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INTERNATIONAL METALWORKERS' FEDERATION  
INTERNATIONALER METALLGEWERKSCHAFTSBUND  
FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES ORGANISATIONS DE TRAVAILLEURS  
DE LA METALURGIE  
INTERNATIONELLA METALLFEDERATIONEN  
FEDERACION INTERNACIONAL DE TRABAJADORES DE LAS INDUSTRIAS  
METALURGICAS  
FEDERAZIONE INTERNAZIONALE DEI SINDICATI METALMECCANICI

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## IMF MISSION STATEMENT ON ARGENTINA

The participants of the Mission to Argentina of the International Metalworkers' Federation (IMF), a global trade union body representing 25 million members in the world's metal industry, express their total solidarity and support with the IMF-affiliated unions in this country (AOMA, ASIMRA, SMATA and UOM) in the unprecedented crisis which Argentina and its people are enduring. This situation clearly has a global dimension and, therefore, demands a response of the same nature.

The IMF's trade union mission has held in-depth discussions with the different political, economic, social and trade union players in the country. These talks have allowed for a better understanding of all issues which led to the crisis and its further development. On the basis of these discussions, the IMF:

1. denounces policies of structural adjustment (reduction in public spending, privatisations, etc.) imposed on Argentina by the International Monetary Fund, resulting in the destruction of the productive apparatus, a dramatic increase in poverty and the creation of an explosive social situation;
2. demands the implementation of development and investment policies aimed at reactivating industrial activity and generating decent employment, with the active participation of trade unions;
3. requests the Argentinean government to apply basic human rights-directed policies as acknowledged in their own Constitution, such as rights relative to shelter and housing, health care, education, employment and other measures destined to eliminate poverty;
4. demands the adoption of measures which prevent the Argentinean people from paying the burden of the foreign debt;
5. demands the consolidation of MERCOSUR as a regional project of sustainable economic and social development;
6. requests multinational companies, particularly those established in Argentina, to resume or continue their production and investment

- activities, which represent employment sources and wealth creation in the country;
7. intends to intercede with international financial bodies so that policies of equality and social justice are implemented which benefit the population;
  8. will disseminate, through its members, information about the actual situation in Argentina and will work for trade union solidarity through concrete actions;
  9. demands the immediate release of social activists in the country who have been unjustly detained.

Buenos Aires, April 10, 2002