



7TH WORLD SOCIAL FORUM – NAIROBI 20TH - 25TH JANUARY 2007

STATEMENT BY THE PANAFRICAN TRADE UNION MOVEMENT ON THE SOCIAL CRISIS IN THE REPUBLIC OF GUINEA-CONAKRY

The pan-African trade union movement represented at the 7th World Social Forum in Nairobi, Kenya, by the regional organisations of the International Trade Union Confederation, AFRO and DOAWTU on the one hand, and OATUU on the other, having followed with keen interest the development of the social crisis in Guinea, which has resulted from the carelessness of the authorities of that country who show very little concern for the basic political, economic and social rights of the people in general and the workers in particular, has just learnt with indignation that the demonstrations organised by the Guinean trade unions on Monday, January 22nd, 2007 caused more than twenty deaths, the arrests of several trade union leaders and the ransacking of a trade union centre. In the face of these exceptionally serious developments, the pan-African trade union movement:

- Denounces, castigates and condemns this barbaric act that caused the loss of several lives;
- Condemns the arrests of the trade union leaders and demands their immediate and unconditional release;
- Condemns the dictatorial tendency of the Guinean authorities who continue to believe that the crisis can be solved through the barrel of the gun, threats and intimidations;

- Reiterates its staunch and unfailing support to the legitimate demands of the Guinean workers with whom all the people of Guinea are now identifying themselves;
- Calls on the authorities to start as a matter of urgency unconditional, frank and sincere negotiations with the workers in order to spare the Guinean people further hardships because they are already suffering from an unprecedented crisis;
- Appeals to the international community to mobilise itself as a matter of urgency in order to contribute to a peaceful resolution of the crisis.

Nairobi, January 23rd, 2007

On behalf of:

AFRO

The General Secretary

DOAWTU

The General Secretary

OATUU

The Secretary General

Andrew Kailembo

Adrien Akouete

Hassan A. Sunmomu