

The mega-merger of the world's two largest cement companies is going full steam ahead. Management is focusing on future profits and who will get the top spots in the new company.

The rights of workers who toil every day and even give their lives to build the company remain excluded from discussions.

In 2013 alone, 47 people were killed working for Holcim, and 26 were fatally injured working for Lafarge. This is far too many preventable deaths!

Among these 73 killed workers, 63 were indirect employees, clearly proving their much higher vulnerability comparing to the direct employees.

And we know that fatal injuries are just the tip of the iceberg compared to the health impact of work in the cement industry. Lafarge and Holcim are likely to be exposing many workers to hazardous substances known to cause fatal respiratory diseases and increased risk of cancers. Not nearly enough is being done to protect workers' health.

Going to work at the beginning of the shift and returning home alive and healthy is a fundamental right of all workers. However, neither company has committed to improving health and safety in the future company.

Ruthless profit making at the expense of workers' lives must stop.

To mark the International Commemoration Day for Dead and Injured Workers on 28 April 2015, we mobilize and demand that both companies:

- Make a genuine commitment to improve health and safety for all directly or indirectly employed workers in the future company by establishing joint health and safety committees with trade union representatives in all workplaces;
- Commit to work with unions at the global level to reach an agreement for the future company ensuring fundamental International labour standards and covering all company's worksites (Global Framework Agreement) and including health and safety provisions to guarantee the respect of fundamental trade union and workers' rights;
- Work with trade unions to create a global union body that will focus on implementation, monitoring and verification of international labour standards and best practices of health and safety in all operations of the future company.

NO MERGER WITHOUT WORKERS' HEALTH AND SAFETY RIGHTS!

www.industriall-union.org www.bwint.org www.efbww.org





European Federation of Building and Woodworkers

