



Fiji Teachers Union Newsletter

(THE CHILD OUR HOPE)

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CONFERENCE AND AGM 2015



The Chief Guest and Keynote speaker for the 2015 AGM and Conference will be **Mr. David Lamotte, Director ILO Office for Pacific Island Countries.**

Mr. Lamotte has a Degree in Education and Masters in Business Studies. He has worked in both, private and public sector. In Western Australia, he served in senior positions, including as the Director of Department of Employment.

Mr. Lamotte has worked for ILO for more than 25 years, holding many positions including the management of technical cooperation projects, as well as managing ILO Units and Departments.

As the Director, based in Suva, he is responsible for supporting nine ILO member States [Fiji, Kiribati, Republic of Marshall Islands, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tuvalu and Vanuatu].

Across the Pacific Islands, Mr. Lamotte oversees a wide range of work including, business development, labour intensive infrastructure development, national

employment policy, youth employment initiatives, elimination of child labour, gender equality, labour law reform, labour migration and mobility and social protection.

It was his Office that secured funding that assisted FTU to retain more than 800 children in schools, as part of the TACKLE Project.

Mr. Lamotte has workers' interests at heart and this is evident through the work he has carried out for the poor and not so fortunate ones in Asia and across the Pacific.

FTU 2015 / 2017 OFFICE BEARERS

National President	Bro. Muniappa Goundar
Vice President	Sis. Vidya Singh
Vice President	Bro. Pranesh Sharma
Vice President	Bro. Dalip Ram
General Secretary	Bro. Agni Deo Singh
Assistant General Secretary	Bro. Rajnesh Lingam
Treasurer	Bro. Sashi Shandil
Personnel Officer	Bro. Rameshwar Lal
Publicity Officer	Bro. Manhar Kumar
Ex. Com. Member	Bro. Pratosh Kumar
Ex. Com. Member	Bro. Nakul Barman
Ex. Com. Member	Bro. Madhur Prakash

85th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE

The 2015 Conference will be hosted by Nasinu Branch.

Details are as follows:

Date : 28th April – 1st May 2015

Venue : Rishikul Sanatan College Hall, Nasinu.

Theme : Quality Education beyond 2015.

CONFERENCE ATTENDANCE / DELEGATES

FTU Conferences and Annual General Meetings have always had excellent representation from the Branches. Nasinu is looking forward to welcoming, yet again, a record attendance. Your presence means a show of strength and solidarity.

The delegates list must be forwarded to the HQ well before the AGM.

BILLETING

Nasinu is ready to assist Branches needing billeting. Branches can contact Bro. Mohammed Feroz [9950760], Bro. Brij Singh [9945865] or Bro. Aviney Prasad [9961652].

CONFERENCE SPORTS

As in the past, 2015 will also witness strong representation in Sports, namely Soccer, Netball and Volleyball. The games will be held at Rishikul College grounds.

Reminder – only those who have been registered by Branches and who have been cleared by the HQ would be able to participate in Sports. Conference Tournament Rule applies to all Sports. Sports Managers are requested to sort out all issues in the Managers Meeting on 28th April, 2015.

MABS / INSURANCE

Members are once again reminded that referral must be taken from a Union doctor for specialist treat. All claims must be lodged within a month.

The Union doctor cannot refer patients to himself or herself and give specialist treatment.

Please note that GIA TPF is no longer valid and therefore, Union doctors will not accept MABS ID Card with a GIA number.

GENEVA AGREEMENT

An Agreement was signed at the ILO Governing Body in Geneva on 25/3/2015 by the Government, Fiji Commerce and Employers Federation and Fiji Trade Union Congress. The Tripartite Agreement, signed in the eleventh hour, has diffused the Commission of Inquiry into Fiji. The government has been given till November 2015 to repeal the Decrees that violate the rights of the workers and the Unions.

Commission of Inquiry is the highest level investigative procedure that is generally set up by ILO to investigate governments that are accused of committing persistent and serious violations and come with recommendations to address them.

FTUC and FCEF have hailed the agreement as a positive move by government in addressing legislation related to workers' rights which breached ILO Core Conventions.

Bro. Anthony said that FTUC was committed to the restoration of worker's rights in Fiji.

We salute Bro. Anthony for his unfaltering efforts to fight for the rights of the workers in Fiji.

DUTY HOURS FOR TEACHERS

The Union had written to the Ministry to seek clarification on some schools asking teachers to take classes after 3.30pm and Saturday classes.

Ministry replied stating that **"The Ministry in the past and now encourages schools to take extra classes after school or on Saturday if need be. This is with the understanding that these classes will be done on voluntary basis mutually agreed by all parties. The Ministry will appreciate if you could inform us of the schools that are compelling its teachers and students to attend extra classes."**

The Union has always maintained that Saturday and Extra Classes should be based on voluntary basis rather than through compulsion.

CTCL - ALL LOAN APPLICATION FORMS MUST REACH THE CTCL SUVA OFFICE BY 2PM ON TUESDAYS. LATE APPLICATIONS WILL BE PROCESSED IN THE FOLLOWING WEEK.