

PRESS RELEASE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE WORLD SOCIAL FORUM 23 JANUARY 2024

The International Council (IC) welcomes the holding of the World Social Forum (WSF) in Kathmandu (Nepal), on the initiative of the Nepalese Organising Committee, from 15 to 19 February 2024. It warmly thanks all the activists in Nepal and Asia for the work they have done to welcome us.

The WSF IC invites social movements from all continents, from the oldest to the most recent, to register without delay so that we can meet on this occasion, at a time when our planet and its people are being subjected to great social and climatic violence, and an increase in tensions and authoritarianism throughout the world.

This Forum, in hybrid mode, will be an important opportunity to meet with and between Asian movements, to share our concerns and expectations, to build common ambitions and perspectives for all peoples for a world of peace.

The IC is delighted to see that these movements from every continent are now truly representative, as evidenced by the registrations received to date and the activities already planned, despite the financial cost of travel and the concern to contribute to the decarbonisation of our environment.

During this WSF, member organizations of the International Council (IC) want to be attentive to the major issues shaking the world and to the resistance that is emerging, and some will be proposing five panels of 15 to 19 February, dealing with "Solidarity with Palestine", "Peace and Climate", "Economic Alternatives and the Struggle against the Capitalist World", "Democracy and Human Rights, Racism, Fascism, Freedom of Expression in the Digital Age..." and "Feminism, Women's Movements and Diversity".

The International Council will be meeting in plenary session on 20 and 21 February in Kathmandu and in hybrid session, to meet and listen to the Asian social movements, take stock of this WSF, start to discuss IC facilitation agenda, and consider the future of WSF and its challenges in the world.

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