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### Today's Keynote Speaker, Heiner Flassbeck

Dr. Heiner Flassbeck comes from the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.



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### IMF Secretariat Report

Former IMF General Secretary, Marcello Malentacchi, reported yesterday on outcomes and IMF activities undertaken over the last four years.

## CONGRESS ELECTS NEW IMF LEADERSHIP

**IMF affiliates were united in their support for the new leadership team elected by Congress yesterday, with a mandate until 2013.**

Following adoption of amendments to the IMF Rules, the congress directly elected five leadership positions ensuring greater representation of the various regions of the IMF.

Berthold Huber, IG Metall President, was elected IMF President. Huber has been a member of IG Metall since 1971 and served as IG Metall

Vice President since 2003 and President since 2007.

Thomas Buffenbarger, International President of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers (IAM), was elected by Congress delegates as IMF Vice President. Buffenbarger leads over 700,000 active and retired IAM members in Canada and the U.S.

Jyrki Raina, Nordic IN General Secretary, was elected IMF General Secretary. Recognising the unanimous support for his election, Raina said, "Our unity is the base

of our force. It is with pride and a great sense of humility that I accept this election." Raina began his trade union work in Finland and for the last six years has coordinated the Nordic unions' activities in Europe and at the global level.

Hiroshi Kamada and Fernando Lopes were elected by Congress as IMF Assistant General Secretaries.

The Congress also elected the members of the Executive Committee and Auditing Committee, which can be seen on the IMF website.





## WORKING GROUP CALLS FOR MORE IMF ENGAGEMENT IN CHINA

**The IMF's Working Group on China delivered its report to the IMF World Congress calling on delegates to revive their commitment to engage with Chinese workers in multinational companies on trade union and human rights.**

Göran Johnsson, former Svenska Metal President, addressed the Congress urging the IMF to increase engagement with Chinese workers and unions at the local level. "Chinese workers deserve good conditions, Chinese workers deserve democratic trade unions," Johnsson said, adding "...if we want to achieve our objectives, we must develop new activities." Johnsson also called on the IMF

and its affiliates to push for China to adopt and ratify all core ILO Conventions.

The working group reported that despite the economic downturn throughout the world, China's economy continues to grow at a steady rate of eight per cent, noting that this figure will increase once world economies recover.

In April 2009 the IMF held a seminar in Shanghai, China to discuss issues such as collective bargaining at the national level and trade union responses to the economic crisis. IMF affiliates from five countries participated in the seminar as did local and national leaders of the All China Federation of Trade Unions (ACFTU).

## PEOPLE

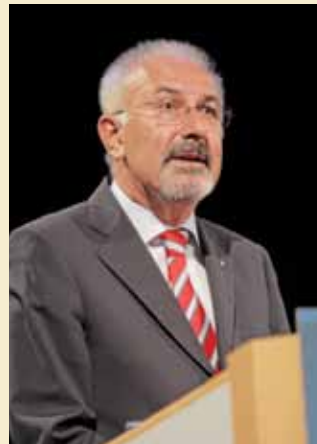
### Dr. Heiner Flassbeck

**Today, Dr. Heiner Flassbeck delivers the keynote address on the IMF Congress theme, Secure Jobs for a Secure Future.**

Dr. Heiner Flassbeck is Director of the Division on Globalisation and Development Strategies of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). He is the principal author and the leader of the team preparing UNCTAD's *Trade and Development Report*. The *Trade and Development Report* is the flagship annual publication of UNCTAD covering both recent and longer term issues in the world economy, with particular emphasis on the implications for developing countries.



Dr. Flassbeck is the Chairman of UNCTAD's Task Force on Systemic Issues and Economic Cooperation, which examines the causes of the current financial and economic crisis as well as the related solutions. The report of the Task Force, titled, "*The Global Economic Crisis: Systemic Failures and Multilateral Remedies*", has been published recently.



*We want a globalization with a human face. Melodic declarations have to be changed into worldwide considered laws.*

**Jürgen Peters**  
former IMF president

## We asked Congress delegates: "What must unions do to ensure that permanent jobs lost as a result of the



*Fight to ensure that permanent and precarious workers are protected by the same laws and collective agreements.*

**Luis García Ortiz**  
ASIMRA, Argentina



*Negotiate redundancy agreements that allow for re-employment of former employees and permanent employment commitments.*

**Dave Oliver**  
AMWU, Australia



*Insist on standards so that family-supporting wages are sustained along with full workers' rights.*

**Ken Neumann**  
USW, Canada



*Negotiate collective agreements which limit the use of precarious contracts and provide for training for more qualified and sustainable jobs.*

**Blandine Landas**  
FGMM-CFDT, France

**TUESDAY**  
**26 MAY, 2009**

**8:30**

**Berthold Huber**

New IMF President Berthold Huber will address Congress delegates. Huber, president of IG Metall, replaces former IMF President Jürgen Peters.

**8:45**

**Jyrki Raina**

Jyrki Raina, the newly elected IMF General Secretary, will address the Congress. Raina replaces Marcello Malentacchi who has served as IMF General Secretary for 20 years.

**9:15**

**Keynote address**

Dr. Heiner Flassbeck delivers the keynote address on the IMF Congress theme, Secure Jobs for a Secure Future

**10:00**

**IMF Action Programme**

Julius Roe, AMWU General Secretary and Chairperson of the Action Programme Committee, opens debate on the IMF Action Programme 2009-2013.



**Tom Buffenbarger, IAM President and IMF Vice-President, chairs today's morning session.**

**12:15**

**Media briefing**

Keynote speaker Heiner Flassbeck is available for interview following his speech Secure Jobs for a Secure Future. Congress Hall.

**18:00**

**Special Event: Organising EPZ workers**

A special presentation on organising EPZ workers will take place in room J1 of the Convention Centre. See page 4.



## SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITY OF THE CRISIS OR PERISH

The IMF Secretariat Report to delegates urged unions worldwide to mobilize workers to seize the opportunity the current economic crisis represents.

"More and more employers are using the financial crisis as an excuse to limit or erode fundamental worker rights," said outgoing IMF General Secretary Marcello Malentacchi.

Mr. Malentacchi blamed the failure of global financial institutions to properly control the world's economy for the current crisis.

"The market forces that were supposed to improve welfare for all have instead created social unrest and generated more poverty in many countries.

"Knowing as we do the causes and impacts of the current crisis, we must now look to how we can transform it"

But, Malentacchi cautioned that unions' ability to organize the unorganized was crucial to their ability to respond to the crisis.

"Opportunity is there if we can seize it, but only if we are able to reach

out to workers and mobilize them into action.

"It is up to unions to ensure that we are able to motivate individuals into solidarity and collective action.

"When we work together to exert that power on a local, regional, national and global level, unions can influence and force change on companies, governments and laws.

"From there we may create the kinds of change that will bring secure jobs for a secure future."

## Economic crisis are not replaced by precarious jobs when economies recover?"



*Organise a fight at all levels against making workers pay for the crisis by redundancies, dismissals or irregularization of work.*

**Hyewon Chong**  
KMWU, Korea



*Promote secure jobs for a secure future and try to create a global law which regulates precarious work.*

**Malgorzata Calinska-Mayer**  
Solidarnosc, Poland



*Impose their own solidarity in the struggle to ban all forms of precarious work and ensure quality jobs are guaranteed.*

**Irvin Jim**  
NUMSA, South Africa

# UNION ROADSHOW: EPZ ORGANISING IN INDONESIA

**Where: Room J1**

**When: Today at 18:00**

Millions of workers throughout the world work in Export Processing Zones, or EPZs. Their employment contracts are precarious, their wages are low and their working conditions are substandard. Most of them are young women.

It has always been extremely difficult for unions to organise EPZ workers, with employers and even governments crushing unionisation attempts. The result is that the very workers that have most need of a union are denied the opportunity to join one to protect their rights.

But in Indonesia, something extraordinary is happening. Unions are helping workers to move from temporary contracts to permanent employment. Wages are increasing and so is union membership.

The IMF has produced a special video to showcase the successful organising strategies that Indonesian unions are using to organise EPZ workers. 'Union Roadshow' showcases the possibilities that lie in unionising EPZs, and aims to inspire unions in other parts of the world to intensify their efforts to organise EPZ workers.



A discussion with representatives from IMF's Indonesian affiliates FSPMI and Lomenik-SBSI will follow the video screening. The

presentation will be in English.

Light refreshments will be available.

## INTERVIEW: BERTHOLD HUBER, NEW IMF PRESIDENT

### *How did you come to the trade union movement?*

How can I help to overcome inequity so that people will continue to emancipate themselves? These are questions that many of us have asked before they got involved in the Union, me too. I was very young when I became a shop steward in a traditional bus manufacturer in southern Germany. Later I studied philosophy before joining IG Metall.

### *How do you see the crisis and how do we overcome it?*

I have no patent remedy how the crisis can be overcome. But I know that the financial market-driven capitalism has brought the economy into the abyss and many people are in misery. The world needs to change direction. We need more responsibility in the economy, more co-determination of workers, more control of markets through the democratic state. The economy is there for the people and not the other way around.

### *What does precarious employment mean for you?*

Precarious employment is a modern form of exploitation. It denies people, the outlook on life and life security. Precarious employment is a manifestation of capitalism that has led us into the crisis. All States are urged to regulate precarious employment: minimum wages, good working conditions and participation rights are basic conditions. Decent work with good working conditions is not only a human



right but also economically reasonable.

IMF CONGRESS  
NEWS



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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **32nd World Congress website**

Complete Congress 2009 coverage, including news, speeches, amendments and resolutions, can be found at [www.imfmetal.org/Congress2009](http://www.imfmetal.org/Congress2009).

### **Sign up for IMF Newsbriefs and Solidarity Action Alerts**

IMF Newsbriefs delivers global news about metalworkers to you! Produced in Russian, French, Spanish and English, Newsbriefs is distributed via email/fax every two weeks. IMF Solidarity Action Alerts is a new tool developed to inform subscribers of urgent solidarity

requests when they arise. Solidarity Action Alerts help affiliates to respond immediately and effectively to calls for action where labour rights abuses are occurring. Sign up for IMF Newsbriefs or Solidarity Action Alerts online at [www.imfmetal.org](http://www.imfmetal.org).

### **IMF videos and Congress Highlights DVDs**

Tomorrow, delegates will receive a double DVD pack of IMF films and Congress highlights. The highlights DVD features first speeches by new IMF General Secretary Jyrki Raina and new IMF President Berthold Huber, the keynote speech by Heiner Flassbeck and vox pops from Congress delegates on key issues.

The pack also includes four short films profiling the IMF's global work.

### **Local recommendations**

We asked IF Metall's local Gothenburg branch, where is the best place to go shopping? Here is what they said: *Avenyn — Gothenburg's main thoroughfare. In the summertime the streets are full of people. There are many shops on the Avenyn and the restaurants, all of which have outdoor tables, are located one after another.*

