

CIRCULAR LETTER
International Union of Students

March 31, 2000

Dear Member Unions and Friends:

The recent 17th Congress of the International Union of Students was a step forward in the ongoing process of revitalisation of the IUS. We welcomed the opportunity to discuss issues of importance for the international student movement with many of you at this gathering. Although, for a variety of different reasons, some of you were unable to participate in the Congress, we hope that we will continue to work together.

As you know, a number of important decisions were made at the 17th Congress, and we are in the process of compiling a detailed booklet on the results of the meeting, to be distributed in the coming weeks.

In the meantime, we would like to draw your attention towards the turnover process between the outgoing and the newly elected Executive Secretariat (ES). At the Congress, a description of the current situation in the seat city, Prague, and of all the problems and difficulties surrounding the work of the organisation was made. Deep and sober discussions took place to address the problems faced by the organisation. Members present showed a strong interest in developing solutions to the crisis faced by the IUS.

In the interests of the organisation, it will be important to achieve a smooth hand-over of responsibilities in the transition period. Based on the agreement of a majority of member unions present at the 17th Congress, an understanding was reached that the hand-over can realistically take place only towards the end of this year or the beginning of next year. It is important to note that the outgoing ES accepted the request to maintain its commitment and willingness to help sort out the major problems of the organisation until that time comes. This process will help create the necessary conditions for the effective implementation of the decisions of the 17th Congress.

Finally, in order to achieve positive results, so as to re-establish our International Union of Students as a powerful voice for students' rights around the world, we appeal to all member unions to fulfill their obligations to the organisation.

We continue to count on your support and assistance.

In student solidarity,



The Executive Secretariat of the International Union of Students