

Negotiations on the Grand Accord:

At the circus!



The negotiations on the Grand Accord resumed on Thursday 13 October with discussion of the wage scale of technicians on the agenda. The meeting was cut short, showing once again that the negotiations are in disarray if not a total impasse. A quick review:

The CGT and FO made an opening statement denouncing, with good reason, management's insincerity in the negotiations, accusing it of jumping from one subject to another, never giving a clear indication which union counterproposals it has accepted. That is far from a scoop, SUD shares the same sentiment and has stated that repeatedly.

The CGT and FO then announced that they were suspending their participation in the negotiating sessions with management to prepare a counterproposal which they plan to present in mid-December. They then left the hall.

The SNJ announced that it would soon present a comprehensive counterproposal for all staff.

Technicians wage scale: low cost

Management's proposals include creating a new entry-level base salary of €2,738.88 per month for newly-graduated technicians with no experience, which it says is the going market rate. The current entry-level monthly base salary for technicians at AFP is €4,184.96. The difference is enormous, and not just in financial terms, but in terms of experience as well, with AFP until now recruiting only experienced technicians. With a proposal like this one can't help be worried about what is in store for other categories.

Management promises to run its numbers

During the debate on the future of the negotiations management promised it will present in several weeks new calculations of the savings it hopes to achieve with the Grand Accord. Until we receive those, the negotiations cannot really advance, and the expiration of the talks in February is approaching fast.

For the past 3 years SUD has constantly participated in the negotiations, arguing its position and offering improvements, refusing to get trapped into a logic of making concessions, and regularly informing staff. Our goal remains the same: **uniting all categories of staff to resist the cuts in wages and benefits sought by management.** Thursday showed that we've got a long road ahead of us.

SUD invites you to attend an open meeting

on Tuesday 18 October at 13:00

(1st floor HQ opposite library and CE)



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