

## **WANJA LUNDBY-WEDIN**

*Wanja Lundby-Wedin was elected new President of LO-Sweden at the 24th Statutory Congress of LO on Sunday, September 3. She has been one of the four persons in the LO leadership since 1994 when she became Vice-President.*

*As Vice-President Wanja Lundby-Wedin was responsible for the LO's activities within the fields of employment and labour market, education, training and skills development as well as working environment and IT issues.*

*Furthermore, she was responsible for European trade union issues and international development co-operation. She is member of the Executive Committee and the Steering Committee of the European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC). Furthermore, she is President of the Executive board of the LO/TCO Council of International Trade Union Co-operation and Vice-President of that of the Olof Palme International Center.*

*The first job Wanja Lundby-Wedin had was as nursing auxiliary at Högdalen hospital for long-term care south of Stockholm. After that she studied to assistant nurse and started to work at Danderyd hospital, where she got her first trade union assignment as union liaison officer at a nursing ward.*

*In 1981, she was employed as union representative at the Stockholm branch of the Municipal Workers' Union and in 1987 she became Head of the Department for Environmental Issues at the national headquarters of the union. Her fields of responsibility in this position were working environment, co-determination and negotiation issues.*

- What keeps me engaged in trade union activities is the vision of a society where everyone has equal chances to have a good life. It is totally unacceptable that people's living conditions should be predetermined by class, gender or ethnical background. Looking at the conditions in working life, injustice can be seen even more clearly. That is why the struggle for rewarding work is so important, this means, work that does not cause you strain and injuries, work where skills development and learning are natural elements and where the working organisation facilitates influence and self-determination, Wanja Lundby-Wedin says.*
- Yet the most important issue is the right to work. We must never get used to or accept a society with high unemployment. A society that doesn't give all people a chance to make their own living is not a welfare society.*

### **Short data:**

*Wanja Lundby-Wedin, President of LO-Sweden*

*Born in October, 1952*

*Active in the trade union movement since 1972*

*Began to work at the LO in 1994*

*Lives in Stockholm, is married and has two grown-up children*