

ITUC Statement on Zimbabwe

Brussels, 19 December 2008

The ITUC condemns the vicious and corrupt regime of Robert Mugabe, which is willing to sacrifice the lives and well-being of Zimbabweans in its desperate efforts to cling to power without regard to the will of the people or the most fundamental human rights.

We express our deepest concern at the appalling effects of regime's incompetence and willful neglect, causing starvation and disease throughout the country and a grave humanitarian crisis for millions of refugees in neighbouring countries.

The ITUC reconfirms its full support to the Zimbabwean trade union movement and its continued determination to act in solidarity with the Zimbabwe Congress of Trade Unions, whose officials and members are subjected time and again to the full weight of the regime's brutality.

We call upon the Southern African Development Community, the African Union, the United Nations and the Commonwealth to act decisively and urgently to help the people of Zimbabwe throw off the yoke of repression and bring about full respect for their rights. We further call upon the international community to stand ready to support economic reconstruction and rehabilitation in Zimbabwe once the inhuman rule of Robert Mugabe and his cronies is brought to an end.