

APWSL NEWS

Internal Newsletter of Asia Pacific Worker Solidarity Links
Issue 1/ 2002
November 2002

Solidarity Greetings. This is the first edition of APWSL Worker News, we will be producing it on a monthly basis. The purpose of this newsletter will be to inform everyone on the activities of the Secretariat and APWSL national groups. We will need you to send on a monthly basis a brief description of your activities to Luke. His email is luke.coxon@finsec.org.nz. Please send before Nov 25th a brief description of what the APWSL group itself has been doing and what individual members have been involved in (i.e. strikes, campaigns, conferences etc)

The Secretariat.

The secretariat is in the process of finalising the APWSL program. We apologise for the long time it is taking it has proven to be a difficult task due to the financial situation we have found us in. In the next few weeks we will send you a copy of the completed program. We hope to send Anton to Europe soon to source funding. Luke is working on getting funding from New Zealand sources through a relationship that has been forged with Arena (www.arena.org.nz). Sripai recently represented APWSL at the PP21 meeting in Bangkok

APWSL Opposes the US war on Iraq and Terrorism

APWSL national groups have been active in opposing the US war on terrorism and the coming war on Iraq. In Pakistan the All Pakistan Trade union federation held a very successful demonstration on Sept the 7th against the recent British and US Bombing in Iraq and calling on the Pakistani Govt to stop supporting US imperialism. AAWL has been involved in anti-war activities in Melbourne and in New Zealand APWSL has organised a block of union workers in rallies against the War on Iraq. In the Philippines the KMU has been active in opposing the US military Intervention in the Philippines and throughout the region. For this they have come under attack from the Philippines president herself who has said that "trade unions that terrorise factories" are "communist terrorists". APWSL secretariat will have a regional project on impacts of the war on terror and workers finalised soon. This confirms that it is not only right wing communalists who are being attacked but also workers and progressive forces.

Sad news from Korea

We are very sad and concerned to receive news that APWSL Korea National Facillator **Lee, Sung-Gyung**, is seriously sick with colon cancer. Lee was working very hard in the campaign against World Cup Festival in Korea from 22 to 31 May 2002. After the campaign she felt severe pain and checked her body and was diagnosed with the 3rd stage colon cancer. She went to a shelter and is healing by the dietary treatment in a local area rather than taking any surgical operation. All thoughts are with Lee and her family during this difficult time. Lee needs all the support she can from her APWSL comrades please send messages of support to her through Sophie (sophie1212@hanmail.net). We need to encourage Lee to overcome this disease. In the meantime Lee has been relieved of her position as APWSL. The NALMO (National Association of Labor Movement Organization) will take over the role of the secretariat of Korean APWSL until she will be well enough to come back to the position

Filipino Union Leader Visits New Zealand.

APWSL New Zealand assisted with the hosting and organisation of a tour by Emilia Dapulang, the vice President of the KMU in October. Emilia spoke to public meetings throughout New Zealand on the topic "Globalisation Women Workers and the Struggle for Justice" She also visited workers in factories and met unionists and community activists and did a lot of media work. The tour was very successful in raising awareness of the issues confronting workers in the Philippines and building solidarity with New Zealand workers and activists for the struggle of Filipino workers

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