

## Labour Leaders at the Annual Meeting 2017

**A community of 13 Labour Leaders join in Davos to help inspire responsive and responsible leadership**

**Sharan Burrow, General Secretary, International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), Brussels**



BA; diplomas in education and special education. Former President, Australian Council of Trade Unions. Member of the Board: Australia Institute; Global Reporting Initiative Stakeholder Council; Committee for Melbourne. Expertise: education, industrial relations, social policy.

**Stephen Cotton, General Secretary, International Transport Workers' Federation, United Kingdom**



General Secretary of the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF), the federation of international transport unions. Some 700 unions, representing more than 4.8 million transport workers from 150 countries, are members of the ITF. The Federation organizes workers in ships, ports, railways, road freight and passenger transport, inland waterways, fisheries, tourism and civil aviation. It is dedicated to the advancement of independent and democratic trade unionism and to the defence of fundamental human and trade union rights.

**John Evans, General Secretary, Trade Union Advisory Committee to the OECD, France**



Studies in Philosophy, Politics and Economics, University of Oxford. Formerly: teacher in Introductory Economics; Economist, Trades Union Congress, London; positions with International Federation of Commercial, Clerical and Technical Employees, Geneva; Research Officer, European Trade Union Institute, Brussels. Since 2012, Chief Economist, International Trade Union Confederation, Brussels. Formerly, not-for-profit board positions including with the Global Reporting Initiative and the Helsinki Group. Member: Comit+® M+®dicis, Amundi Group; Conseil d'Orientation; IDDRI; Council of Ruskin College, Oxford.

**Dennis H. George, General Secretary, Federation of Unions of South Africa, South Africa**



PhD Candidate with Da Vinci Institute of Technology, Masters Degree with Da Vinci Institute of Technology. General Secretary of the Federation of Unions of South Africa (FEDUSA), national engagements with Joint Presidential Working Group, National Economic Development and Labour Council, Team SA, Human Resources Development Council of South Africa (HRDSCSA) involved in International Labour Organisation, International Trade Union Confederation and Trade Union Advisory Committee to OECD.

**Ajay Vir Jakhar, Chairman, Bharat Krishak Samaj (Farmers' Forum India), India**



Citrus farmer based in village Maujgarh, Abohar, Punjab in India. Chairman, Bharat Krishak Samaj (Farmers' Forum, India). Editor of Farmers' Forum and Krishak Samachar, agriculture magazines focusing on increasing awareness of stakeholders. Member of various agricultural organizations and closely associated with the cooperative movement. Regularly holds seminars and conferences and writes for number of national newspapers.

**Philip J. Jennings, General Secretary, UNI Global Union, Switzerland**



1975, BA (Hons) in Business Studies, Bristol Polytechnic; 1976, MSc in Industrial Relations, London School of Economics. Experience in industry; 1976-79, trade union officer, UK finance sector. 1980, joined FIET; held various positions, including 1986, Executive Secretary and 1989-99, General Secretary. Since 2000, General Secretary, UNI Global Union. Member of the Board, UN Global Compact. Named one of the most influential people in Switzerland, Bilan Magazine (2010-2013); recipient, Nagasaki peace award, Nagasaki City Mayor Tomihisa.

**Fred Leeuwen, General Secretary, Education International, Belgium**



Formerly: Teacher, Netherlands; late 1970s, with Algemene Bond van Onderwijs Personeel union, responsible for International Affairs Department; 1981-93, General Secretary, International Federation of Free Teachers' Unions; 1993, General Secretary, Executive Board, Education International, re-elected in 1995, 1998, 2001, 2004, 2007, 2011 and 2015. 2007-09, Chair, Council of Global Unions.

**Naoto Ohmi, General Secretary, Japanese Trade Union Confederation (Jtuc-Rengo), Japan**



1976, graduate, Faculty of Social Science, Hitotsubashi University. Joined ZENSEN: Sept. 2002, Member, Central Executive Standing Committee and Director, Policy Bureau, UI ZENSEN; Sept. 2004, Vice-President, UI ZENSEN; Nov. 2012, President, UA ZENSEN. Dec. 2012, Vice-President, JTUC-Rengo (Japanese Trade Union Confederation). Since April 2013, Member, Labour Policy Council, Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare. Publications including: 1994 International Comparison of Neo Cooperatism - the Search for a New Political and Economic Model.

**Lizette Risgaard, President, Landsorganisationen I Danmark (LO), Denmark**



President of Landsorganisationen I Danmark's (LO). LO's principal tasks are: to safeguard and coordinate the trade union movement's common interests; to formulate policies and strategies internally in the trade union movement and externally vis-a-vis parliament, government, other organizations etc.; to represent the trade union movement's interests on various boards, commissions and committees; to propose and coordinate guidelines for collective bargaining demands.

**Valter Sanches, General Secretary, IndustriAll Global Union, Switzerland**



Previously Secretary of International Relations at Brazilian metalworkers' national confederation, CNM/CUT. Sanches, who holds a degree in geography, began as a metalworker in 1981 working as a mechanic at a machine-building firm in São Paulo, Brazil. In 1985, he joined Rolls-Royce Brazil in São Bernardo do Campo, later moving to Mercedes-Benz in 1988, where he was elected to the health and safety committee for the 1989-90 term. He was also elected to the Mercedes' Works Council in 1992 and acted as a member of the Council's coordination committee from 1997 to 2007, while also being elected for the Union's Shop Committee. Sanches was the Brazilian representative at the (then) DaimlerChrysler World Works Council between 2000 and 2007, representing workers from the plants of Sao Bernardo, Campinas and Juiz de Fora. He was also a member of the executive council of the ABC Metalworkers' Union (affiliated to CNM/CUT) between 2002 and 2005. In 2004, Sanches was elected Organizing Secretary of CNM/CUT and later elected General Secretary of CNM/CUT. In December 2009, he was elected CNM/CUT's International Relations Secretary. From 2010, Sanches was Communications Director for ABC Metalworkers'

Union and President of the Labour, Culture and Communication Foundation that operates two broadcast televisions (Rede, TVT) and two radio stations (Radio Brasil, Atual) in the metropolitan region of São Paulo.

**Ishmael Sunga, Chief Executive Officer, Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU), South Africa**



BSc in Economics, University of Zimbabwe; Master's in Strategic Management, University of Derby, UK. Extensive experience in rural and agricultural development, small enterprise development, development planning and management, and organizational development. Former: research fellow, economist, programme manager, small enterprise adviser and as a development consultant. Since 2005, with Southern African Confederation of Agricultural Unions (SACAU); currently, Chief Executive Officer.

**Karl-Petter Thorwaldsson, President, Swedish Trade Union Confederation, Sweden**



1983-95, Bröderna Hammarstedt, Växjö; 1990-95, Swedish Social Democratic Youth League (SSU); 1995-96, Expert, Prime Minister's Office; 1996-99, Head of Communications, Swedish Social Democratic Party; 1999-2012, National Officer, IF Metall; 2000-12, Workers' Educational Association (ABF). Member, Programme Commission, Gender Equality Delegation, Executive Committee and Executive Board, Swedish Social Democratic Party. Vice-President, International Federation of Workers' Educational Associations (IFWEA). Member of the Executive Committee, European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC). Member of the Executive Board, International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) and NFS, the Council of Nordic Trade Unions.

**Luca Visentini, General Secretary, European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC), Belgium**



Since May 2011, elected Confederal Secretary of the European Trade Union Confederation at the Athens Congress; 1996-2011, General Secretary of the "Unione Italiano del Lavoro" (UIL) [Italian Union of Labour] of Friuli Venezia Giulia and General Secretary of the UIL Confederal Chamber of Labour of Trieste; also a member of the National Board and the Central Committee of the National UIL; 2010, UIL Representative in the ETUC Executive Committee; 2007, Vice President for European Coordination of the Inter-Regional Trade Union Council (IRTUC) and member of the ETUC Economic and Employment Committee. Primarily dealing with economic policies, the regulation of international finance, wage and negotiation policies, the labour market, migration policies and cross-border policies.

**Albert Emilio Yuson, General Secretary, Building and Wood Workers' International (BWI), Switzerland**



Over 25 years' experience with labour and pro-democracy movement. Formerly: youth pro-democracy activist; multi-sectoral national peace advocate in Philippines; 1990, Director, Workers' College, Ateneo de Manila University; 1993, Executive Director, PASCRES; 1994, Programme Director, Informal Sector, Institute of Social Order; 1995-97, General Secretary, National Peace Conference, representing sectors such as peasants, informal labourers, urban poor, fisher folks, and indigenous people, lobbied for Social Reform Agenda and creation of National Anti-Poverty People's Council in 1995. Since 1996, with International Federation of Building and Wood Workers and Building and Woodworkers' International; since 2009, General Secretary.