



# Overview of the Congress Week

## Programmes of Congress Events

3rd World Congress | 1-5 December 2013 | Bangkok | Thailand



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# Timetable of Events around the 3rd World Congress

## 1-5 December 2013, Bangkok, Thailand

	December 1 SUNDAY	December 2 MONDAY	December 3 TUESDAY	December 4 WEDNESDAY	December 5 THURSDAY
9:00 – 13:00	Gender Thematic Forum	Regional Committee Meetings	World Board World Council	World Congress	World Congress
14:30 – 18:00	Gender Thematic Forum  International Women's Committee (IWC)	Regional Thematic Forums		World Congress	World Congress  World Council
			18:30 Welcome Cocktail		20:00 Congress Dinner



# Programme of the Gender Forum

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# Global Gender Forum: Sunday, December 1, 2013 Gender and “Jobs for All, Justice for All”

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**9:30-15:30**

## **AGENDA (PROPOSED)**

### **Opening and Welcome Remarks**

#### **Introduction and Welcome**

- Edna Opoku Boackye, PUWU, Ghana, Chair of International Women’s Committee
- Fatimah Mohammad, Chair of Asia Pacific Regional Women’s Committee
- Ambet Yuson, General Secretary

#### **“Jobs for All, Justice for All”: What Does it Mean for Women Workers?**

Guest Speaker: TBD

Overview of the global landscape facing women

#### **Plenary: Women Respond to “Jobs for All, Justice for All”**

Representatives from each region will focus on pertinent issues impacting women in the region under the frame of “Jobs for All, Justice for All.”

#### **Discussion: Development of a Global Women's Campaign**

#### **Congress Proceedings**

#### **Conclusion**





# Programme of the Thematic Forums

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## Thematic Forums: Monday, December 2, 2013 Organizing for “Jobs for All, Justice for All”

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**14:00-15:30**

### **Global Thematic Forums Session 1: “Jobs for All”**

The forum will focus on:

- Case studies highlighting organizing campaigns on the Congress theme of “Jobs for All.”
- Assessment of strategies and recommendations in development of future campaigns.

#### **Forum 1: Multinational Companies & Public infrastructure projects**

The BWI has developed many tools to engage Multinational Companies (MNCs) such as social dialogue, sign global agreements to promote workers’ rights, and development of corporate campaigns. Some unions have been able to utilize global agreements in their organizing efforts. MNCs from emerging markets are increasingly active in international construction contracts. MNCs are employing thousands of workers in infrastructure projects.. Many of them are funded by Multilateral Development Banks which have now introduced mandatory labor standards. BWI and its affiliates have made advances in organizing strategies such as on the Panama Canal project, the rail and road corridors in the Balkans, on infrastructure projects related to the Football Euro Cup 2012 and the Football World Cup 2014 in Brazil and on hydropower projects in Africa. The panel will highlight how MNCs shape industrial relations in their operations and how trade unions could have greater influence over them. The panelists will discuss how to achieve better trade union representation and negotiate collective bargaining agreements on infrastructure sites by using labor clauses in public contracts, inter-trade union co-operation, networking and other tools.

*Moderator: Gerardo Martinez, UOCRA, Argentina*

#### **Forum 2: Employment Relations**

Employment in the construction industry has always been unstable, insecure and short-term for the duration of the construction project due to the project-based nature of the building industry and constant variations in the demands for labour. However some decades ago the majority of workers employed in the industry particularly in Europe and North America were employed on a full-time, permanent basis and the higher incidence of short-term and precarious employment is a more recent phenomenon. One of the bitter consequences of globalization has been the increase in precarious forms of employment, which has been the norm in many countries in the South. Where there is little direct employment, we have large numbers of informal workers, “self employed” workers, agency workers, and labour-only subcontracting as well as long chains of sub-contractors. In certain industrialised countries, such practices have been widely applied for a long time; in others they are relatively new but growing rapidly. They are all the more worrying as they go hand in hand with a weakening of workers’ protection. At national levels, a number of BWI affiliates have developed their own strategies and gained experience. The panel will highlight those experiences and discuss possible alternatives.

*Moderator: Vasco Pedrina, UNIA, Switzerland*

**16:00-18:00**

## **Global Thematic Forums Session 2: “Justice for All”**

The forum will focus on:

- Case studies highlighting campaigns on “Justice for All.”
- Assessment of strategies and recommendations in development of future campaigns.

### **Forum 3: Migration**

Today 105 million persons work in another country than where they were born and large share work in the BWI sectors. For example 40% of all migrant workers in Russia work in the construction industry. In Spain before the collapse of the property market 21% of all migrants were employed in construction. In Qatar, with the world’s highest proportion of migrant workers (94% of the work force), 506,000 of all 1.2 million migrant workers in the country worked in construction. Also the forestry and wood sectors are increasingly depending on migrant workers as it is estimated that migrant workers make up 65% of all forestry plantation workers in Peninsular Malaysia and 90 % in the state of Sabah. As many countries continue to rely on migrant workers, the industries that BWI represent has become increasingly temporary and insecure. Migrant workers are paid low wages and are not covered by social and labour legislation. The panel will present successful cases of organizing migrant workers.

*Moderator: Rama Chandra Khuntia, INBFCWF, India*

### **Forum 4: Democracy and trade union rights**

In many countries workers are the victims of the economic crisis and faces wage dumping, lower minimum wages and pensions, rising retirement ages, cuts in social benefits and public services, mass redundancies, threats to lose bargaining autonomy, increases in inequality and poverty, attacks on workers’ rights and even on democracy. Recently, the entire world witnessed as workers and trade unions in MENA and the Gulf broke the silence of long oppression and suppression from old dictators by calling and fighting for democracy economic justice and equal distribution of wealth and resources. , Although supposed democratic reforms were ushered in Egypt and Tunisia, tensions still exist. In addition, the ongoing struggle in Syria along with continued repression in Bahrain reminds us that the fight for democratic and economic rights continues forward in the region. . The panel will discuss on how to counteract attacks on trade union rights and democracy and how international solidarity could play an important role in supporting their struggle..

*Moderator: Piet Matosa, NUM, South Africa*



# Congress Programme

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## BWI 3rd World Congress, 4-5 December 2013, Bangkok, Thailand

**Draft 1: World Congress Programme**

<b>PROGRAMME</b>	
<b>December 4</b>	
9:00	<b>Agenda Item 1. Congress Opening Session</b>
	<b>Commemoration of Deceased</b> Singing ensemble of the "Martyr" song in Korean, Chinese, and Thai
	<b>Opening Address: Klaus WieseHügel</b>
	<b>Welcome Remarks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Representative of the Thai Government</li> <li>• Thailand Labour Solidarity Committee (TLSC)</li> <li>• International Labour Organisation (ILO)</li> </ul>
	<b>Speech of the Guest of Honour</b>
	<b>Video projection of the Congress Theme</b>
10:30	Coffee break
11:00	<b>Agenda Item 2. Adoption of Congress Agenda</b>
	<b>Agenda Item 3. Adoption of Standing Orders</b>
	<b>Agenda Item 4. Election of Congress Committees</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Credential committee</li> <li>b) Resolution committee</li> <li>c) Election committee</li> </ul>
	<b>Agenda Item 5. Report on Activities</b>
	<b>Agenda Item 6. Auditors Report</b>
	11:45
12:30	Lunch Break <b>Deadline for Emergency Resolutions at 14:00</b>
14:00	Report of the Credentials Committee Adoption of the BWI Activities Report
14:15	<b>Panel Discussion: Focus on Economic and Political Challenges and Opportunities for "Jobs for All, Justice for All"</b> Guest panellists will address the impact of the global economic crisis on workers with emphasis on the link to the political backlash against workers and trade unions and the undermining of democracy.
15:30	Coffee break
	<b>Agenda Item 7. BWI Statutes</b>
	<b>Agenda Item 8. Strategic plan</b> <b>Presentation of BWI Strategic Plan</b> <b>Discussions</b>
	17.30

<b>PROGRAMME</b>	
<b>December 5</b>	
9:00	<b>Agenda Item 9.a. Presentation of Motions and Resolutions Part Discussions</b>
10:30	Coffee break
11:00	<b>Agenda Item 9.b. Adoption of Strategic Plan, Motions and Resolutions</b> <b>Panel Discussion: Organizing, Mobilizing, and Campaigning Forward for “Jobs for All, Justice for All”</b> Panellists will focus on concrete strategies on mobilizing and campaigning BWI and its affiliates to implement the 2013 to 2017 Strategic Plan. Future organizing campaigns can also be highlighted.
12:30 to 14:00	Lunch Break
14:00	<b>Agenda Item 10. Elections</b> a) World Council b) President and Deputy President(s) c) General Secretary d) Auditors <b>Acceptance Speeches by New Presidium</b> <b>Speech by Klaus WieseHügel, Outgoing President</b> <b>Ceremony of BWI Gold Pins</b> <b>Agenda Item 11. Place and Date of Next Congress</b> <b>Closing Speech by New President</b> <b>Closing Ceremony</b> <b>Video Collage Presentation (I am BWI Video)</b>
20:00	Congress Dinner