Speech by Mr. Nilton Souza Da Silva,
Secretary of International Relations, FS

While maintaining economic growth and employment, trade unions’
work in safeguarding the interests of workers and
Social inclusion

First of all, on behalf of the National Committee of FS, I would like to thank the comrades and friends of ACFTU for the invitation, which has given us the opportunity to discuss, communicate and exchange experiences in the important issues such as national and regional trade union movement actions and challenges.

As we discussed in previous Fora, globalization has brought about massive changes and impact on labor and the society. Economic liberalization and new technologies to create an interdependent and interrelated world between organizations and individuals in political, social and economic sectors (trade, investment, finance and production organization).

The process of economic globalization is a controversial process. The advantage is to promote national development, while the disadvantage is
its impact on income distribution, poverty, unemployment, migration, social irregularities and exclusion.

In fact, in response to the economic crisis and the decline of the neoliberalism, almost all trade union organizations, social welfare and labor income are subject to regime attacks. In our view, the reduction in wages and social rights and interests means decreasing the direct or indirect income of active labor force, retired workers and people living on the allowances. We believe that this is not acceptable, and it will even impact the next generation.

In Brazil, the long period after the ruling of the military government (1964-1985) was the most difficult times for the labor and society. Today, we can be sure that our country has made significant progress in the past two decades.

With industrialization, economic stability, social programs and increased investment, employment and income distribution have been improved and economy and democracy have been consolidated. In this context, trade unions have made key contributions to maintaining and expanding workers’ rights and interests in Brazil.
In recent years, together with other trade union organization in Brazil, we have promoted an important joint union action, which is very helpful to empower our workers and enhanced the power of trade unions.

Thanks to the solidarity in the trade union action in Brazil, we have not only prevented unfavorable, unpopular and regressive initiatives by entrepreneurs, Congress and the government on some occasions, but also successfully promoted the growth of 90% real collective wage and increased the minimum wage.

Now, Brazil is in a general election period, which is very important to 200 Brazilians and the democracy of the international community and the future.

We and workers hope to continue to make social progress in terms of protection of labor rights, reducing working hours, improving social security and promoting economic growth with social inclusion, so in our country all the people get a decent job and live a dignified life. The presidential candidate that honor the commitment with Brazilian workers and deal with challenges will get the vote of the majority of employees and people in Brazil on October 5, 2014.
Here I would like to stress once again the importance of "International Forum on Economic Globalization and Trade Unions on a global scale, and express our commitment and support to the international trade union movement. There is no doubt that in the dialogue with the United Nations, ILO, IMF, World Bank and other multilateral organizations and agencies, the International Confederation of Trade Unions and ACFTU and other global trade union organizations play a significant role in promoting the solidarity of trade union actions.

At the international conference of the ILO, the G20 and the BRIC countries, etc., in promoting the agreement on the Conventions, Recommendations and Agreement on domestic labor, child labor, heavy labor, youth employment and social security, the status quo of the international trade union movement reflects our ability to communicate and contribute.

I would like to emphasize the importance of the involvement of trade unions in the integration process. In this context, we would like to congratulate comrades from all the BRICS countries. They attended the third BRICS Trade Union Forum held in Fortaleza in July, and made their contribution. I hope that President Rousseff's commitment can help us to promote the achievement of objectives at the next summit held in Moscow, Russia in 2015.
On the other hand, we hope that the L20 Summit in 2014 from November 13 to 16 held in Brisbane, Australia, will be a success. By then, the International Confederation of Trade Unions will endeavor to coordinate and participate in international trade union movement, conduct exchanges and strengthen dialogues on important occasions of G20, L20 and B20. Finally, fellow comrades, we understand that an American has been elected President of the International Confederation of Trade Unions; Chinese trade union leaders have been overwhelmingly elected Titular Member of ILO Governing Body; African and European leaders have also occupied important positions in international organizations, which are the result of movement, effort and political will. It helps to strengthen the unity of the international trade union movement. We fully believe that we are walking on the right path, because the enemies and the challenges we have encountered are way beyond our imagination.

I would like to express deep appreciation and congratulations to our comrades of ACFTU again for organizing the important and democratic international forum with enriching topics, which will promote the union movement worldwide.

Thank you very much!