

MICHAEL SOMMER
PRESIDENT
PRÉSIDENT
PRÄSIDENT
PRESIDENTE

SHARAN BURROW
GENERAL SECRETARY
SECRÉTAIRE GÉNÉRALE
GENERALSEKRETÄRIN
SECRETARIA GENERAL

Prime minister of Kuwait
Nasser Al Mohammad Al Ahmad Al Sabah
Al Diwan Al Amiri,
Sief Palace – Building 100
State of Kuwait
Fax: +965 224 305 59
minister@da.gov.kw

HTUR/MP

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Strikes and protest actions

Sir,

The International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), which represents 176 million workers through its 301 affiliates in 151 countries and territories throughout the world, expresses its deep concern regarding the measures taken against striking and protesting workers in Kuwait.

The ITUC has been informed that recently our affiliate, the Kuwait Trade Union Federation, KTUF, suggested establishing a high level Commission from the Minister Council, the Trade Union Movement, the Authority of the Civil Service and others, to discuss all the demands in details and find solutions responding to the interests of the Workers, but the Government haven't responded to this suggestion.

Instead your Minister Council has nominated a committee from the Ministries of Interior, Defense, the National Guards and other authorities with an order to break the strike of the Custom Employee and other strike actions.

International experience has proved that social and economic issues are best solved by respecting the basic rights of both workers and employers and assisting them in conducting a constructive social dialogue and the ITUC advises against the path you have chosen to deal with this situation. The workers have to be listened to and their concerns have to be met as long as it is legitimate demands.

As a member of the ILO, Kuwait is bound by international treaties, and we remind you that your government must fulfil its obligations and respect trade union rights and fundamental liberties such as the right to strike and the freedom of association.

Yours sincerely,



General Secretary