

Geneva, 5 September 2012

Prime Minister Barnabas Sibusiso Dlamini
Mbabane
Swaziland
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Human and Trade Union Rights in Swaziland

Dear Mr Dlamini,

I am writing to you on behalf of IndustriALL Global Union which represents more than 50 million workers in some 140 countries throughout the world, including members of our Swazi affiliated unions.

During this global week of action, we add our voice to calls for constitutional reform and multiparty democracy in Swaziland and demand that the people of Swaziland should be able to exercise their legal rights without fear of persecution, harassment, intimidation or violence.

We last brought our concerns to your attention in our letter of 13 April 2012. The International Metalworkers' Federation, International Textile, Garment and Leather Workers' Federation and the International Federation of Chemical, Energy, Mine and General Workers' Unions have since merged to form IndustriALL Global Union and we note with dismay that your Government's repressive actions continue.

Again this week your Government has been actively demobilising planned pro democracy campaign actions and is using excessive force and intimidation tactics to suppress rights to assembly and protest. We strongly call on your Government not to react to peaceful actions on this year's Independence Day with violence or repression.

We support the International Trade Union Confederation that has raised a number of issues in recent months regarding the violation of trade union rights in your country. Your Government has persistently and gravely disregarded ILO's Convention 87 on the Right to Freedom of Association. Added to this are growing records of violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms, a number of which affect the right to life and liberty of trade unionists and prodemocracy activists.

IndustriALL Global Union stands with the trade unions and people of Swaziland to demand urgent reforms by your Government. We have prioritized giving support to their efforts within Swaziland and at a regional and international level, and I can assure you that we will not cease our efforts until such time as human and trade union rights are upheld in your country.

Yours Sincerely,



Jyrki Raina
General Secretary