Statement ITUC stands in solidarity with the PGFTU

The International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), representing 191 million workers and 337 national affiliates, including the Palestinian General Federation of Trade Unions (PGFTU) and Histadrut, strongly condemns the recent attack on Shaher Saad, the Secretary-General of the PGFTU. Along with colleagues, he was attacked with stones by Israeli settlers near the illegal settlement of Ofra while returning from Ramallah, where he had attended the funeral of the late union leader Haider Ibrahim, former PGFTU Secretary-General.

This attack is deeply disturbing, completely unacceptable and must be investigated. The Secretary-General was accompanied by other prominent members of the PGFTU, including Aisha Hamouda, a member of the General Secretariat, Waseem Kalbouneh, the Director of the Projects Department, and Saeed Omran, the head of the Media Department.

The ITUC stands in solidarity with the PGFTU and its members during this challenging time. We call for a swift and thorough investigation and for accountability. It is essential that the PGFTU and its members are able to carry out their trade union activities in a safe and secure environment.

We eagerly await information on the steps taken to address this issue and ensure the safety and security of all PGFTU officials. Violence against trade union leaders and members is always wrong, and it is our collective responsibility to protect the rights and well-being of workers and their representatives.

In solidarity.

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