



NEWS RELEASE

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WORLD TO WENDY'S

Stop the assault on New Bakery workers says IUF

A representative of the world's food workers called today on the CEO of Wendy's/Arby's Group (WAG) to "**abandon [New Bakery management's] assault** on the contract BCTGM Local 57 has with New Bakery [Zanesville, Ohio]... **Stop demanding that your workers give up their health insurance and pensions and negotiate a fair contract.**" In a letter to Roland C. Smith, President and CEO of WAG, Ron Oswald reminded him that "for many years, the workers who bake the buns for Wendy's have enjoyed a very positive relationship with their employer." But, he noted, "[u]nfortunately, under Wendy's new management, this relationship appears to have gone sour." Oswald is General Secretary of the International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers' Associations (IUF), based in Geneva, Switzerland. New Bakery is a wholly owned subsidiary of WAG and bakes buns for Wendy's stores in the Midwest.

Bakers Local 57's parent, the Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers' International Union (BCTGM), is affiliated to the IUF. Through the global union federation, BCTGM maintains fraternal relations with food and tobacco unions around the globe. In fulfillment of the slogans "the whole world is watching" and "an injury to one is an injury to all," IUF keeps affiliated unions within global companies advised regarding anti-union activities in other parts of the world. Thus, in closing, Oswald wrote, "I look forward to reading your reply to this appeal, which I will share with IUF affiliates around the world and in particular in those countries where Wendy's has franchise operations."

The 150 union workers at the Zanesville operations of New Bakery have been in negotiations to renew their contract since before the contract expired at the end of March, 2009. "Our members had a long and productive relationship with the old Wendy's management," noted Bakers Local 57 principal officer Vester Newsome, "and there is no reason such a relationship should not continue. But for some reason the new management has decided working people should not have pensions or decent health benefits, which is just plain wrong." As Oswald noted in his letter to Smith, "Economic downturns like the current one have been devastating for working families dependent on defined contribution savings plans for their pensions. Nonetheless, your negotiators are insisting on destroying your workers' retirement security." Oswald as well as Local 57 are hoping that senior management may take a more practical and enlightened view than the local New Bakery negotiators.

Nonetheless, the unionized workers and their colleagues in the US, Canada and around the world are not waiting for management to see the light. Bakers Local 57 has leafleted Wendy's restaurants supplied by New Bakery to advise customers of the unreasonable demands made by the profitable management and is poised to expand its efforts. "Our members appreciate the support of the IUF" said Newsome. "Wendy's is a very profitable company. Our goal is to get a fair contract, and local management needs to understand it is not in the financial interest of the company or shareholders to assault your employees' living standards, their families' health and their retirement security. We will continue to make that case at the bargaining table and to the public, if necessary," Newsome pledged.

BACKGROUND

The International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers' Associations (IUF) is an international federation of trade unions representing workers employed in

- agriculture and plantations
- the preparation and manufacture of food and beverages
- hotels, restaurants and catering services
- all stages of tobacco processing

The IUF is currently composed of 336 trade unions in 120 countries representing a combined membership of over 12 million workers. It is based in Geneva, Switzerland. More information can be found at www.iuf.org.

For decades, BCTGM Local 57 members in Zanesville, Ohio have produced the buns that are used in Wendy's restaurants across the Midwest. Now, after months of fruitless negotiations with a company that has no desire to bargain fairly, workers at Wendy's Zanesville bakeries are taking their fight for a fair contract to the public. Also known as Bakers Local 57, the union (headquartered in Columbus, OH) represents workers at General Mills, Kroger, Wonder/Hostess, Sara Lee and Klosterman Baking among others in Ohio and Kentucky and is affiliated with the BCTGM International Union. For more information see contact info above.

BCTGM International Union was founded in 1886 and represents 100,000 mainly production workers in the US and Canada in the wholesale bread and cake, retail baking, cookie and cracker, cereal candy, grain milling and tobacco industries. BCTGM members work for companies like Kraft Foods, Hershey, Wonder/Hostess, Sara Lee, Kellogg's and General Mills among others. Go to www.bctgm.org for more information.

New Bakery of Ohio is a subsidiary of Wendy's Arby's Group, a publically traded company. From their website: Wendy's/Arby's Group, Inc. is the nation's third largest quick service restaurant company and is comprised of the Wendy's® and Arby's® brands... The company, with approximately \$12 billion in system-wide sales, owns or franchises over 10,000 restaurants. See <http://www.wendysarbys.com/about> to learn more.