

Greeting of Encouragement

ITUC-AP President Felix Anthony

I am ITUC-AP (International Trade Union Federation-Asia Pacific Regional Organization) President Felix Anthony. I also serve as the National Secretary of Fiji Trades Unions Congress (FTUC), the national center of trade unions in Fiji.

On this occasion of JTUC-RENGO's central rally to declare the launch of the 2016 Spring Offensive for a Better Life, I would like to give you a few words of encouragement on behalf of the 60 million union members of the Asia Pacific region. .

I have heard that one of the themes of RENGO's Spring Offensive this year will be "Redress Disparities." The widening of disparities is also happening in the Asia-Pacific Region. Correcting these disparities is an urgent issue.

ITUC-AP has been conducting research on "Inequality in the Asia and the Pacific," and published a report last year. The study revealed very clearly that inequality is rising in countries that do not have decent work.

By pushing forward by even one step the efforts to "Redress Disparities" in the Spring Offensive, and by sharing that experience with our comrades in the Asia-Pacific Region, I anticipate that RENGO will be able to use this as a trigger to halt the expansion of regional and domestic disparities and inequality. On behalf of ITUC-AP I give this greeting of encouragement to all of you.

Let all of us go forward strongly together!