



FBU delegation to the TUC Women's Conference with Fatimetou Mahfud Sidi Alla, representative of the Polisario Front movement which is campaigning to end Moroccan rule of Western Sahara

women's conference

regionalisation was overwhelmingly rejected by the public in the North East referendum held in November 2004.

Should these proposals be implemented there will be job losses of 47% within emergency fire control rooms where women are the majority workforce.

This conference believes that these proposals will have a negative impact on the highly efficient service provided by the fire and rescue service throughout the UK and would result in an increased risk to both firefighters and the public.

Therefore this conference calls on the TUC and all affiliates to oppose the government's proposals on the regionalisation of emergency fire controls by:

- Supporting the FBU's national

campaign.

- Publicising the FBU campaign entitled 'Campaign against regionalisation'
- Lobbying government, MPs and local councillors to oppose this initiative.

WESTERN SAHARA

2006 is the 30 year anniversary of the illegal Moroccan occupation of Western Sahara, which this Conference has and will continue to condemn.

On the 16th January the Spanish newspaper El Pais reported that the King of Morocco stated in an interview that "The Territory was recovered in 1975 in a legal and peaceful way, neither myself nor the Moroccan people will ever agree to give up our sovereignty". This reinforced the fact that UN resolution

1514 (xv) calling for the self determination of Saharawi people has been selectively ignored for the financial gains of some, at the cost of the liberty and self determination of a nation of Saharawi people.

This conference calls upon the TUC Women's Committee and all affiliates to:

- Lobby the UK Government to put Western Sahara on its agenda as head of G8 and take active steps to help revive the referendum process.
- Re-agenda the issue of Western Sahara by highlighting and raising awareness of the plight of the Saharawi people.
- To become involved and financially support the Sandblast project taking place in 2006.