OIL CHEMICAL RUBBER WORKERS' UNION OF TURKEY



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Dear Parliamentary Coordinators of the Mexican Congress,

I am writing to you on behalf of Petrol-Is (oil and chemical workers union of Turkey) to express our deepest concern over the recent announcement from outgoing President Felipe Calderón that he has drafted an extremely regressive labor law reform proposal for your consideration, under a new "preferential" fast track process.

The proposed law reform would result in a drastic decline in current workers' rights and protections. It would cheapen the cost of labour while providing further cover and protection for the system of corporativist control that is at the heart of the employer protection-contract system. Furthermore, it would destroy the independent trade union movement in Mexico.

Regardless of the legality of the fast-track process, it is clearly undemocratic and presents a truly unfortunate image of Mexico: utter contempt for the views of legislators, workers and citizens, and in clear violation of international labour and human rights standards, in particular ILO Conventions 87 and 98.

We call on you to put an end to this proposed law reform initiative and instead help launch a national social dialogue that will give a voice to independent trade unions and is fully consistent with workers' human and labour rights, with particular emphasis on the full

realization of the rights to freedom of association and collective bargaining.

With best regards,

Mustafa Öztaşkın President