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President: Berthold Huber General Secretary: Jyrki Raina

Geneva, 10 November 2015

Mr. Joko Widodo, President Republic of Indonesia <u>webmaster@setneg.go.id; redaksi_balitfo@depnakertrans.go.id</u>; info@indonesia-bern.org; konsuler@indonesia-bern.org mission.indonesia@ties.itu.int

IndustriALL Global Union calls on government of Indonesia to stop attacking and arresting peaceful demonstrators and to include unions in minimum wage setting process

Dear Mr. President,

I am writing to you on behalf of <u>IndustriALL Global Union</u>, which represents more than 50 million workers in mining, energy and manufacturing industries in some 140 countries, to call on the government of Indonesia to stop using violence against workers, who are exercising their legitimate right to protest peacefully, and to include trade unions in the minimum wage setting process.

IndustriALL Global Union condemns in the strongest terms the acts of violence perpetrated by the police against peaceful demonstrators on 30 October 2015. 25 demonstrators were unlawfully arrested, including seven members of IndustriALL Global Union's affiliate FSPMI. In addition, many workers were injured. More than 35,000 people demonstrated in front of the presidential palace in Jakarta to denounce the new regulation, which excludes unions from the process to set the minimum wage. In addition, peaceful demonstrators in North Sumatra were savagely attacked by nearly 30 thugs on 4 November. Seven labor activists had to be hospitalized. We demand an immediate investigation of both incidents.

This is a big step back for Indonesia and its democratic process. Denying workers the right to peacefully protest against the new system for a minimum wage, which effectively curtails the unions' influence, is wholly unacceptable. We urge the government to withdraw the new regulation, which ends workers' involvement in setting the minimum wage and violates ILO Conventions 87 and 98.

IndustriALL Global Union supports the demands of the Indonesian trade union centers KSPI (FSPMI, Farkes, SPN,KEP, ISI), KSPSI (cemwu), KSBSI (Lomenik, FPE, Garteks) FSBI, KPKPBI, FBLP, SBSI 92, PGRI to: 1) Refuse the government's regulation (PP number 78/2015) on setting the minimum wage without workers' involvement; 2) Refuse the formula of the new minimum wage based only on GDP and economic growth (less than 10 per cent); 3) Demand an increase to the 2016 minimum wage of 22 per cent or IDR 500.000 (US\$36).

IndustriALL Global Union urges the government of Indonesia to repeal the new regulation, include trade unions in the minimum wage setting process, end all acts of violence against workers, and fully respect Indonesians' right to freedom of speech and assembly.

Sincerely,

Jyrki Raina General Secretary