



IC 2006

Resolution on Climate Change - February 2006

5 March 2006

â€¢ That according to the IPCC, a reduction of at least 60% in greenhouse gas emissions is necessary between now and 2050 in order to prevent major climatic dislocation with incalculable consequences;

â€¢ That the most recent available data on atmospheric concentrations of CO₂ and CO₂ equivalents show that we have already entered the lower part of the dangerous fork (450-550 ppmv of CO₂ equivalents), with accelerating rises of atmospheric concentrations of the gases involved;

â€¢ That climate change is already making its effects felt, especially on workers and the disinherited masses, in particular in the dominated countries;

â€¢ That in the 50-100 years to come these changes threaten to subject hundreds of millions of human beings to the perils flowing from the rising sea levels, the spread of certain diseases, falling agricultural productivity in many regions, declining biodiversity and shortage of water resources (leading to up to three billion victims in 2100 without voluntarist climate policies);

â€¢ That faced with these challenges, the capitalist management of climatic disasters and threats (in particular, Katrina in New Orleans, and the

threat of rising ocean levels to Pacific islands and other regions) gives cause to fear that imperialism will resort to Malthusian and militarist policies characterized by barbarism on a unprecedented scale;

â€¢ That the Kyoto Protocol objectives are totally insufficient for dealing with the danger, and that its objectives have been reduced still further by its rejection by the US? as well as the mechanisms of flexibility, which risk having more and more negative by-products, both on peoples' right to development (the 'low hanging fruit' effect) and on biodiversity (carbon sinks);

â€¢ That the economic competition and strategic rivalry among imperialist blocs risks leading to an even worse compromise than the Kyoto Protocol in terms of the fight to save the climate ('voluntary commitments', no commitments, no deadlines), peoples' right to development, or ecology in general (nuclear energy);

? Due to the US and Australian refusal to ratify it, Kyoto, even if carried out in full by its signatories, would bring a 1,7% emission reduction for the developed countries as a whole (EEA report, N°8/2005, page 9);

â€¢ That the technical potential of

renewable energies (direct or indirect solar and geothermal) is the equivalent of 6 or 7 times the current world energy consumption and makes it perfectly possible to avoid major climatic disasters while satisfying human needs and preserving the environment;

â€¢ That we reject nuclear power as an alternative. It is expensive and highly dangerous - and it is not carbon neutral;

â€¢ That climate stabilization (a 2° maximum increase in T_A compared to the pre-industrial era) requires a vast energy revolution combining, in particular, 1) a transition to renewable energy independently of surplus costs, 2) massive reduction of primary energy demand in developed countries, and 3) massive transfers of 'climate friendly' technology to developing countries;

â€¢ That this issue as a whole confronts the workers movement in general and revolutionary Marxists in particular with a series of new tasks and major programmatic and strategic challenges;

THE IC DECIDES

To take part in unitary mobilizations to save the climate, particularly those that are developing following the

appeal from the London Social Forum. In particular we mobilise for the world-wide demonstration on climate change called for from the Caracas WSF which will take place in November 2006.

To this end we participate in the organising committee for this demonstration in Frankfurt on March 4 2006 at the ESF organising meeting.

â€¢ To devote more attention to the climate issue and the politics of climate, notably in the press of the sections and the international;

â€¢ To devote the 'ecology seminar' decided on by the WC to analysing climate change and its implications, in order to elaborate a programmatic

orientation and political line on these matters. To this end, the IC calls for the formation of an international network of comrades with knowledge of the various scientific disciplines involved, so as to produce one or more working documents on the theme 'Energy Revolution and Social Transformation'; and

To put the question on the agenda of its meeting in one year's time.

Resolution on Brazil - February 2006

3 March 2006

All of the Lula government's measures and decisions in the last year have gone in the same direction: accepting the dictates of the financial markets, consolidating the budget surplus in order to repay the debt, not carrying out a genuine land reform - which is provoking radical criticisms from the MST - not really lowering unemployment, not raising wages, not fighting against inequality. This government is indeed a social-liberal government.

2) In this last year these government policies, contrary to the people's interests, have been accompanied by revelations about its corrupt political methods and practices, which are in no way different from those of traditional bourgeois governments. Dozens of MPs have been bought up by prominent members of the PT leadership and government. José Dirceu, second in command in the government, had to resign. This is a real earthquake that has shaken the PT and Brazilian political life.

3) The government's socio-economic, political and ethical development also confirm as well the political conclusions that we had drawn from our characterization of the government and its policies: revolutionaries cannot take part in a social-liberal government. Revolutionaries cannot take part in the Lula government, all of whose policies fit in a framework of respect

for financial market criteria and neoliberal counter-reforms. Despite criticisms made of the corruption or the functioning of the party, most of the PT left wing, including the comrades of DS-PT, did not advocate a policy of breaking with the government during the last PT leadership elections. The accumulation of neoliberal measures during the last three years, together with the corruption, even created new conditions for a break with the government; but the comrades rejected this option.

4) During the 2006 elections, Lula's presidential candidacy constitutes a reaffirmation of his social-liberal policies. Faced with this candidacy, the presentation by revolutionaries of a unitary, anti-capitalist alternative, an alternative to the right and the ruling classes but also for a break with the PT leadership's social-liberalism, is a positive development. The PSOL has decided to run Heloisa Helena as its candidate for president of the republic. During its campaign it will put forward a programme for the defence of the interests and demands of the popular classes, for a break with neoliberalism and capitalism. It will denounce all the right's attacks, the policies imposed by the financial markets and all the consequences of the neoliberal counter-reforms. It will take a stand in opposition to the record of the Lula government. In solidarity with the struggle of Latin

American peoples, and in particular with Venezuela's Bolivarian revolution, Heloisa's candidacy will be an anti-imperialist candidacy. This candidacy can give millions of Brazilians the chance to express their desire to resist the attacks of neoliberal capitalism and change things. Rising above particular currents and organizations, this candidacy can unite a radical left, an anti-capitalist left, that can take up the original programme and fundamental original values of the PT, which the Lula leadership has since abandoned.

5) We also note that the Brazilian left is still very much divided; a large part of this left is still in the PT. Other organizations, like the PC do B, or other sectors that are clinging to 'movementist' positions, or the PSTU, will continue to have their own standpoints. The forces of the FI in Brazil are still, unfortunately, divided. The DS-PT continues to be active in the PT, confirming its participation in the government and reinforcing its integration in the party leadership; one DS leader occupies the post of PT general secretary. Another sector of the FI in Brazil is committed to building the PSOL and makes up the group 'DS Collective-Fourth International', which is joining in forming a new current inside the PSOL tentatively called Enlace. In order to foster a continuing discussion as well as maximize the chances of a convergence of all the anti-capitalist

sectors, the IC reaffirms the maintenance of relationships with all components of the Fourth International in Brazil, with all these components continuing to be members of the International with full rights.