



**GLOBAL
SOLIDARITY**
IDWF CONGRESS

DOMESTIC WORKERS
BUILD BRIDGES, CLOSE
GAPS, GAIN RIGHTS

IDWF's 4th International Congress: The Countdown has begun!

CITY OF
DE HAAN,
BELGIUM

15/09/2023

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CELEBRATING A DECADE OF STRENGTH, GROWTH, AND RESILIENCE

This year, under the theme of “Global Solidarity: Domestic Workers Build Bridges, Close Gaps, Gain Rights”, the International Domestic Workers Federation is celebrating both its 10th anniversary and the longest awaited event within the organization: its congress.

The Congress will take place from **October 2 to 5 in De Haan, Belgium**, at the Center Parcs business center, and will bring together **163 delegates** and 24 observers representing **88 domestic workers' organizations from 68 countries**, 22 IDWF staff members, and 69 guests from allied organizations, trade unions, and funders.

As the IDWF's highest decision-making body, the congress is an expression of democracy, accountability, and strength for the domestic workers' global movement. In preparation for it, our members had 5 pre-congress conferences for 7 regions during which they discussed the way forward for our movement and nominated candidates to represent their regions within the IDWF's Executive Committee.

In October, delegates from our global membership will elect new leadership, propose and vote on new resolutions and policies, and continue setting the agenda for domestic workers to achieve decent work, dignity and equality for all. This governance process will also serve as a pivotal moment for our affiliates and allies to come together, review past achievements, learn from experiences, devise effective strategies, and make crucial decisions.

The IDWF is governed by an Executive Committee that is elected by its members at an international Congress held every 5 years (the founding Congress was held in Uruguay in October 2013). The ExCo plays a central role in ensuring that IDWF acts according to its purpose and vision, and it is responsible for the IDWF's policies and governance. It represents the following regions: Africa, Asia/Pacific, Latin America, the Caribbean, Europe and North America.



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Side event: Myrtle Witbooi's book launch

On October 5, from 5 to 7 PM, we will have a book launch in honor of our founding president and mother of our movement: Myrtle Witbooi. The event will take place at the Old St. John Site, in the city of Bruges, and feature a high-level panel.

The book, titled "Love and Labour: The Life of Myrtle Witbooi" is a biography written by her longtime friend, Jennifer Fish, which captures the history of Myrtle's long service to the movement for domestic workers' rights. This will be both an emotional moment and an opportunity to highlight our struggle.

How to stay updated about our Congress

To stay posted and not miss any details about the IDWF's Congress, we invite you to regularly visit our website and social media channels, where you will find daily updates on: the Congress progress; candidates for the Executive Committee; the election results; the launch of Myrtle Witbooi's book; IDWF TV (our newscast), and more.

@IDWFED



If you wish to cover the Congress and/or the launch of Myrtle Witbooi's book in person, receive additional information about these activities, or schedule an interview with our leaders, please contact IDWF's Media Officer: **Fernanda Valenti** (English, Spanish, Portuguese)



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