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BWI'S GLOBAL MNC CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS PARTNERSHIPS FOR DECENT AND SAFE WORK

Geneva, 21–22 October 2025 — The Building and Wood Workers' International (BWI) successfully held its 3rd Global Multinational Companies (MNC) Conference at the International Labor Organization (ILO) Headquarters in Geneva. The two-day event brought together trade union leaders, representatives of multinational companies, financial institutions, researchers, and human rights due diligence experts to strengthen dialogue and cooperation across global supply chains.

This year's conference took place under the theme “**Utilizing and Renewing International Framework Agreements (IFAs) in the Context of Human Rights Due Diligence (HRDD)**”, reflecting the growing importance of aligning corporate responsibility with workers' rights on the ground.

A Conference of Dialogue and Shared Learning

This year's event placed strong emphasis on open discussion and joint problem-solving. Participants examined how **International Framework Agreements (IFAs)** — BWI's cornerstone tool for promoting global labor standards — are being implemented in practice.

Delegates shared both achievements and challenges, recognizing that while IFAs have led to tangible progress in many multinational operations, further efforts are needed to strengthen their reach and ensure meaningful worker participation.

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A Comprehensive Program with Strong Participation

Over two days, participants engaged in a rich and diverse program that covered the major trends and challenges shaping the building, wood, and related sectors:

Trends and Future Markets: exploring new dynamics in global construction and manufacturing, through the presentation of the conference study: [2025 - MNC Conference Report](#)

- **Due Diligence, Procurement and Safeguards:** discussing how responsible procurement and financial standards can support workers' rights.
- **Deep Dive Sessions:** focused on forced labor and recruitment, climate change and heat stress, and certification schemes and living wages.
- **The Value of IFAs in a New Global Environment:** analyzing how agreements can evolve to address changing business realities.

In total, **41 panelists** shared their insights, representing trade unions, multinational companies, development banks, certification bodies, and civil society. The debates were lively, forward-looking, and solution-oriented.

Key Outcomes: Cooperation and Renewal

Across all sessions, participants agreed on several priorities for the coming years:

- **Strengthening the implementation and awareness of IFAs**, ensuring that commitments translate into real improvements for workers.
- **Building trust through ongoing dialogue and experience sharing** between unions and multinational partners.
- **Expanding cooperation** with companies and financiers to address rights challenges in complex supply chains.

Delegates also highlighted the need to link IFAs more closely with emerging **Human Rights Due Diligence (HRDD)** frameworks, ensuring that workers' voices and union participation are embedded in every stage of risk management and remedy.

Preparing Early for Stronger Negotiations

President, Jason Williams, of W-130 out of District 24 and his team have begun early preparations for upcoming negotiations with Weyerhaeuser, applying lessons learned from the 2022 strike—the first work stoppage since 1986. The focus on proactive planning, increased member involvement, and improved communication across locals.

Preparation efforts include collaboration with wood locals, the Woodworkers' Department, Western Territories, and the International Office to strengthen bargaining readiness. Training and participation at the local level have increased, with members stepping up to serve on committees and support union initiatives.

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FSC General Assembly 2025– Uniting for the Future of Forests

From 26-31 October over 700 FSC members, global leaders, Indigenous representatives, and sustainability experts came together in Panama for the 10th FSC General Assembly. Over the course of the week participants engaged in deep, thoughtful discussions on responsible forestry and voted on motions that will guide the direction of the FSC system in the years ahead.

At a time of increasing environmental, social, and political urgency, voices from across FSC's environmental, social, and economic chambers echoed a shared commitment: that forests are central in building resilience, supporting communities, and our collective future.

At the core of the General Assembly is the Members Assembly where FSC's unique chamber-balanced democratic governance system comes to life. Members from all three chambers – social, economic and environmental – deliberated and voted on 42 motions each representing a proposal for new work areas or improvements to the FSC system.



A key milestone during the General Assembly was the [signing of an agreement](#) between the Ministry of Environment of Panama and FSC to promote sustainable forest management in state forests. This partnership aims to strengthen forest governance, promote transparency, build technical capacities, and ensure the conservation of Panama's forest heritage for generations to come.

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While not every objective was achieved in the last contract, the union demonstrated its strength, solidarity, and commitment to one another. Support from fellow members, families, and surrounding communities reinforced the power of standing together.

As preparations move forward, leadership emphasizes unity, shared responsibility, and collective strength. The union remains committed to fighting for fair and deserving contracts, remembering that solidarity is the foundation of success.



BIO-CORNER

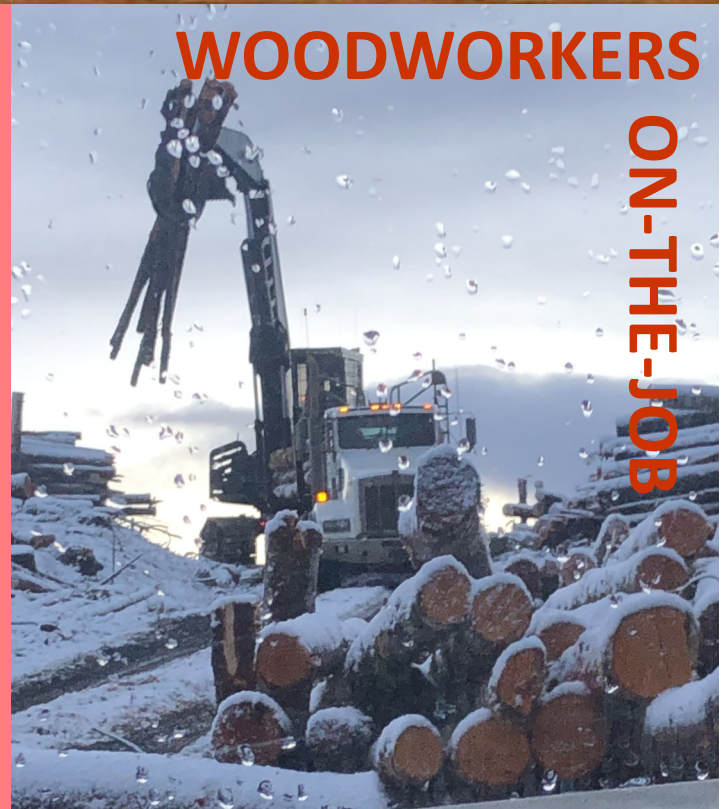
Cami Carr became a member of the IAM at Stennis Space Center in South Mississippi and has been a dues-paying member since 2018, though union involvement began well before that time.

With a diverse professional background, Sister Cami has worked as a nationally registered emergency medical dispatcher (including flight care), a CDL Class A driver, and in quality and logistics roles.

During time at Stennis, Cami served as a negotiating committee member and later as a recording secretary, holding elected IAM positions for a total of five years. Currently, Cami serves as a Central Labor Council President on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and is an organizer for District W-2021.

Union service is deeply rooted in her family. Union business was often discussed at the breakfast table, on weekends and late into the night while working through members' concerns. Her father-in-law previously served as Local Lodge President at Stennis, and her husband serves on the executive board, reinforcing a multi-generational commitment to labor advocacy.

Outside of union work, Cami enjoys maintaining the family homestead and fishing with her three sons.



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