

Geneva, 1st September 2017

Asylbek Nuralin
President
Trade Union of Mining & Metallurgy Workers of Republic of Kazakhstan
38 Abay Street, Office 301, Astana, 010000
Republic of Kazakhstan

Sent by email: kazprofmet@mail.ru

IndustriALL Global Union in solidarity with the coal mine explosion victims in the Kazakhstanskaya mine

Dear Brother Asylbek,

I am writing this letter to you as the General Secretary of [IndustriALL Global Union](http://www.industriall-union.org), which represents more than fifty million workers in mining, energy and manufacturing sectors throughout the world, including Kazakhstan, to mourn the death of three coal mineworkers in the JSC ArcelorMittal Temirtau's Kazakhstanskaya mine in Shakhtinsk, Karaganda region, yesterday. Our hearts go out to the victims and their families, and the injured workers.

We understand this deadly accident, which was the result of a methane explosion, occurred early in the morning yesterday while 136 workers were underground. Unfortunately, this is not the first time that preventable accidents strike the mining industry in Kazakhstan. We strongly believe that such mining disasters are mostly attributed to the lack of adequate health and safety standards.

We demand that JSC ArcelorMittal Temirtau, which operates as a subsidiary of ArcelorMittal, adopt stringent health and safety measures in the Kazakhstanskaya mine. Furthermore, IndustriALL Global Union will contact ArcelorMittal immediately to remind the company of its obligations under the Joint Global Health and Safety Committee.

In addition, IndustriALL Global Union finds it imperative that the Government of Kazakhstan urgently ratify ILO Convention 176 on Health and Safety in Mines, as well as implement the ILO Code of Practice on Safety and Health in Underground Coal Mines.

We expect that the root causes of the accident will be fully investigated, the findings made public, and that remediation measures will be adopted immediately.



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We stand in solidarity with mineworkers in Kazakhstan, and we extend our condolences to the families of the deceased workers, and to all the members at the Trade Union of Mining & Metallurgy Workers of Republic of Kazakhstan.

In solidarity,

Valter Sanches
General Secretary