



**Special Resolution on the ABI Coke Strike by members of Food and Allied  
Workers Union (FAWU)  
in South Africa**

*Adopted on the occasion of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Global Coca Cola Workers Alliance Steering  
Group meeting held on the 04<sup>th</sup> and 05<sup>th</sup> February 2010 in Geneva, Switzerland.*

We, members of the Global Coca Cola Workers Steering Committee, representing unions and hundreds of thousands of workers the Coca Cola system world-wide adopt this special resolution, on the current strike at SABMiller's owned Coca Cola Bottling Company trading as Amalgamated Beverages Industries (ABI) in support of members of the Food and Allied Workers Union (FAWU).

1. Noting that

- The strike has entered the seventh week on the 02<sup>nd</sup> February 2010, having started on the 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2009
- The dispute is on wage increment, hours of work and overtime pay, and precarious employment practices of labour brokers and owner-drivers
- Significant number of jobs are now precarious, with 72% of deliveries done through owner-driver trucks employing casuals as crew workers
- Significant number of jobs in several functions, such as loading and sorting, are performed by labour brokers supplied casual workers

2. Believing that

- FAWU members and ABI workers demands for quality and permanent jobs to be retained and expanded are reasonable and noble
- The owner-driver scheme is dividing workers and enriching the few at the expense of the many who consequently endure increased precarious employment conditions
- The extensive supply of permanent casual workers by labour brokers and their use by ABI is abusive and an injury to workers rights and livelihoods
- Comparison of the salary/wage rates of permanent employees of ABI and those of public servants is inappropriate and misleading

- The information spread by management about the nature, content and form of the strike through the media and in letters to those who have expressed their solidarity is misleading and drawing attention away from the real issues at stake

### 3. Therefore Resolves

- To continue with the support activities for the strike action by ABI workers and FAWU members and the union's anticipated FIFA Soccer World Cup-linked campaign against precarious employment policies and practices
- To mobilize affiliated unions and members within the Coca-Cola system across the world to take additional solidarity and other actions in support of FAWU and its members
- To demand the following from ABI Management
  - Engage in sincere and genuine negotiations with FAWU with a view to concluding an agreement on issues in dispute
  - Improve its last offer/set of offers made before workers went on strike
  - Undertake not to victimize workers who were on strike and shop stewards for their union role during strike after the strike is over
  - Commit to not terminating "permanent casual" workers as a measure of retaliation after the strike

We will be monitoring the situation closely. Lack of progress will mean the escalation of solidarity activities by members of the alliance within the Coca-Cola system.

Adopted by the Steering Committee meeting at the IUF Offices in Geneva, Switzerland on the 5<sup>th</sup> February 2010.