social dialogue and tripartism, where all social sectors, unions and the general population can debate and contribute to measures and projects for sustainable development with social justice and safe and fair overcoming of the current health, political, economic and social crisis that we are facing at regional and global level.

We demand the suspension and cancellation of the external debt of all developing countries, especially the poorest countries in the Americas, the Caribbean and the world, since with the serious economic and social impacts of COVID 19, it will be almost impossible to survival of the poorest and most vulnerable population, and the economic and social development of these countries is seriously compromised.

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Finally, the Democratic Union Alternative of the Americas, strongly rejects the anti-democratic and anti-union decision, taken by the ILO Governing Body at its 337 meeting on October 24, 2019, where it was denied to ADS (without any reason or argument), the Status of Consultative Organization before the ILO, just for the simple fact of ADS not belonging to regional and global union monopolies, which in many cases are curved to the interests of governments and capital, against the workers' rights and interests, as is the case in Venezuela.

Union Democratic Alternative of the Americas, represents more than 20 million workers, from 25 union organizations, from 15 Latin American and Caribbean countries, in this regard, we respectfully request your colleague GUY RYDER, Director General of the ILO, so that, through him, the Governing Body reconsiders that decision and the Consultative Status of ADS is recognized as a social partner before the ILO; in the same way as it is recognized to other international organizations of workers, in compliance with the principles, mandate and constitution of the ILO.

¡WITH FIGHT, UNITY AND SOLIDARITY, WE WILL OVERCOME!

Executive Committee

Julio Roberto Gómez Esguerra
President

Nilton Souza Da Silva
General secretary

Bogotá, Colombia, April 21, 2020