

organizations), was not an incidental by-product of free trade agreements but a major goal of such proceedings; they pointed to the weakening of workers and their organizations in Chile and Mexico, among other countries, in support of this argument. On the issue of labor, many of those participating, including representatives of business, recommended that:

16. core labour standards be included as part of any free trade agreement and that Canada take the lead in advocating core labour standards.

Other recommendations regarding labour on which the same consensus was not achieved were that:

17. a tri- or multi-national commission on North American or American labour rights be formed; and that

18. there should be no free trade agreement if it is to be similar to existing agreements but, rather, that the focus should be on justice and sustainable development instead; and that

19. there should be no free trade agreement unless it includes a social agenda, respecting and protecting the rights of workers, women, campesinos, indigenous peoples and migrant workers and a democratic means of ratifying such an agreement in each country; and that

20. there should be no free trade agreement unless ILO conventions that guarantee freedom of association, collective bargaining, prohibition of child labour and forced labour are followed and unless discrimination based on sex, race or religion is not allowed and that such conventions form part of a Charter of Social