

PRESS RELEASE

Villejuif, 21 September 2022

The charter on workers' commitments for the Grand Paris Express signed between the SGP and BWI

The Société du Grand Paris (SGP), the Building and Wood Workers' International (BWI, based in Geneva with 12 million members worldwide), and the French trade unions affiliated with the BWI signed a charter reaffirming the commitments to employees working on the Grand Paris Express (GPE) at the end of a joint international visit to the building site of the future Gustave-Roussy station in Villejuif where line 15 will run on the south section of the GPE. Work on the metro network is progressing rapidly in preparation for the start of the Paris Olympic Games in 2024. Looking beyond the 2024 Olympics, the GPE will profoundly transform the Paris region for decades to come.

The SGP and BWI, in partnership with its French members, are committed to working together to understand and prevent risks to the health and safety of workers. The signatories of the charter intend to share their experiences and aim to increase the positive impact of the building sites and their involvement in the surrounding areas.

The first visit to the building site of the future Gustave-Roussy station by international visitors took place and was followed by the signing of the charter. The various BWI safety experts present during the visit have also been involved in major international projects.

Ambet Yuson, BWI General Secretary says, *"This is historic. It's the first charter of this kind signed with a major project owner since health and safety was included in the International Labour Organization (ILO) framework. We are pleased with this partnership with the SGP. The entity is committed to ensuring that security and safety rules are applied on all GPE building sites in accordance with the ILO's international conventions and to setting up international visits alongside us. It is essential that trade unions have access to major construction and infrastructure projects in order to provide feedback to reduce health and safety problems, particularly those related to subcontracting and the secondment of workers."*

According to Jean-François Monteils, Chairman of the Executive Board of Société du Grand Paris, *"Safety at the Grand Paris Express building sites is our priority. Constant improvement is a major focal point for the entity. This charter is a new tool in our arsenal as the owner of major projects. Others will follow in the coming months. The Société du Grand Paris is determined to continue strengthening its safety strategy in collaboration with its partners, contractors and all those involved in this important topic. We must move forward together."*

About the Société du Grand Paris

The Société du Grand Paris is a public entity created by the French Government whose mission is to manage the building and financing of the Grand Paris Express. It oversees the building of the metro infrastructure and acquires, on behalf of Île-de-France Mobilités, the rolling stock that will run on it. The Grand Paris Express, the future metro of Greater Paris, is the largest infrastructure and development project in Europe. With 200

kilometres of track, the project is creating four new lines around Paris, extending line 14, building 68 stations and developing new neighbourhoods around these future urban centres.

SGP press contacts:

Jérémy Huppenoire – jeremy.huppenoire@societedugrandparis.fr – +33 6 34 47 16 18

Pierre Monzo – pierre.monzo@societedugrandparis.fr – +33 6 15 05 72 64

About the Building and Wood Workers' International

The Building and Wood Workers' International (BWI) is an international trade union federation comprising 360 unions and 12 million workers in the construction and wood sectors in 117 countries. Its head office is located in Geneva.

BWI's mission is to defend and promote workers' rights with the aim of improving working and living conditions within its sectors. The BWI, above all, has a rights-based approach. It believes that trade union rights are human rights that are based on equality, solidarity and democracy and that trade unions are essential to good governance.

BWI contacts:

Geneviève Kalina, BWI Communication Director – +41 79 947 27 07

Jean-Marc Candille, FNCCB-CFDT – +33 6 76 98 65 24

Christian Roy, FO-BTP – +33 6 60 32 46 12

Yves Gauby, FNCCBA-CGT – +33 6 45 44 88 43