

## PRINCIPLES FOR PARTICIPATION (endorsed 2 August 1996)

1. Union federations and individual unions which participate in the Initiative should support core ILO Conventions, in particular ILO Conventions 87 (Freedom of Association) 198 (Collective Bargaining) and 151 (Public Employees). This support should be demonstrated in their organisational structures and practices.
2. Unions which are established by the state or are part of the state which seek to control workers in the interests of capital and the state, cannot be part of the Initiative. Furthermore, unions which are established with the assistance of employers and are dominated by employers should be excluded.
3. This Initiative will include independent unions which are active at the grass roots level in organising and representing the interests of the working class.
4. In terms of these Principles, this Initiative will not exclude or include unions or federations solely on the basis of their political and ideological orientation, or the tactical and strategic goals they may adopt within their own countries to further the interests of the working class.
5. That is, this Initiative should be as broad as possible, within the limits set by this clear definition of genuine unionism.
6. To the extent that we achieve a principled and broad-based, inclusive orientation, we will become a forum for intense, creative debate on working class interests.

In an historical era when the powerful forces of global capital and finance capital, represented by international institutions such as the IMF and World Bank, are ranged against the working class movement, such an approach is of paramount importance. We must be a catalyst for dialogue and debate, as well as strategic initiatives aimed at the protection and renewal of the working class movement.