

Sixth AAPSO Congress

Twelve years after the fifth congress in Cairo, the sixth congress of the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Organization (AAPSO) was held in Algiers, May 27th-30th. Holding the congress in Algiers was in itself significant. This was the result of the important and active role that Algeria plays in the struggle against imperialism, giving real support to the struggle of the people of Asia and Africa. Holding the congress in Algeria in turn gave special political importance not only to the congress, but also to the AAPSO and the solidarity movement as a whole. The Algerian government and party extended every possible form of hospitality and all the facilities at their disposal to make the congress successful.

The congress exhibited that solidarity within AAPSO is a truly strong and broad movement. This was seen in:

1. The large number of delegations that participated, which reflected the growth of AAPSO's membership. This point becomes more important when we know that most of the delegations were composed of representatives of various social sectors in their countries, showing that a broad spectrum of social sectors are involved in the solidarity movement. Included in many of the delegations were personalities, writers, artists, trade unionists, women, academicians, etc. This was true not only of the delegations from Asia and Africa, but also of those from other parts of the world, especially Europe.

2. The high level of delegations to the congress, many of which were headed by top leaders. For example, the Soviet delegation was headed by a candidate Politbureau member; the Afgani delegation was headed by a Politbureau member who is Minister of Culture, the ANC delegation was headed by Comrade Alfred Nzo. In addition there were guests of honour from different national liberation movements.

The Aden conference of 1980 took a decision in principle to grant associate membership to active solidarity committees outside Asia and Africa. This was AAPSO's response to the fact that the Afro-Asian struggle is growing and is totally connected to the worldwide struggle against imperialism, which encom-

