

CEYLON BANK EMPLOYEES' UNION

Diamond Jubilee Celebration

Fraternal Greetings from

Christopher Ng

UNI Apro Regional Secretary



On behalf of UNI Apro and on my personal behalf, I have great pleasure in extending fraternal greetings and best wishes to the Officers and members of CBEU Sri Lanka on the occasion of the Union's 75th Anniversary.

CBEU is a long-standing and treasured affiliate of the then FIET and now UNI Global Union.

I salute the present and past Officers and commend the CBEU on their many achievements on behalf of their members and its role in the defending democratic and trade union rights of workers in Sri Lanka.

The outstanding success of CBEU can be attributed to its capacity to resist all attempts to subordinate it to political party dictates and remained independent for glorified seventy-five years, serving the members with pride.

The global environment has been changed significantly by the process of rampant globalization and rapid technological innovations. We are now living in an era of job insecurity, of a terrible imbalance in economic development, with one-fifth of the global population living in absolute poverty on the eve of the 4th Industrial Revolution.

Under neo-liberal economic globalization, workers' rights are under attack. Trade unions are under siege. There are persistent efforts in, practically all countries to water down laws protecting labour rights, including the law protecting the tenure of regular and unionized workers. On the other hand, industries are circumventing these laws by resorting to different forms of casual or contractual hiring.



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Trade unions all over the world including UNI have long stated that globalization without a social dimension and respect for human and trade union rights is not acceptable. In an increasingly interdependent world, trade unions all over the world must be united in their response and forge stronger social partnership and solidarity.

In this connection, I must thank the CBEU for their support and co-operation that they have so readily extended to UNI and UNI Apro. I must also record our gratitude to your past and present leaders, including Jayasri Priyalal - my colleague, the Regional Director for UNI Apro Finance Sector Activities for their contributions to the positive development of UNI and UNI Apro.

I wish to take this opportunity to pay tribute to the various pioneering leaders of CBEU for laying the strong foundation that facilitated the union to grow from strength to strength unionising over 80% of the bank employees in Sri Lanka under one umbrella.

We look forward to continuing working closely with your Union and to your continuing support and co-operation in our effort to shape the new global economic order based on shared commitment to equity, justice and respect for human and trade union rights.

On its 75th. Anniversary, CBEU has everything to be proud of as there are only a few other unions in this region who continue to influence the quality of life of their members collectively. I congratulate the Officers and members of CBEU and wish you continuing success in all your endeavours on behalf of your members.

Yours sincerely,

Christopher Ng,

UNI Apro Regional Secretary.

5 March 2018,
Singapore.