

**Ayuba Wabba**

President  
Président  
Präsident  
Presidente

H. E. Dr Abdalla Hamdok  
Prime Minister  
c/o Embassy of Sudan, Brussels  
Franklin Rooseveltlaan, 124  
1050 ELSENE

**Sharan Burrow**

General Secretary  
Secrétaire générale  
Generalsekretärin  
Secretaria General

HTUR/ZM

19 August 2020

**ITUC demands cancellation of the warrant of arrest issued against Sadiq Ibrahim Ahmed**

Dear Prime Minister,

I am writing on behalf of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), which represents 200 million workers in 163 countries, including Sudan, to condemn the issuing of a warrant of arrest against Mr Sadiq Ibrahim Ahmed, who is the president of the Sudanese Journalists Union (SJU), following his alleged refusal to hand over union property to government.

We are reliably informed that on 16 August 2020, the Office of Prosecutor General issued a warrant of arrest against Sadiq Ibrahim Ahmed for offences of presiding over an “illegal” union, exercising “illegal” works as president of a dissolved union and representing an “illegal” union in regional and International activities of the International Federation of Journalists, the Federation of African Journalists and the Federation of Arab Journalists.

As earlier stated in our protest letters of 17 December 2019 and 30 June 2020, we reiterate that your government’s actions to dissolve trade unions and confiscate trade union property – and now the intention to arrest trade union representatives – is a continuation of violations by your government of its international obligation to protect the right to freedom of association and the right to organize.

In line with the principles of freedom of association, we demand that your government cancel the warrant of arrest issued against Mr Sadiq Ibrahim Ahmed together with the dissolution order of all unions and stop the acquisition by force of the assets of the trade unions.

We are concerned that amidst high expectations of the return to democratic rule after the fall of your predecessor, Omar al-Bashir, known for being an authoritarian ruler, your government has chosen to follow his dictatorial tendencies.

We call upon your government to respect freedom of association and make use of social dialogue as a tool to resolve any labour challenges you are facing.

Yours sincerely,



**General Secretary**