Emergency resolution on labour rights and solidarity with independent trade unions of Kazakhstan

Noting the growing wave of repressions against activists of the independent trade unions of Kazakhstan, as demonstrated by the introduction of legislative limitations on the activities of trade unions; interference by state bodies in internal trade union activities; administrative and criminal retaliations; as well as physical violence against leaders of independent trade unions that has continued since the shooting down of oil and gas workers at a peaceful strike in Zhanaozen in December 2011 the ITUC Congress demands the President and the Government of Republic of Kazakhstan:

- Immediately stop retaliations and drop all charges against leaders of the Confederation of Independent Trade Unions, including Larisa Kharkova, Erlan Baltabai, Amin Eleusinov and Nurbek Kushakbaev;

- Ensure the physical security of Dmitri Sinjavsky, who was recently attacked, and conduct an investigation into this heinous crime to identify and punish the guilty; and

- Review the cases and expunge the records of Rosa Tuletaeva and Maksat Dosmagambetov (posthumously) and other activists in the peaceful strike in Zhanaozen in 2011, as well as thoroughly investigate complaints about the torture of activists and punish anyone who engaged in torture, gave orders to use weapons or participated in shooting peaceful citizens.

The ITUC Congress expresses its solidarity with activists of the independent worker’s movement of Kazakhstan and urges its affiliates to engage forcefully in the campaign for their support.

Solidarity is our power!

----------