

Xth National Congress of Delegates of NSZZ "Solidarność"

Jastrzębie Zdrój, 24-24.IX.1998

Statements

Statement on situation of the Silesian workers

The Delegates of the National Congress of NSZZ "Solidarnosc" gathered in Jastrzebie Zdroj - the cradle of Slasko-Dabrowski Region of "Solidarnosc", in the place where 18 years ago one of the three fundamental, historic agreements was signed, where 10 years ago the miners' strikes started the change of the political system of Poland - remind and stress the timeless meaning of the historic postulates of working people. The introduction of reforms, the change of the political system and economical system - though necessary - harm many families and worsen their life conditions.

Dabrowa Gornicza, Sosnowiec, Jastrzebie, Zory, Wodzislaw and many other Silesian cities - these places are dominated by the industry under restructuring. At the same time the threat of unemployment and pauperisation becomes real and disturbing for many people. The existing system of social protection will not be able to counteract the effects of unemployment, and also humiliates a person in dire straits.

We call upon the Government and the Parliament of Poland to undertake actions leading to:

- creation of new workplaces
- support of development of small and medium enterprises
- advisory and education actions
- ensuring of social protection for the dismissed workers in the endangered sectors.

The Delegates of the National Congress state that building of the functional and modern state and effective economy must not be done at the expense of the poorest social groups.

Statement on National Inspection of Labour

The National Congress of Delegates of NSZZ "Solidarnosc" is of the opinion that in the present time of transformation and transition of ownership the subordination of the National Inspection of Labour to the Minister of Labour and Social Policy may be unfavourable from the point of view of defending of labour rights, health and safety and trade unions interests.

The present subordination of the National Inspection of Labour to the Sejm of Poland is the most beneficial solution in the time of political and economical transformation.

Statement on health care system

The National Congress of Delegates of NSZZ "Solidarnosc" expresses its concern about the course of the reform of the health care, regarding especially the introduction of health insurance on 1 January 1999.

The Delegates of the Xth National Congress appeal to the AWS Parliamentary caucus to quicken the necessary legislative and organisation works on the transformation of health care.

The Delegates expect a broad information action directed both to the patients and to the employees of health care.

Statement on financial means for the wages in the state budgetary sector

The National Congress of Delegates of NSZZ "Solidarnosc" asks the AWS Parliamentary caucus to quicken the amendment of the Act from 23 December 1994 on the allocation of means for wages in the state budgetary sector in order to:

1. put an end to the dependence between the amount of the means for the wages in the state budgetary sector and the amount of the means for so called "multiplier groups" (the judges, prosecutors, uniform services, persons employed on high state positions),
2. define the way of liquidation of the disproportion between the wages of the workers of the budgetary sector and the workers of company sector.

The change of the Act should also involve the workers who will be employed in the structures of local authorities from 1 January 1999.

Statement on financing of science and high school education

The society expects that the universities and high schools educate increasing number of young people. Appropriate financial means are required to realise this plan, and the means in the budget for 1999 are significantly too low which creates a threat of regress in high education.

The National Congress of Delegates of NSZZ "Solidarnosc" calls upon the Members of Parliament of AWS to undertake actions in order to:

1. not to tolerate the decrease in the 1999 budget the means for science and high education
2. realise the postulate of NSZZ "Solidarnosc" that in the future budgets the means for science and high education increase in at least the same amount that the increase of the GDP.

The fulfilment of these postulates may stop the negative developments in the Polish science - the escape of the best teachers, the decrease of the level of students' education and the loss of the prestige of Polish high schools in the international arena.