

Joint Statement from IndustriALL Global Union meeting of unions at Volkswagen in Chattanooga, Tennessee, USA, 12-13 April 2017

We, leaders from the undersigned unions at Volkswagen (VW) in seven countries, and from IndustriALL Global Union whose affiliates represent VW workers around the world, have met over the last two days in Chattanooga to exchange information on VW labour relations and show solidarity with VW workers in Chattanooga. This meeting was called for in the "[Holding Volkswagen Accountable](#)" resolution unanimously passed by 1,500 delegates from over 100 countries at the IndustriALL Congress last October.

We have learned that, through our unions, we've been able to achieve generally positive labour relations at VW around the world with one exception, in Chattanooga.

We have been appalled to learn about VW Chattanooga's ongoing mistreatment of workers and refusal to bargain with the United Autoworkers (UAW) Local 42, despite the fact that over 70 percent of the skilled-trades workers voted to be represented by the UAW in December 2015, and that the U.S. government has ordered VW to bargain with UAW Local 42.

VW not recognizing UAW in this case is illegal, violates workers' fundamental rights, and violates the Global Framework Agreement VW signed with us in 2002. Many of us have raised concern with VW about this, but the company's bad behavior continues.

Because of this, we have unanimously committed to the following:

- We will educate our members about VW's union-busting in Chattanooga.
- We will approach our VW plant managers about VW's behavior in Chattanooga and demand they raise our concerns with higher management.
- We will again discuss this matter at IndustriALL's Executive Committee meeting on 27-28 April in Geneva and seek continued support for Local 42's struggle.
- We will continue to encourage our members to support this struggle in line with the "Holding Volkswagen Accountable" resolution.
- We will forcefully raise the matter of VW's union-busting in Chattanooga at the August meeting of the VW Global Works Council.
- We will continue to seek dialog with VW at all levels in an attempt to get the company to end its union-busting in Chattanooga and enter into negotiations for a first collective bargaining agreement with UAW Local 42.
- Depending on VW's response, we will escalate support for the struggle.

CNM/CUT – Brazil	NUMSA – South Africa
CNTM/FS – Brazil	Unite the Union – UK
IG Metall – Germany	UAW – USA
SITIAVW – Mexico	IndustriALL – Global
NSZZ Solidarnosc VWP – Poland	