



## GENERAL COUNCIL

Washington, 12 - 14 December 2007

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### RESOLUTION ON IRAN

The General Council, meeting in its 3rd session in Washington, DC, on 12-14 December 2007)

**RECALLING** the deep and lasting impression made upon it by Mansour Ossanloo, leader of the Tehran Bus Drivers' Union (Syndicaye Sherkat-e Vahed) when he addressed its last session (Brussels, June 2007),

**DEPLORES** his brutal arrest, detention and sentencing shortly after his return to Iran;

**NOTES WITH GRAVE CONCERN** the worsening of labour conditions in Iran, marked by massive restructuring of national industries, high unemployment which especially affects young workers, and huge wage arrears;

**DENOUNCES** the general disrespect for fundamental workers' rights, particularly total denial of the rights to freedom of association and collective bargaining, widespread child labour and the consistent discrimination in employment against women, democracy activists and members of religious minorities;

**STRONGLY CONDEMNS** the continued oppression against the independent trade union movement, which includes detentions, arrests, sentencing to long prison terms, whipping and internal exile, threats, intimidation, house searches, confiscation of union materials, refusal of medical care for prisoners, beatings, torture, assassination attempts and indiscriminate shooting at striking workers;

DEPLORES in particular the heavy prison sentences imposed on Sherkat-e Vahed leaders Mansour Ossenloo and Ebrahim Madadi on outrageous national security charges;

DEEPLY REGRETS that recent missions to Tehran by Indonesian trade union leaders and a high-level ILO delegation were prevented from visiting them in jail;

- CONDEMNNS the attempted assassination of Sanandaj labour activist Majid Hamidi last October and violence tantamount to torture inflicted in jail on Ossanloo and demands that those responsible be brought to justice and punished in accordance with the law;
- CONGRATULATES ITUC and GUF affiliates around the world for their participation in the global Day of Action on Iran of 9 August 2007 jointly organised by the ITUC, ITF and Amnesty International to demand Salehi's and Ossanloo's release;
- REAFFIRMS its solidarity with the Iranian workers striving to obtain respect for their trade union rights in different sectors, including the teaching profession, car manufacturing, sugar production, health services, the Tehran metro system, textile workers, journalists as well as women and unemployed workers;
- URGES the Iranian government to respect and fully implement the recommendations of the ILO Committee on Freedom of Association on Iran (Cases n° 2323 and 2508) and to urgently ratify ILO Conventions 87 and 98;
- DEMANDS the immediate and unconditional release of all detained union activists, including Mahmoud Salehi, Mansour Ossanloo, Ebrahim Madadi and Reza Dehghan, and in the meantime that their rights to legal counsel, family visits and adequate medical care be fully respected;
- INSTRUCTS the ITUC General Secretary to step up internationally-coordinated solidarity action with the independent Iranian trade union movement, with due attention to the circumstances prevailing in the country.
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