

passes more political and social forces. The sixth congress adopted the 1980 decision to amend the constitution to this effect.

The work of the congress, the reports presented by the Permanent Secretariat and the interventions of the participants exhibited the positive efforts made by the leading bodies of AAPSO, in particular the Permanent Secretariat, to improve the role of the AAPSO, and to enrich the scope and content of the solidarity movement. The congress hailed the work done by the Permanent Secretariat in leading the AAPSO successfully during the past years.

The work of the AAPSO congress expressed the deep, sincere intentions of all delegates to escalate the activities

of the solidarity movement. Regardless of some differences of opinion on this subject or that, the congress with very good spirit succeeded in adopting good resolutions on all subjects, as well as a plan of action for the coming period and amendments to its constitution. The resolutions expressed support to the struggling peoples in Asia and Africa and in the world in general. It was emphasized that their struggle is part and parcel of the worldwide struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, Zionism and racism, and for freedom, self-determination, peace, democracy and social progress.

The congress adopted three resolutions specifically supporting the struggle of the peoples in the Middle East. Camp

David and all similar plans and proposals were specifically condemned. Support was expressed for the Lebanese resistance against Israeli occupation. Finally the congress reaffirmed its support for the Palestinian people's struggle against Zionism and imperialism in order to achieve their inalienable national rights, especially the right to return, self-determination and the establishment of an independent state under the leadership of the PLO, their sole legitimate representative. The congress amended the AAPSO constitution to facilitate the incorporation into the movement of new forces engaged in anti-imperialist struggle, while at the same time preserving the nature of the organization as an Afro-Asian organization. ●

Death of Comrade Berlinguer

On June 11th, the General Secretary of the Communist Party of Italy, Enrico Berlinguer, passed away after suffering from a brain hemorrhage.

Born in 1922 to a noble family on Sardinia, Berlinguer joined the Communist Party in 1943, after reading Karl Marx in his uncle's library and developing close relations with communist workers. After only two years, he became a member of the Central Committee. He became responsible for the communist youth organization and on this basis president of the World Federation of Democratic Youth. In 1966, he was elected deputy General Secretary of the party and in 1972, he became the General Secretary.

Under his leadership, the Communist Party of Italy received the highest percentage of votes in its history, 34,5% in the 1975-76 election making it the second biggest party in Italy after the Christian Democrats who received 38%.

Berlinguer was famous for two main issues: First was the idea of «the historic compromise» which meant sharing governmental power with mainly the Christian Democrats; this project however never materialized. Second was the trend of Eurocommunism, advocated by the Italian Communist Party along with the French and Spanish Communist Parties in the mid-seventies. Both the

«historic compromise» and Eurocommunism created a state of polemics and dispute among communist and democratic forces in Europe and all over the world. Since then, Eurocommunism has lost its force as a movement with the change in the international orientation of the French Communist Party away from Eurocommunism and the replacement of Carillo as General Secretary of the Spanish Communist Party.

In spite of the loss of Comrade Berlinguer, we are confident that the Italian Communist Party will continue its march towards peace, democracy and social progress, based on its long traditions of national and international struggle. ●

CONDOLENCES

The General Secretary of the PFLP, Dr. George Habash, sent the following telegram of condolences to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Italy:

We received the news of Comrade Enrico Berlinguer's death with great sorrow. His death is a loss not only for the working class and progressive forces in

Italy, but to all forces of liberation, peace and progress in the world. The PFLP marches on the same path as pursued by Comrade Berlinguer when he struggled against fascism, Nazi occupation and oppression.

On behalf of the Politbureau, Central Committee and all members and fighters of the PFLP, I offer you our condolences. Meanwhile I hope that our comradely relations will be strengthened in order to intensify the common struggle against the common enemy, imperialism and its agents.