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**Onderwerp: SOLIDAR Weekly Round Up 11-06-2010**

Today for the first time the Football World Cup tournament will start on the African continent. Millions of people around the world are looking forward to this event, not only in Africa. Those who were present in Germany for the last World Cup know the high spirits of common enthusiasm for the country, and continent, where the tournament is hosted. [Read about some different facets of football culture...](#)

However, there are good reasons to be worried: FIFA has consistently evaded social responsibility for wages and working conditions of the tens of thousands of construction workers employed largely in atypical forms of employment. Furthermore, FIFA has remained silent about the destruction of townships and neighbourhoods for the stadiums to be built on and has not hesitated to restrict the freedom of information by filtering press and media access to the stadiums.

SOLIDAR together with the ITUC, BWI and our member Swiss Labour Assistance (SLA) started a campaign on Decent Work at the World Cup during the World Social Forum in Nairobi in 2007. And this week SLA and more than 1000 trade unionists present at the International Labour Conference in Geneva handed over more than 13,000 signatures or "yellow cards" to FIFA. In order to not repeat this in the World Cup 2014 in Brazil, the pressure must be maintained. The next step would be a red card for FIFA!

Conny Reuter, Secretary General

## INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

### 'EU MEMBER STATES ARE MISSING THEIR AID TARGET' STATES A NEW CONCORD REPORT

European Member States are missing their official development aid targets and jeopardising global efforts to reach the Millennium Development Goals, reveals the new report '[Penalty against Poverty: More and Better EU aid can score Millennium Development Goals \(MDGs\)](#)' published today, 10 June, by CONCORD.

The report states that in the current context of the economic, food and climate change crises, the global effort to achieve the MDGs is facing serious challenges, this while more people in the developing world are going hungry than ever. Some might say that given the huge impact of the economic crisis on Europe such a disappointing trend was inevitable, this is not true. With sufficient political will from the EU, it can still prove itself as a credible development partner and reverse the disappointing trends in its development support seen in 2009. [Read more.](#)

## SOCIAL AFFAIRS

### SOLIDAR DEPLORES LOWERED AMBITIONS ON POVERTY REDUCTIONS

In recent months, the question of having a binding objective and how to define the poverty reduction target, i.e. how precisely should poverty be measured? has provoked widespread disagreement amongst EU Member States. Following this week's meeting of Ministers of Employment and Social Affairs on which poverty indicators should be used, it seems that the EU Summit on 17 June will decide on a compromise, which will replace the Social Protection Committee's proposal (one unifying 'at-risk-of-poverty' measurement) by a package of three alternative yardsticks.

The three yardsticks are 1) At-risk-of-poverty, i.e. people living with less than 60% of the national median income; 2) Material deprivation, i.e. people who experience at least four out of nine defined situations of social exclusion; 3) People living in jobless households, i.e. the population defined in relation to very low work-intensity or unemployment over a whole year. According to this compromise, EU Member States will then choose one of the three indicators to define poverty, depending on what is best suitable to their national needs. [Read more about SOLIDAR's](#)

opinion...

## ROUND TABLE ON 'DECENT WORK AND SOCIAL DIALOGUE IN EUROPE'

On Wednesday 9 June, SOLIDAR organised a Round Table on 'Decent work and social dialogue in Europe: what policies are needed to get out of the crisis?'. Topics discussed included working conditions, and the increasing numbers of people in precarious jobs or with atypical contracts in Europe. Conclusions of the Round Table were the need for clear guidance and concrete measures towards safeguarding employment and creating job security in order to have a balanced implementation of the flexicurity principle. [Read more...](#)

## MEMBERS

SLA handed over a [petition](#) with 13.715 signatures or "yellow cards" to FIFA against exploitations during the World Cup.

AWO published an article '[Sociaale Kälte dieser Sparpolitiek ist ein gesellschaftspolitischer Sündenfall](#)' stating that austerity measures increase child poverty, create working poor and push elderly into poverty.

The [Volonteurope website](#) has undergone a major update. Take a look to stay informed!

Read the Leo Lagrange [Blocnotes n°25](#)

Read the ARCI [Newsletter](#)

## PARTNERS

The United Nations Non-Governmental Liaison Service (UN-NGLS) has produced a [guide](#) to policy dialogue in the area of 'Decent work and fair globalisation' with a SOLIDAR photo on the cover!

ITUC's published an [article](#) stating that their [Annual Survey of Trade Union Rights](#) has documented a dramatic increase in the number of trade unionists murdered in 2009 and also reveals growing pressure on fundamental workers' rights around the world as the impact of the global economic crisis on employment deepened.

ITUC published a second article '[World Cup Soccer Balls; Exploitation still the norm](#)', on a [report](#) revealing that child labour, poverty wages and other labour rights violations are still the norm in the football industry.

BWI published an article '[International Labour Conference \(ILC\) - FIFA drives an unfair globalization by violating workers' rights](#)'

CTUWS published the 'Workers Speech' Magazine N°97 in [Arabic](#)

## AGENDA

17-18 Social Affairs Committee and Seminar on Volunteering, London  
21 Worker's Group, Brussels (EESC)  
24-25 European Integration Forum, Brussels (EESC)  
8-10 EU4U Conference, Linz (Austria)

*SOLIDAR is a European network of 52 NGOs and labour movement organisations. Working in cooperation with progressive civil society and trade unions, SOLIDAR promotes equality, solidarity and social justice in the fields of social affairs, international cooperation and education. SOLIDAR's Weekly Round Up provides you with the latest information and news from the SOLIDAR Network.*

*If you have any comments or wish to have further information on any of the articles featured in the Weekly Round Up, please do not hesitate to contact [SOLIDAR's Communications Officer](#)*

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