

PCdoB calls for the 12th Congress

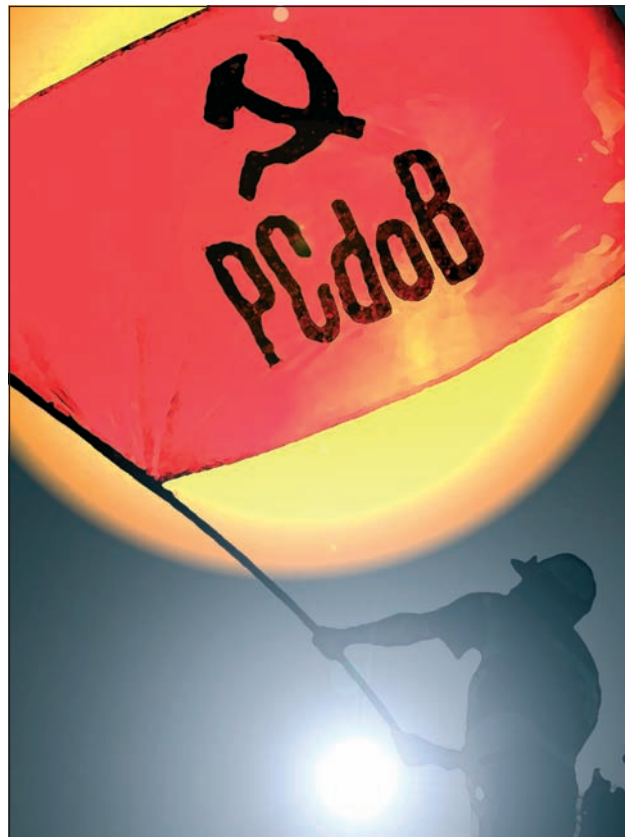
The 13th Meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Brazil, held on June 6 and 7, called for the 12th party Congress, scheduled for November 5 to 8 this year.

The meeting also passed a number of base documents to be discussed among the communist militant cadres: the new proposal for the Party's Socialist Program, the Draft Political Resolution, divided in three parts (international situation, the crisis of capitalism and national situation) as well as a proposal on Cadre Policy.

New Socialist Program

The Communist Party of Brazil will hold its 12th Congress imbued with the need to update its program in order to turn it into a tool that is able to mobilize the Party and workers in the struggle for socialism. The main aspect of that change will involve redesigning the tactical aspects and the strategy. The strategic goal – the achievement of socialism – is defined in its essence, but the program does not detail how socialism will be in Brazil, for that would be speculation. The program is focused on tactical paths and current tasks.

The proposal of the new Socialist Program is divided in two large blocks: an introductory set and the program itself. In the initial part, the Central



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Committee categorically affirms that we are living in a period of transition from capitalism to socialism, updating the analysis on the international outlook and pinpointing the national characteristics and singularities of the Brazilian people.

Civilizatory steps in Brazil

During the meeting of the Central Committee, Renato Rabelo, President

of PCdoB, affirmed: "Brazil is a new nation that has experienced two civilizatory achievements during its history. First, the formation of a united people, a great nation, in a process characterized by a complex struggle."

The second one, added Rabelo, was consolidated from the movement led by Getúlio Vargas in 1930. "From 1930 on, Brazil effectively became capitalist, being no longer an essentially agrarian nation, entering the most expansive stage of national development."

Today, says Rabelo, there is a third challenge – the great civilizatory step represented by the beginning of the transition to socialism. The Party ►

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Struggle for hegemony

The strategic objective – transition to socialism – defines the Program’s character, but not its full building. Reaching that objective involves conquering political power, having the workers as the fundamental force with greatest interest in it. But it is still not possible to establish the exact form such power may have, though its character can be defined as a popular democratic Republic. Such power will be the expression of an alliance involving urban popular masses, middle classes, progressive intellectuals, small and medium businesspeople, those dedicated to production and aspiring to build a sovereign Nation. The achievement of political hegemony for that transition is at the core of such tactic. The Program is fundamentally focused on that.

In the search for national development with social progress, there has been a crisis of alternative in Brazil since the beginning of the 1980s. The crisis of the development policies that prevailed since 1930 has led to a period of stagnation, especially after the imposition of the neoliberal project in the 1980s and 1990s. Lula’s victory in 2002 represented the beginning of a



Lula, president of Brazil and Renato Rabelo, president of PCdoB

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new political cycle and 2005 can be viewed as the real starting point in the search for a new National Development Project. “It is necessary to take new steps in that direction,” says Rabelo, “in search for transforming objectives, structural reforms and the accumulation

of forces” that enable new advances.

The essence of the National Development Project is anti-imperialist and aims at overcoming the neoliberal stage. Its grounds are the sovereignty and defense of the nation, democracy, continental integration and social progress.



New cadre policy

Viewed as the main deadlock to be dealt with in building a strong communist party structured according to the present conditions, the new cadre policy will be one of the central issues debated and present in the deliberations of PCdoB’s 12th Congress. An updated cadre policy avoiding stereotyped models. A cadre policy for a communist, Marxist-Leninist party that

maintains its identity, its class character as a party of the workers, struggling for socialism. A cadre policy for a party whose ranks are growing and whose building takes place under a new political situation where the mass struggle, the ideological struggle, the electoral struggle, parliamentary action and the action in governmental organizations are combined in different levels.

PCdoB in the anti-imperialist struggle

The Party collective is also calling for a debate on the international situation. A substantial document was approved by the Central Committee, highlighting the fact that the period since the 11th Congress abounded with remarkable events, full of political, military and diplomatic conflicts, imperialist aggressions, national and popular class struggles. According to secretary of International Relations José Reinaldo Carvalho, such events have shaken the international order, whose sharp contradictions had made clear that such order cannot and must not continue, since it hinders the development of humankind and curbs economic and social progress, freedom, peace and security. Carvalho also ponders that the contemporary world is instable and dangerous, contradicting the predictions of peace, security, balance and stability made in the occasion of the end of the Cold War.

Aggravating contradictions

The document offered by the Central Committee to the collective debate points out that class and national contradictions are aggravating, that the historic limits of capitalism are becoming evident and that the abyss separating capitalism and imperialism from the aspirations of humankind and the fundamental interests of workers and peo-

ples are becoming clearer. The document reads: "The interests of workers and those of a monopolist bourgeoisie, of peoples and capitalism, are irreconcilable, making indispensable and urgent the struggle for a new international order and a new economic and social system – socialism. The capitalist system and the neoliberal model in effect during the last decades reached an insoluble impasse, demoralizing its supporters and apologists."

The offensive and decline of American imperialism

The Congress document highlights among its main issues the offensive of imperialism against peoples and nations, at the same time as it stresses that the signs of the historical, gradual and progressive decline of American imperialism are becoming clearer. The Draft Political Resolution emphasizes the advances in the integration of Latin America, which has an objectively anti-imperialist content.

By analyzing the political outcomes of the crisis in the capitalist system, the document approved by the Central Committee points out changes towards multipolarity, stressing that it does not mean that a democratic transformation in international relations is taking place. In fact, a scenario of great conflicts over the redistribution of areas

of influence and power in the whole world is under development. Peace is not a vocation of imperialism. The world of democracy and peace, international law and cooperation among nations will only be possible by also changing the political and social correlation of forces in each country and region by means of the struggles of the peoples.

The struggle of workers and peoples intensifies

The Draft Political Resolution on the international situation dedicates many paragraphs to the intensification in the struggles of workers, peoples and dependent nations for national and social emancipation and concludes by affirming the need to proceed towards the accumulation of forces in the struggle for socialism. In its conclusion, the document refers to the success achieved by communist and labor parties of the world in the efforts for unity in action, what was made clear in the occasion of the 10th Congress, held in November 2008, in Brazil. It also highlights the importance of international mass organizations, such as the World Peace Council, the World Union Federation, the World Federation of Democratic Youth, the Women International Democratic Federation and the International Alliance of Inhabitants, among others.

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<http://www.socialistproject.ca/bullet/bullet201.html>

The widespread, deep and severe crisis of capitalism

The document addressing the crisis of capitalism, viewed as a widespread, deep and severe one, is another document of great importance for debate in the congress. Signaling that the present crisis helps to clarify facts, reveals reality and rebuts some myths, the draft resolution affirms that the beliefs in capitalism's immanent flexibility and dynamism regarding the illusory overcoming of the economic cycle and the great crises have succumbed. In an acute manner, it reads: "the legend of a self-regulated market has led to disaster."

The Central Committee has concluded that in the bottom line of the crisis lies the relative overproduction of goods and also the decrease of profit rates and the accumulation inside capitalist economies. Stressing that the current crisis is not only a financial one, but also a crisis of the very capitalist system, the document also points out the phenomena that characterize financialization.

The Draft Political Resolution on the crisis of capitalism analyses the process of decline of the American economy highlighting parasitism and unequal development, which are categories of analysis in Marxism-Leninism.

The Draft Political Resolution is not limited to analyzing the crisis, but also denounces the tragic consequences it will have on the proletariat and peoples, concluding that: "The Communist Party of Brazil reaffirms the position it has



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maintained by affirming systematically that there is no virtuous capitalism solution to the crisis of capitalism. It calls the workers to resist policies that tend to place on their shoulders the effects of the crisis and proclaims a political program of struggle and accumulation of forces aiming at revolutionarily overcoming capitalism.

The class struggle of workers and the anti-imperialist struggle of the peoples and nations fighting for their independence are placed on top of the agenda as the only way to save humankind from bankruptcy. Socialism is the real alternative to humankind in opening the path to economic and social progress."



We have published a book and did a video about the 10th International Meeting of Communist and Workers' Parties, held in Sao Paulo, Brazil, November, 2008. Orders can be done to the International Relations Secretary of the CC of the PCdoB (+55 11) 30541800 or 22 E-mail: internacional@pcdob.org.br

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