

7th Congress of the PCP (ML)

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- The 7th Communist Party Congress was held**
- Unanimously approved the Political Report and the new Program and Statutes**
- Elected the VII Central Committee and the Central Control Commission**

For four days, from 15 to 18 January, the VII Congress of the Communist Party of Portugal (Marxist-Leninist) was held in the auditorium of the Lisbon National Library. The 7th Congress was a very important milestone in the life of the Party. It endowed him with a new Program, new Statutes, new governing bodies. It defined, through the new Program and the Central Committee Activity Report, presented by Comrade Heduino Gomes (Vilar), the fundamental political line of the PCP (ml) in the current national and international situation. It armed the Party in the struggle against the main enemy of all humanity, Russian social-imperialism, against its lackeys and those who play the game, like the



Desde o nosso dia, em 15 e 18 de Janeiro, realizou-se no auditório da Biblioteca Nacional de Lisboa o VII Congresso do Partido Comunista de Portugal (Marxista-Leninista). O Congresso foi um momento muito importante na vida do Partido, que definiu a sua nova Programática, os novos Estatutos, os novos órgãos dirigentes. Definido, também, o novo Programa e os Estatutos do Partido, o Congresso aprovou unanimemente o Informe político e os novos Programa e Estatutos. Foi eleito o VII Comité Central e a Comissão Central de Controle.

O Congresso realizou os seus trabalhos em perfeita harmonia, com a participação activa de 113 delegados eleitos em todo o território do País.



O VII Congresso do PCP (ML) começou e terminou sob o signo da unidade e da harmonia. Os delegados participaram activamente em todos os trabalhos do Congresso. O Congresso aprovou unanimemente o Informe político e os novos Programa e Estatutos. Foi eleito o VII Comité Central e a Comissão Central de Controle.

"super-revolutionaries", against those who conciliated with them. The 7th Congress was thus a great historic victory for the Communist Party.

The Congress began its work on the morning of Saturday, the 15th. About 150 elected delegates were present in all Party bodies, through the mode of representation defined by the Secretariat of the 6th Central Committee, and an equal number of guests were counted amongst these members of the Federation of Communist Youths of Portugal (Marxist-Leninists) and the Union of Communist Students (Marxist-Leninists).

Comrade Jose Santos, Organizing Secretary of the VI Central Committee, delivered the Opening Speech of the Congress, which we published elsewhere.

The Congress then elected its Presidium, which led the work, composed of 35 comrades, representatives of various sectors of the organization and who stood out for their activity and firmness in applying the Party line.

The Congress Agenda was then approved.

- 1 - Reading and discussion of the Central Committee Activity Report.
- 2 - Discussion and approval of the Program.
- 3 - Discussion and approval of the Statutes.
- 4 - Election of the Central Committee.
- 5 - Election of the Central Control Commission.

Reading and discussion of the Central Committee Activity Report

Entering the first item on the Agenda, Comrade Vilar began reading the Central Committee Activity Report, an important document of which we present a summary of its first part on page 2. Comrade Vilar began his Report asking congressmen a minute of silence in memory of President Mao Zedong, "the greatest Marxist-Leninist of our day, the experienced leader of the proletarians of the world, the genius continuer of the immortal work of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin."

The reading of the Report was interrupted several times by the applause of the congress participants, namely when referring to the anti-Marxist-Leninist activities of the "super revolutionaries".

When Comrade Vilar, after about four hours of reading, finished the presentation of the Report, the delegates and guests stood up a long round of applause.

This was followed by the discussion period of the Central Committee Activity Report, during which various sectoral reports, messages, speeches by various Party bodies from around the country, and individual speeches were made highlighting the importance and correctness of Comrade Vilar's Report. , interventions by comrades who left other parties and organizations to join the ranks of communists, scientific socialism.

Comrade Álvaro Vasconcelos, Secretary of Propaganda of the VI Central Committee, presented the Report on Propaganda. The Organization Report was read by Comrade Jose Santos, Secretary of Organization of the VI Central Committee. Comrade Carlos Guinote, Trade Union Secretary of the VI Central Committee, presented the Report on Trade Union Activity.

During the discussion of the Central Committee Activity Report, the Popular Unity Report, Central Administration Report, International Relations Report and International Situation Report, which were read respectively by comrades Ana Faria, Isabel Cabaço, José, respectively. António Gusmão da Silva and Mário Piçarra.

Messages were also read to the 7th Congress sent by comrades John Claudius and Adelia Goulart, who have been in the People's Republic of China for over a year; from the Federation of Communist Youths of Portugal (Marxist-Leninists): from the PCP Committee (ml) in the Federal Republic of Germany; and a comrade from Évora, who could not travel to Congress for his previous activities as a member of the central committee of the social-fascist and terrorist PRP group.

Bodies as varied as the Lisbon, Porto, Beiras and Centro regional committees, the sub-regional committees of the Baixo Alentejo, Algarve, South Bank, North Bank, Lisbon, zone committees and cells from many parts of the country took stock of their activity, stated their support for the Report, opened prospects for the future. These interventions have proven globally or sectorally, the Party's just politics, either by recounting the positive experience of alliance politics, sometimes by showing the importance of the Mao Zedong Promotion, or the political struggle against obstinate social-fascists, neo-revisionists or anti-communists.

The line adopted by the Party for the unification of communists was applauded by the various interventions of comrades who left other parties: Cunhal's social-fascist party and ARA, MRPP, OCMLP, UCRP, PRP, PS, PCP (under construction) and The Red Proletarian, and the former 'CMLP' - PUP. These new comrades stressed the importance of the Mao Zedong Promotion which made it easier for them to join the Communist Party.

Among the many working-class Party militants who spoke during the discussion of the Report were Comrade Jose Joao Nunes, a former social-fascist party and ARA militant who, relying on his experience, relentlessly denounced the Nazi character of the Party, the fifth column of Russian social imperialism.

Finally, after more than fifty speeches distributed over six discussion sessions over two days, the delegates' members and trainees unanimously approved the Resolution on the Central Committee Activity Report, which we published on page 3.

In this and the next issues we will also include speeches, briefings or summaries of these that have subscribed to the discussion of the Report.

Program Discussion and Approval

The discussion and approval of the Program, according to the agenda of the VII Congress, occupied about eight hours spread over three working sessions on the 17th.

Comrade Alvaro Vasconcelos introduced the discussion. He stated that Party bodies or militants submitted to the Party Secretariat, after discussion of the Program Project in all agencies, 254 amendments. Of these, 70 were

introduced, and the remaining 184 were not included because they were either politically wrong or, for the most part, because grammar or style changes were also wrong.

The program was then discussed and voted in the specialty, step by step.

The Program discussion motivated more than 80 interventions or clarifications.

During the discussion of each point of the Program, Comrade Álvaro Vasconcelos indicated which amendments had been accepted by the Secretariat, and also indicated those that were not accepted, explaining the reasons.

In addition to the 70 amendments included by the Secretariat based on Party committee proposals, Congress approved 5 new amendments.

The discussion and approval in the specialty was followed by the approval of the new Party Program in general. The member delegates and interns unanimously approved it. The whole Congress expressed its contentment by breaking into a long round of applause: the Party has armed itself with an important document to deal with the new international and national situation.

Discussion and approval of the Statutes

This third item on the agenda occupied the last session of the third day of the Congress, the 17th.

Comrade Jose Santos spoke to the congressmen about the proposed amendments presented to the Secretariat during the preparation of the VII Congress.

After 35 speeches, and including a new addendum to an article, members and trainees delegated to Congress unanimously approved the new Party Statutes.

Election of the Central Committee

The election of the Central Committee to lead the Party between the 7th and 8th Congress took about 7 hours.

Comrade Vilar first stated that the election of the Central Committee is one of the most important aspects of the life of the Party, and then indicated the criteria to be taken into account when addressing this issue. Comrade Vilar stressed that the Central Committee should consist of the best Party cadres; by members who have demonstrated their fidelity, their firm political line, their dedication to the Party; by men and women; by young, middle-aged and elderly comrades - observing the principle of triple union; by comrades from various sectors and regions; by comrades who represent the history of the Party; by Party members (with the full internship); and that the Central Committee must have a majority of workers and workers.

Following some speeches on the importance of the election of the Central Committee; The Congress took note of proposals for Central Committee nominations submitted to the Secretariat during the preparation period of the Congress.

124 speeches followed about the proposed candidates.

In the middle of the afternoon, the election of the new Central Committee took place.

They used the right to vote for the election of the VII Central Committee, firstly, the Party delegates (with deliberative vote) and then the trainee delegates (with advisory vote).

Voting was secret, as is the democratic norm in elections that focus on individuals.

After counting the votes, Comrade Vilar announced to Congress the composition of the VII Central Committee of the Communist Party. The superior organism of the Party in the interval between two congresses and that controls all its activity was constituted by the following comrades: Heduino Gomes (Vilar); Alvaro Vasconcelos, Jose Santos, Carlos Guinote, Carlos Zanotti, Artur David, Virgílio Falcato, Margarida Quintino, Ana Faria, Mario Piçarra, Maria do Rosario Luís, Fernando de Sousa (Macedo), and José António Gusmão da Silva, and, as alternates, Neiva Amorim and António Tomás.

Comrade Jose Santos spoke to announce the class origin of each of the elements that make up the new Central Committee. Thus, the percentage of proletarians and semi-proletarians is sixty percent, the remaining forty percent being of intellectual origin.

The whole Congress enthusiastically applauded the new Central Committee.

Election of the Central Control Commission

The fifth and final item on the agenda was the election of the Central Control Commission.

This central body is responsible for maintaining the ideological purity of the Party, ensuring the security of the Party, investigating Party bodies and members, examining appeals for disciplinary decisions by Party bodies and verifying Party accounts.

Comrades Vilar and Jose Santos provided clarifications on the former Central Control Commission and explanations of the character that this central body should assume.

The vote was then taken to elect the Central Control Commission. After the member and trainee delegates voted - the first by deliberative vote, the second by advisory vote, and all by secret ballot - the Central Control Commission was made up of comrades Heduino Gomes (Vilar), Virgilio Falcato and Maria do Rosario Luís.

Again the congressmen rose to applaud the outcome of this election.

Closing Session

The Closing Session of the VII Congress of the Communist Party of Portugal (Marxist-Leninist) took place in the late afternoon of January 18, the fourth and last day of the Congress. The Seventh Congress ended after thirty-seven hours of work, divided into fourteen sessions.

Comrade Mario Piçarra of the elected Central Committee then read the message of the VII Congress to Comrade Hua Guofeng, Chairman of the Communist Party of China, and to the Central Committee of the Communist

Party of China. The message, which we post elsewhere, was approved by acclamation by all the attendees present.

Comrade Álvaro Vasconcelos delivered the closing speech of the VII Congress.

Finally, all the congressmen, delegates and guests sang the anthem of workers from around the world, which is also the anthem of the Communist Party of Portugal (Marxist-Leninist), The International.

Thus ended the 7th PCP Congress (ml). The Party emerged from it stronger, more united, more armed in the fight against all the enemies of scientific socialism and communism, especially against Russian social imperialism and its fifth column in our country, the Nazi party of Cunhal.

Expressing enormous revolutionary enthusiasm, the Communist militants who participated in the Congress returned to the four corners of the country, willing to put into practice the just conclusions of the Party Congress, with all their strength, even more dedicated to the cause of national independence, democracy. , the struggle for social progress, scientific socialism and communism.

The VII Congress of the PCP (ml) was a great historical victory for the Portuguese working class.