



RESOLUTION ON WORKERS UNITED-SEIU GLOBAL STRATEGIES FOR THE APPAREL INDUSTRY

WHEREAS the apparel industry is among the most globalized industries, and in the past decades production of apparel has been largely moved out of the United States and Canada, with the loss of millions of jobs; and

WHEREAS the remaining jobs in the U.S. and Canadian apparel industry are in the distribution and retail sectors, while the production of apparel has been characterized by abusive, sweatshop conditions in desperately poor countries in Asia, Latin America and Africa; and

WHEREAS Workers United-SEIU for decades represented hundreds of thousands of apparel production workers, and was a leading affiliate of IndustriALL Global Union and its predecessor ITGLWF; has represented thousands of apparel distribution workers employed by major brands and retailers, and in recent years has successfully organized several important apparel distribution centers; and

WHEREAS, Workers United-SEIU remains committed to the mission of its predecessor Unions, the International Ladies Garment Workers Union and the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers Union; to organize workers in the apparel industry, into our Union in North America and into sister Unions around the World; and

WHEREAS one of the important strategies for supporting workers in apparel distribution centers that seek to organize has been the solidarity support of unions in the apparel producing countries, most of which are affiliates of IndustriALL Global Union, and who in their struggle to confront abusive employers and unsafe, sweatshop conditions, are exposing those conditions and the complicity of the brands and retailers whose apparel they are making; and

WHEREAS solidarity support by Workers United-SEIU for those workers and their unions, working with IndustriALL Global Union, is an important step toward creating a global strategy to organize apparel brands' and retailers' supply and distribution chains, including their US and Canadian facilities; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: That Workers Unite-SEIU will prioritize efforts to promote and participate in global campaigns by IndustriALL Global Union and its affiliates to organize the supply and distribution chains of major apparel brands and retailers, including in the USA and Canada.