



## HISTORY TAKES PLACE AS GRAND BAHAMA DOCKERS AFFILIATION AGREEMENT WITH ILA BECOMES OFFICIAL

The Grand Bahama Dock and Allied Workers Union affiliated with the International Longshoremen's Association became official on June 30, 2022. After seven years of organizing, led by ILA International Vice President Kenny Riley, the dockworkers at the Port of Freeport are excited and proud to be affiliated with the ILA.

International Executive Vice President Dennis Daggett, ILA International Vice President's Virgil Maldonado and Carlos Sanchez Ortiz were on site representing the



ILA at the signing. This was made possible under the direction of

President Harold Daggett.

Representing the dockworkers at the Port of Freeport was Mardo Cash, President of the Grand Bahama Dock and Allied Workers' Union.

"The Dockworkers on the island realized that they were the only entity in the Maritime Sector without global connectivity," remarked Kenny Riley.

Congratulations to all dockworker brothers and sisters of the Grand Bahama Dock and Allied Workers' Union!



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## IDC CELEBRATES 22ND ANNIVERSARY



The International Dockworkers Council was formed on June 27, 2000 in Spain.

The IDC is a trade union federation made up of port workers' organizations from all over the world. The IDC's mission is to uphold labor standards that will improve the economic and social well being of port workers around the world. The IDC serves as a voice for all dockers around the globe to form fair

and sustainable policies and to promote the best practices across the maritime sector.

During the 1990's in Liverpool, England the antiworkers government led by Margaret Thatcher took away workers rights and this forced some of the main sectors to strike. Included in these strikes were miners, railway workers and, of course, dockworkers. The Liverpool dockers then created an in-

ternational organization where dockers worldwide can come together with the idea that what happened in Liverpool will never happen again. The IDC was born!

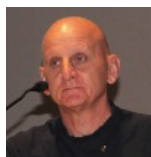
The dockers from this port immediately created the motto "We will never walk alone again."

The International Longshoremen's Association joined the IDC in 2011.

### IDC Coordinators Team



Dennis A. Daggett  
General Coordinator



Andy Green  
Europe



César Luna  
Latin America



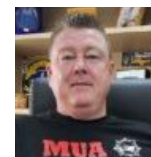
Guigrehi Pierre  
Africa



Ed Ferris  
West Coast



Kenneth Riley  
East Coast



Paul Keating  
Asia & Oceania



Jordi Aragunde  
Labour Coordinator

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## SOUTH ATLANTIC AND GULF COAST DISTRICT CONVENTION TAKES PLACE IN SAN DIEGO, CA JULY 24-JULY 29, 2022

The South Atlantic and Gulf Coast District serves to unite longshoremen, regardless of creed, color or nationality, and all working men and working women eligible for membership.

South Atlantic and Gulf Coast District President Alan Robb and the entire Executive Board welcomes delegates and members to the 92nd Convention at Hotel del Coronado, Coronado, California.

The SAGD represents 30,000 longshoremen on the South Atlantic and Gulf Coasts. The ILA was organized in 1892 along the U.S. Great Lakes.

To explore the origin of the word "Longshoremen" we will begin with the roots of the ILA. The roots of the International Longshoremen's Association lie deep in the history of colonial America when the arrival of each new ship bearing goods from the Old World was greeted with cries of "Men Along the Shore!" The Longshoremen who rushed up to the ships were colonists, normally engaged in any number of full-time occupations. After a period of years passed these Longshoremen eventually began working full time.

### SAGCD HISTORY

The South Atlantic and Gulf Coast District is directly linked to the International Longshoremen's Association. The ILA was established in the late 1800's by delegates from eleven ports. Our union brothers from all those years ago met and organized in Detroit. During this meeting they adopted the by-laws of the Longshoremen's Chicago local and the name of The National Longshoremen's Association was decided upon by all delegates at this historic meeting. By 1895, the name was changed to ILA to reflect the growing numbers of Canadian members.



### SAGCD Executive Officers

Alan Robb, President  
Willie Seymour, Executive Vice President  
Bill Williams, Secretary  
Treasurer  
Wilbert Rowell, Assistant Sec. Treasurer

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## SOLIDARITY, DEFENSE OF DOCKWORKERS AND GROWTH FOCUS OF IDC GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN NEW ORLEANS, LA



Leaders of Dockworker Unions representing over 130,000 longshore workers in more 50 countries worldwide as members in the powerful International Dockworkers Council (IDC), concluded the 9th IDC General Assembly last week in New Orleans, Louisiana, and called the two-day assembly an overwhelming success. Dockworker delegates left the Assembly with renewed energy and focusing the strength of their collective solidarity to fight for labor rights, job security, respect and recognition of dockworkers as highly skilled professionals and defending jobs in the face of automation, privatization, and legislative attacks by governments in all countries where the IDC has planted its flag.

"We are more united and stronger than ever before," said Dennis A. Daggett, the IDC's General Coordi-

nator who was reelected to a new four year term and will lead the global dockworkers organization until 2026. "No employer, no ship-ping company, no terminal operator or any government will out-muscle or out-maneuver the IDC in our objective to provide power and representation to our membership around the world."

The IDC General Assembly tackled a thorny issue on affiliation compliance to the IDC Constitution. Following lengthy debates and discussion, the IDC made the tough determination that IDC affiliated unions who refuse to adhere to the

Rules of the IDC Constitution – such as refusing to pay membership dues – will be expelled by the governing body of IDC delegates. Even if expelled, the IDC sent a message to the rank-and-file members of those affected dockworker unions that they would "never walk alone" if faced with a threat to their jobs or livelihoods. "If you are under attack and need our help, we will be there with you immediately", the IDC said. The

IDC General Assembly gave its Permanent Commission the authority to readmit un-







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ions who are expelled or suspended. In addition, the plenary session of the General Assembly decided to reform its organizational structure in order to achieve greater efficiency and agility in responding to the demands of port workers.

The IDC commits to working tirelessly with Dockers Unions who have been expelled to resolve disputes and bring all Dockworker unions together, under the IDC umbrella and with respect for global solidarity and the Constitution as a basis.

In addition to reelecting Daggett as IDC General Coordinator, the more than 400 delegates attending the 9th General Assembly put together a team of Zone Coordinators to carry out the mission of the IDC.

In the restructured European Zone, Andy Green was elected Coordinator. In the West Coast Zone, Ed Ferris was selected to replace Bobby Olvera Jr. as Coordinator.

The Zone Coordinators returning to their post included: Paul Keating (Oceania and Asian Zone); Andy Green (European Zone); César Luna (Latin American and Caribbean Zone); Kenneth Riley (East Coast Zone); Ed Ferris (West Coast Zone); and Guigrehi Aklégbou Pierre (African Zone).

On the other hand, Uruguayan Fabian González was elected Prevention Coordinator (H&S).

IDC delegates engaged in vigorous debate throughout the two-day As-

sembly. In the end, they were united in one voice to assert that the IDC stood alone as the true voice and representation of organized dockworkers around the world.

Among the important resolution and policy statements hammered out in the New Orleans Assembly, IDC delegates adopted an important resolution of diversity: "Non-discrimination on the basis of birth, ethnicity, sex, class, age, ability, or any other personal or social circumstance involving discrimination of any kind is a non-negotiable principle. There-

fore, IDC declares itself anti-fascist, anti-homophobic, anti-racist and anti-bullying."

Strong showings of solidarity and support for the US West Coast Dockworkers Union, International

Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) currently engaged in contract negotiations with Pacific Maritime Association, were prominent at the two-day assembly.

In reference to the situation in Latin America, the General Assembly was



informed of the attacks suffered by workers in countries such as Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina and Ecuador, where the privatization of port areas, the vertical integration of companies and the non-recognition of the port profession are on the agenda. Reference was also made to the complicated personal situations in Colombia and El Salvador. In addition, the

delegates showed their support for the recovery of the union assets of the workers of Veracruz, Mexico.

The Coordination of the Latin America and Caribbean Zone has been reformed to provide a more effective and quick response to the demands of the affiliated members.

For his part, the coordinator of the African Zone emphasized some of the achievements made in Côte d'Ivoire, such as the legal recognition of dockworkers. In any case, the



situation of workers on the African continent continues to be worrying due to the precariousness of jobs as a result of excessive permissiveness on the part of governments and in agreement with companies.

On the other hand, in the European Zone, the situation of non-union recognition of the dockers of Trieste and Monfalcone, to whom the IDC provides logistical and institutional support, is a matter of concern. In the United Kingdom, there was a worrying situation in several ports where the dockworkers successfully negotiated their working conditions. This situation is similar to that which has occurred in the Asia-Oceania Zone, in this case in Australia.

In addition, the IDC will be keeping a close eye on the dockworker situation in Portugal. According to Dennis A. Daggett, «Portugal is our new Liverpool and we will continue to give all our efforts to resolve their situation».

Other decisions were taken during the course of the 9th IDC General Assembly, whose motions were approved unanimously by the delegates present at the event

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