

Montevideo, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

The UNI Americas Executive Committee is committed to dismantling the systemic racism that has denied too many of us the right to safety and security.

The recent killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, David McAtee and Tony McDade have demonstrated the continuous violence perpetrated by the police upon Black people and other communities of color in the United States. However, this racist violence plagues not only the U.S. but the entire hemisphere.

Not even a week before George Floyd's murder, João Pedro, age 14, was shot by police at the house of a family friend in Rio de Janeiro. His death came just after the two-year anniversary of the assassination of Marielle Franco, a Rio de Janeiro city councilor, who was murdered for speaking out against police violence and extrajudicial killings perpetrated against Afro-Brazilians. Unfortunately, these are just a few of the victims in our region.

Our continents' shared history of colonialism and slavery has left a legacy of systemic racism against Black people, Afro-Latinxs, indigenous communities and other marginalized groups.

As union leaders from throughout the Americas, we know that there is no economic justice without racial justice. We can only empower workers and build a just global economy if we dismantle the structural racism that too often keeps us divided.

Our federation demands justice for the victims of racist violence in the United States, in Brazil and in the entire region. We support the #BlackLivesMatter movement and all those who are protesting in the U.S. to end racist police violence and all institutional violence.

We are inspired that the actions that have spread throughout Minneapolis, New York, Atlanta, Los Angeles, Portland and hundreds of other U.S. cities are transforming into a global movement. We demand that police respect our right to protest in all countries without fear of violent repression. We commit as an organization to tearing down the racist structures in our communities, at our workplaces and within the labor movement.

As trade unionists, we know the power of collective action to transform society. Building a just world will not happen easily, but we are committed to continue the fight until it is achieved.