

Lufthansa Facing Another Strike This Week



Berlin, November 24 (RHC)-- Lufthansa cabin crew's union has announced plans to go ahead with more strikes on Thursday, Friday and next Monday after it failed to resolve its dispute with management over payment and retirement benefits.

The German airline's cabin crew union, known as the UFO, also warned on Monday of more industrial stoppages if the company failed to "react appropriately" to their demands.

"We hope that this will finally bring serious movement in this labor dispute and that we will not be forced to also strike in December," said UFO chief Nicolety Baublies. UFO has been locked in a battle with the flagship air carrier for weeks. The union wants the airline to secure payment and retirement provisions for its 19,000 members.

On the opposite side, Lufthansa's management has been adamant on its effort to curb costs. Lufthansa's management has also complained that the demands by the UFO flight attendants' union were "too vague" and unjustified under the German labor law.

In November, Lufthansa had offered to raise the amount of a one-time payment to cabin crew members by 1,000 euros (1,075 dollars) to 3,000 euros and to back away from its proposal to raise its early retirement age from the current minimum age of 55 to 56. UFO rejected Lufthansa's offer, saying it

constituted only a "minimal" improvement.

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