

n°5 - JUNE - 2009

UNI P&L

Bulletin

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"Keep The Post Public" CWU's nationwide tour

The CWU, UK is carrying out a nationwide tour of Great Britain - John O'Groats to Land's End - to highlight their "Keep The Post Public" campaign which calls on the Government to stop their plans to sell off Royal Mail. The tour will be officially launched on Tuesday 5th May, at John O'Groats.

All 10 regions of the CWU will be directly involved in taking The "Keeping The Public Posted" tour van, a 20 foot inflatable balloon and a giant postcard across the UK for members of the public to add their signature and then delivered to the Prime Minister Gordon Brown at No 10.



To find out how the tour is progressing please check the CWU website for daily blogs, video diary's and general news on where the tour is, and going next. News can be found at: <http://post.cwu.org/>

Billy Hayes, CWU general secretary, said: "Royal Mail is an iconic British service epitomised by the public's affection for post offices, post boxes and holiday postcards. "Postal workers are at the heart of communities the length and breadths of the country, ensuring we all receive our mail six days a week. "Privatisation would threaten

services, push up costs for customers and could lead to job losses and further post office closures."

Post & Logistics unions in Africa moving forward



The UNI Africa Post & Logistics Conference, which was held in Tunisia 14-15 May, concluded with a strong action programme to move Post & Logistics unions in Africa forward. Issues discussed included the liberalisation of the postal market in Africa, the adverse affects of the financial crisis on African postal workers which has been leading to outsourcing as postal operators and express mail companies use contractors instead of skilling and training staff to do this work. The unions also want investment that will allow post offices in Africa to join the IFS money transfer system.

The conference discussed the increasing number of express mail and logistics companies that are entering the African market and they pledged to join the UNI/ITF campaign to get DHL to sign a global agreement.

The UNI sponsored HIV AIDS campaign being undertaken with UN AIDS, the UPU and the ILO using Post Offices to distribute information on AIDS prevention was endorsed and supported by the conference.

Elections were also held and Abdoulaye Sembène from SNTPT

Senegal was elected UNI Africa Post & Logistics President, with Mphuti Mathapelo from CWU South Africa elected 1st Vice President and Apeh Daniel Ojonide from SSA-NIPOST Nigeria elected 2nd Vice President.

A full report of the conference can be found at; http://www.uniglobalunion.org/Apps/portal.nsf/pages/sec_20081016_gbkmEn

Royal Mail doubles profit but still makes arbitrary cuts

The CWU said it welcomes Royal Mail's doubling of profit as proof that the company can be a successful market leader and modernise under full public ownership.

Dave Ward, CWU deputy general secretary, said: "We feel vindicated by today's results for our position on full public ownership for the company. While private mail companies, including TNT, have seen huge profit reductions, Royal Mail's operating profit has doubled.

"We believe investment in and the pace of modernisation needs to now be stepped up. It's crucial that upgraded machinery for automated sorting is rolled out and further modernisation to products and services brought in.

Royal Mail is making record profits so postal workers should be rewarded for their contribution to the success of the company. A pay freeze is not defensible in this situation.

Postal workers from 160 workplaces in the Greater London area are being balloted for strike action over Royal Mail's cuts in services to the public and their jobs, terms and conditions.

Royal Mail is imposing 10 per cent arbitrary cost savings on all offices, regardless of workload and without the introduction of machinery or

delivery improvements. These cuts are not linked to a modernisation agenda and could cost 1,600 jobs.

Japan Postal Union sponsors children of Phil Post Union Members

On 30 April, Tokyo branch of Japan Postal Group Union (JPGU), one of the major UNI affiliates in Japan, tendered a recognition ceremony for graduates and current scholars of the JPGU Tokyo/UNI-PLC (UNI Global Union - Philippine Liaison Council) Scholarship Program for poor but serving children of PhilPost employees held at the UNI-PLC headquarters in Cubao, Quezon City, Manila, the Philippines.

The scholarship program was initiated in 2001 with the financial support of former JPU Tokyo, which jointly formed JPGU Tokyo with former Zen-yusei Tokyo in conjunction with the historical amalgamation of their HQs, JPGU and Zen-yusei, in October 2007 to tackle with the challenges of privatization of Japan Post. The scholarship program has sent out 16 graduates since 2005 and 4 of them, who have successfully started working in good companies, attended the ceremony and expressed their heartfelt appreciation for the continuous financial assistance of JPGU Tokyo which has helped them to complete their studies and making their dreams come true.

Working time for road transport workers rejected by MEPs

The European Parliament rejected, at first reading, a proposal by the Commission amending the existing Directive on "the organisation of working time of persons performing mobile road transport activities". The draft proposal does not take into account Parliament's demand of the full inclusion of self-employed drivers, MEPs say. The amendment to reject the Commission proposal put forward by the PES, Greens/EFA and GUE/NGL was adopted with 332 votes in favour, 307 against and 6 abstentions.

The European Parliament adopted the report drawn up by Marie P A N A Y O T O P O U L O S - CASSIOTOU (EPP-ED, EL) rejecting the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2002/15/EC on the organisation of the working time of persons performing mobile road transport activities. It calls on the Commission to withdraw its proposal and take appropriate steps together with Parliament to submit a new proposal.

SNTCT celebrates its 35 years with international seminar

SNTCT, a UNI Post & Logistics Portuguese affiliate, celebrated its 35th anniversary with an international seminar on postal liberalisation. The seminar was the first part of a day's celebration by the union which is currently in a long and hard struggle with Portugal Post (CTT Correios) to bargain a collective contract that is acceptable to the union members.

UNI Post & Logistics participating in the seminar made a presentation on the recently completed research project it has undertaken. UNI told the participants that they

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must continue to fight for quality jobs and to provide quality postal services.

Other speakers from, Spain, Croatia, Greece, Norway, and Italy told the seminar of the serious affects that the global financial crisis was having on the postal industry. They all said that liberalising the markets under these conditions was a bad idea and they called for a halt to liberalisation and that there must be efforts to maintain decent jobs and good wages and conditions for postal workers to help stabilise the world's economy.

Report: NALC and UNIDOC meet

Sis. Anjali Sinha Director UNIDOC (NCR of Delhi) and India Coordinator UNI MEI visited the NALC office in Washington D.C. on the 12th of May 2009. and held discussions.

J.Sauber from the NALC gave details on the status of workers in the postal sector in the USA and competition being faced by private courier services operators. The ensuing competition had not only caused loss of work to the US Postal services but also have had adverse impact on the employees in the sector. A detail on the activities undertaken by NALC followed. Anjali on the other hand gave a brief on the postal services in India, stating that Indian postal services had been domain of the Government of India under the Department of Post. However, postal employees, more so those delivering letters in the rural India, have faced neglect and consequent exploitative working conditions. The entry of private courier services have further deteriorated the postal employees work conditions. However, the postal employees have structurally strong association and are engaged in seeking various protective measures for improving

workplace conditions. The postal unions in India has among the widest network of association since it caters for the rural workers also.

Deutsche Post statements on financial crisis outrageous

UNI Post & Logistics affiliate, Ver.di is reacting to the outrageous statements that Deutsche Post CEO Frank Appel has made about the need to cut cost because of the affects of the Financial Crisis. Appel has threatened layoffs, increased working hours and that Deutsche Post will not pay the 3% wage increase already agreed with ver.di.



Ver.di has responded by saying the Letter Service is not failing! The letter service in the 1st Quarter, listed a profit of 407 million euros

Ver.di is demanding that:

- The working week remains in 38.5 hours!
- The agreed wage increases remain!
- Deutsche Post honours its agreement to exclude layoffs until 30.06.2011!
- No reduction of weekly working hours by changing layoffs!
- No more outsourcing!
- Proper contractual arrangements for the "Packed bag"!

Andrea Kocsis, vice-president of ver.di and head of the federal postal department said Deutsche

Post is not an economic basket case. She sad; "There is no crisis in the mail business. They are trying to ride in the slipstream of the financial crisis and employees are in for it now. This is shameless!"

Postal industry predicts falling mail volumes will continue

Postal industry players were in agreement during the World Mail & Express Europe conference that letter mail volumes will steadily fall over the coming years

http://www.triangle.eu.com/industry_news/feature-four.htm

Mario Petitto re-elected as general secretary of SLP-CISL

From 14th to 16th of May, the 5th national congress of SLP-CISL took place in Castellaneta Marina - Taranto. Under the motto: "To defend and organise the postal sector" the delegates and representatives from all parts of Italy discussed the recent changes and problems in the postal sector.

The main discussion in all of the speeches were the future changes and challenges in the sector and how to cope with them.

Cornelia Berger, the new UNI europa policy officer for the Post & Logistics sector underlined in her contribution the importance of a strong regulation of the postal market. Postal services are a good of special interest for the society and not designed for an open competition. The governments in the whole of Europe have to ensure quality jobs and quality services also in the future.

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Economy still on way down, says US Postmaster General

US Postmaster general John Potter said the slumping economy that's curbing mail volume and extending losses at his agency hasn't hit bottom.

Mail volume may continue to fall, making it harder to return to profitability after a \$1.9bn second-quarter loss, Potter said. The Postal Service is working to trim costs by eliminating routes and cutting jobs. "I wish I could say we've hit bottom already," Potter said during the National Postal Forum convention in Washington. "But we haven't. Like all sectors, we are hoping for a turnaround." Potter, who has asked Congress for permission to reduce mail delivery to five days a week from six, said the Postal Service doesn't expect to make the change soon. The agency is paring expenses in other ways, such as renegotiating supplier contracts and halting construction of new facilities, as it raises prices for mailing letters and packages.

"We have an infrastructure we cannot afford based on revenues we're receiving," Potter said. Revenue dropped 11% to \$16.9bn in the second quarter.

The Postal Service has eliminated 21% of its workforce since the number of employees peaked at 803,000 in 1999, including 25,000 so far this year, Potter said. In the past six months, the agency has cut 2,000 of its 142,000 delivery routes in urban and suburban areas, with a savings of about \$100,000 for each route, he said.

"What we really need to be talking about is, how do we find a path back to break-even and beyond break-even to profitability?" he said. "If the economy comes back, mail will come back. But I don't

think it's going to come back to the levels that we'd seen."

Source: Bloomberg

Austria Post says it will outsource letter delivery

Osterreichische Post said it plans to outsource its letter delivery over the next years as it prepares for the end of its letter monopoly in 2011.

The operator will start with commissioning subsidiaries or private operators for delivery in 24 selected areas this year, covering about 5% of Austrian Post's total letter volume this year, board member Walter Hitziger said on Austrian radio.

The group, which employs around 11,000 in its letter business, has no plans to make workers redundant, but will not fill vacancies coming up when employees leave the company, and instead gradually shift capacity to third-party providers, he said.

In the long term, Austrian Post plans to launch a Europe-wide tender to find an external provider to deliver letters, he said. He did not give a timeframe for this step. The postal workers trade union said it would consider strikes to stop the planned measures

Next meetings:

26-27 July 2009

UNI-Apro Post & Logistics Conference, Jakarta, Indonesia

28-29 July 2009

UNI-Apro DHL Seminar, Jakarta, Indonesia

2 September 2009

European Postal Social Dialogue Working Groups: Accident Prevention / Evolution of Postal Services

7-8 September 2009

UNI-Europa Post & Logistics Conference, Dublin, Ireland

28 September 2009

UNI-Americas Post & Logistics Committee Meeting, Mexico City, Mexico

29-30 September 2009

UNI-Americas Post & Logistics Conference, Mexico City, Mexico

1 October 2009

UNI Post & Logistics World Committee Meeting, Mexico City, Mexico

1-2 October 2009

UNI Post & Logistics World Meeting, Mexico City, Mexico

4 November 2009

European Postal Social Dialogue Working Groups: CSR / Training

17-18 November 2009

UNI-Europa Post & Logistics Committee Meeting, Luxembourg

1 December 2009

European Postal Social Dialogue Plenary, Brussels

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