



**SHARAN BURROW**  
PRESIDENT  
PRÉSIDENTE  
PRÄSIDENTIN  
PRESIDENTA

**GUY RYDER**  
GENERAL SECRETARY  
SECRÉTAIRE GÉNÉRAL  
GENERALSEKRETÄR  
SECRETARIO GENERAL

Mr. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad,  
President of the Republic  
The Presidency,  
Palestine Avenue, Azerbaijan Intersection,  
Tehran  
Islamic Republic of Iran

Fax: + 98 21 649 58 80

BWI/ITUC/HTUR/JS

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### Arrest and detention of Reza Dehghan

Dear President,

The International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), representing 305 trade union organisations, and the Building and Wood Workers International (BWI) are concerned about the arrest and detention of yet another trade union activist, **Reza Dehghan**, member of the Founding Committee of Painters Union (Syndica Nagash).

We have been informed that Mr. Dehghan was arrested on 18 November 2007 and is still detained. He was summoned to court on 18 November for questioning and was then arrested. He was subsequently brought to Evin Prison. We are not aware on what grounds he remains detained, but suspect that it is linked to his trade union activities.

The ITUC has protested to your government repeatedly about the persecution of trade unionists in different economic sectors, most notably Mansour Osanloo, Mahmoud Salehi and Ebrahim Madadi. Mr. Reza Dehghan and his fellow unionists had repeatedly intervened on Mr. Osanloo's behalf.

The Islamic Republic of Iran is in constant breach of its international obligations to respect the principle of freedom of association, both as a state party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and a member of the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

We urge you Mr. President to order the immediate and unconditional release of Reza Dehghan and all other imprisoned trade unionists, including Mansour Osanloo and Mahmoud Salehi.

Yours sincerely,

General Secretary

General Secretary

Cc.: His Eminence Ayatollah Khamenei, the leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran