

## Appendix 9: Motion on European Cooperation

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*This conference notes*

1. The work of Euro-WEA has not functioned during the last few years. The last biennial Conference was held in October 2004. The Constitution stipulates that Conference shall meet every 2 years. Thus, one should have been held in autumn 2006.
2. The last IFWEA Executive Committee meetings have with increased concern noticed the lack of European work. Due to the seriousness of the situation, the IFWEA Executive Committee on 4 - 5 June 2007 commissioned Euro-WEA Vice President Björn Wall – in co-operation with ABF Sweden – to undertake a review of the organisational structure and of working methods of "Euro-WEA related" work, based on correspondence and meetings with European affiliates and sympathetic organisations.
3. The review concluded that aims and guidelines of new European activity should be based on strongly focused areas, to give "European Advantage" (added value) to those involved in co-operation. Special emphasis should be made on proposals, issues and contacts of importance and which are in process within the European Union.
4. The review considered it not realistic to re-organise the Euro-WEA with a secretariat and staff of its own. Furthermore, since the foundation of the Euro-WEA in the early 1990s, Europe has changed considerably. After 14 years of development, conditions and circumstances demand a new direction of work as well as a new organisational structure and working methods.

*This conference resolves:*

- 1) To base the organisational structure and working methods of European co-operation on a Network. Each member organisation will meet its own costs to participate in the Network and its activities.
- 2) To form the Network, obvious signals are presupposed, whereby involvement and interest are made clear. IFWEA's European member organisations are natural in this. Additionally efforts will be directed towards widening the affiliation to the Network.
- 3) As a first step, to gather the organisations with a strong wish to get started with the work. This group could consist of just a few representatives. Their aim should be to make concrete the aims,

tasks and working methods, as well as the main directions of plans, in a short, a medium and a longer perspective.

- 4) That the objectives of the Network should be to: Promote activity in the framework of life-long learning, culture, as well as other areas of priority to the EU; to increase tolerance and understanding between people and groups of people; to promote quality jobs, social security and good health; and a globalised perspective,
  - a) gather in the Network educational and cultural and other organisations, closely related to the labour movement, working in Europe,
  - b) promote co-operation, contacts, exchange of experiences, and to initiate joints projects between the member organisations of the Network,
  - c) to develop regional and international solidarity;
- 5) That the Network will work within the framework of the IFWEA, the International Federation of Workers' Education Associations, and be called the *European Workers', Education & Culture Forum*
- 6) This Network replaces the Euro-WEA.
- 7) The Network must organise a funding meeting in the first quarter of 2008 and requests ABF Sweden to organise this meeting.