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# THIRD CONGRESS OF THE LEBANESE COMMUNIST PARTY

## COMMUNICATION ON PLENARY MEETING OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE, LCP

The Central Committee of the Lebanese Communist Party convened a plenary meeting to discuss the Political Bureau report on the Third Party Congress. The Central Committee unanimously approved the report and proposals concerning the agenda of the coming congress. It will be recalled that the Party has come to the fourth year since the Second Congress—the year which according to the Party Rules should see the Third Congress.

Reaffirming the historical importance of the Second Congress and approving the exposition contained in the Political Bureau report of the main phases in the Party's struggle after the congress, the Central Committee attaches the utmost importance to convening the Third Congress. It will be held at a time when the struggle between the liberation movement in the Arab countries and its allies, on the one hand, and imperialism, Zionism and reaction, on the other, continues to grow more acute and more complicated.

The struggle reflects sharply on the internal situation in the Lebanon. U.S. imperialist pressure on the Lebanon is increasing to subject it still more to its political, financial and military influence. Arab reaction plays an active role in this pressure. All this is accompanied by greater activity on the part of local reaction, by feverish preparations for bloody provocations against the Palestine resistance movement, the people's movement and the progressive forces, and a mounting campaign against democracy and freedom.

Congress will take place against the background of a deteriorating economic and social crisis in the Lebanon, an aggravation of the class struggle, mounting concern and discontent among the working people over such problems as the rising cost of living, the difficulty of finding jobs, the question of wages, marketing of products, medical service, housing, education, and the like.

The country is on the threshold of general parliamentary elections to which more importance is attached than ever before. All Communists without exception must participate in the search for and introduction of methods best suited to consolidate the gains won in the struggle of the past three years, continue with redoubled

resolve the struggle to frustrate the plans of imperialism, Zionism and reaction, carry forward an independent foreign policy envisaging closer ties with the progressive Arab regimes and the socialist camp with the Soviet Union at its head, achieve new successes and gains in the fight of the working class and the masses for better living and social conditions, and consolidate freedoms and democracy. All this is also added evidence of the need for the Third Party Congress.

### **AGENDA OF THE CONGRESS**

In the light of the aforesaid the Central Committee approved the proposal to convene the Congress and to launch preparations for it in all Party branches, taking into account that the agenda of the Congress will include the following items:

1. Central Committee report on activity in the period since the Second Congress.
2. Discussion of political theses related to the principal problems in the light of the Party's political program.
3. Organizational matters and amendments to the Party Rules.
4. The Party's agrarian program.
5. Elections to the Party's leading bodies.

### **PREPARATIONS FOR THE CONGRESS ON A BROADLY DEMOCRATIC BASIS**

The Central Committee will seek to secure participation of the broadest possible contingents of rank and file Communists and Party activists in preparing the statutory reports and studying materials relating to the report on the Party's activity in different spheres. The CC LCP calls on all organizations and all members of the Party to participate actively in discussing the reports, voicing their opinion and suggesting necessary amendments. All expressed proposals and remarks are to be forwarded accurately and promptly to the Central Committee by the Party's various organizations.

The consolidation to a higher degree than ever of the ideological, political and organizational unity of the Party since the Second Congress is the result of broad participation on a democratic basis of all Party organizations and members in drawing up the Party's program and in defining the directions of its activity. The Second Congress was itself the result of the struggle of all rank and file members of the Party, the outcome of the ideological and practical activity of all Communists.

### **JOINT ACTION**

This was the basis on which unanimous participation of Communists was secured in effectuating the decisions of the Congress and the decisions and recommendations of the Party's leading bodies, especially its Central Committee.

The Central Committee strives to apply correctly the principles of democratic centralism: broad participation of Communists in debates and discussions, joint action in carrying forward the adopted decisions, submission of the minority to the majority and of the lower Party bodies to the higher, and fulfilment by each Communist of the decisions of the Congress, the Party's supreme organ.

The Central Committee gives all those who had earlier for one reason or another left the Party, are in accord with its political program and Rules, and wish to return to its ranks in order to continue the struggle, an opportunity to apply for membership in accordance with the Rules. Their application will receive consideration and decisions will be taken on them.

The struggle is long and arduous. Many may falter, many may commit mistakes. A real fighter will not be afraid to admit his mistakes and hear the criticism of his comrades in the Party. For its part, the Party takes a positive view of sincere self-criticism.

### **PARTICIPATION OF BROAD SECTIONS OF THE PEOPLE IN PREPARING THE CONGRESS**

The Central Committee calls not only on members of the Party but also on its friends and broad masses of people in town and country to participate in different forms in preparing the Congress and discussing its agenda.

The Central Committee will take the necessary steps to publish extensively the results of constructive and serious discussions of materials and theses of the coming congress.

These measures are being taken to fortify the bond between the Party and the mass of the people, enabling it to express to a greater extent the national and social aspirations and vital demands of the people.

Our Party is a party of the workers, farmers, progressive intellectual and other groups of people. That is why these sections of the people have a right to participate in drawing up the Party's policy and to express their standpoint on the Party program and its effectuation.

As one of its main tasks, the Party is working for the unity of the progressive forces in the Lebanon and for a common program. The Party is prepared to let the truly progressive forces participate in the debate of its political program and all its activity. This will only invigorate cooperation and add to the influence and weight of these forces in the life of the country.

Expressing firm faith in democracy and being desirous of developing and deepening it, the Party calls for broad debates on a democratic basis of issues concerning the struggle against imperialism, Israel and reaction, progress in the Lebanon and achievement of a better life for workers and other sections of the people.