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**HTUR/JB**

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**ITUC stands in solidarity with HAK-IS**

Dear sisters and brothers,

We have recently been informed that in many municipalities over 1,500 HAK-IS members have been dismissed for political reasons, while others have been forced to resign from their union. The ITUC stands in solidarity with HAK-IS and your members who have been treated in this way.

The dismissal of workers on grounds of membership of a trade union constitutes a serious violation of the principles of freedom of association. In its most recent review of the application of ILO Convention No. 87 by the Government of Turkey in June 2019, the ILO Committee on the Application of Standards (CAS) urged the government to take all appropriate measures to guarantee that, irrespective of trade union affiliation, the right to freedom of association can be exercised in normal conditions with respect for civil liberties and in a climate free of violence, pressure and threats.

We are deeply concerned that independent trade union organisations are being targeted to weaken and dilute their efforts in the protection and advancement of the social and economic interests of their members. We once again express our concern at the seriousness and persistence of violations of freedom of association in Turkey. We strongly denounce these practices as clear violations of ILO Convention 87.

The ITUC stands in full support of and solidarity with HAK-IS and the independent trade union movement in Turkey. We continue to demand full freedom of association in Turkey. We are closely following the situation. Please keep us informed of any new development.

Yours sincerely,



General Secretary