

## **From the World Federation of Trade Unions**

**Messages of the International Women's Day remain guide every struggle against the exploitative system**

March 8, 2024

**Secretariat of the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU)**

Dear comrades,

The World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU), on behalf of its 105 million members around the world, honours the the pioneering women workers of New York City and women workers in every corner of the globe who, under difficult circumstances, have fought and continue to fight for peace, social justice, equality and equity.

The Tokyo Rally organised by SHISO-UNDO, and every event that takes place in this landscape, is not only a commemoration of the International Women's Day, but is also a reminder to the world that the messages of this day remain relevant and guide every struggle against the capitalist, exploitative system that generates discrimination and inequality.

The neoliberal policies serve the interests of the few at the expense of working people and lead millions of people into poverty, misery and migration. Policies which marginalize the issues of equality, social justice and prosperity. In this situation, we observe that Japan is not an exception, where more than a half of working women are non-regular workers who are under low wages and poor working conditions. Moreover, the imperialist ambitions lead to wars and conflicts with thousands of deaths and destruction. The ongoing genocide in Gaza of thousands of civilians, the majority of whom are women and children, is a striking example.

The WFTU respectfully commemorates this day and sends a fighting salute to all women in every corner of the globe. For the WFTU, the struggle for women's empowerment and the securing of all women's rights is high on its priorities. The recent International Working Women Congress of the WFTU, reaffirmed that the class-oriented trade union movement, will continue to struggle:

- For more women in the ranks of the progressive trade union movement.
- For work with collective agreements, regulated terms and conditions of employment, especially in sectors and industries where women are subordinated.
- For demanding structures, services and programmes to support women's employment and motherhood.
- For equal participation at work and in the society.
- For the elimination of discrimination in the workplaces, in wages and pensions.
- For safety and health in the work and family environment, free from violence, sexual harassment and bullying.

The WFTU salutes your Rally on the occasion of the International Women's Day. We take this opportunity to call on working women to join the class trade union movement, organized, collectively, together and side by side with male workers to fight for a world free from wars, from all forms of exploitation, where the working class can prosper and taste the fruits of their work.

(Headline by the editorial office)