

Solidarity and Support Statement by the IndustriALL's Goodyear Global Union Network over strike at Goodyear plant in Colombia

IndustriALL is a global union representing more than 50 million workers from around 700 national unions in 143 countries from extraction of oil and gas, all types of mining, electric power, to manufacturing of metal, chemical, textile and garment products.

Since 1999, IndustriALL has organised a global network of trade unions representing workers of the US-based multinational tire manufacturer Goodyear which employs around 67,000 people in 51 plants, 2 innovation centers and 4 test tracks in 22 countries worldwide.

Our meetings and activities have revealed the extent to which the company is prepared to trample across workers' rights in order to pursue its own agenda of maximising profits and shareholder interests.

Goodyear has 71-year history of operation in the Valle del Cauca, Colombia serving for domestic and export markets to neighboring countries from the region.

Meeting in Birmingham, UK on 2-3 November 2015, the Goodyear Global Union Network has received a report that Goodyear workers in Colombia went on strike permanently since they could not reach a labor agreement with company management.

The Birmingham meeting has further noticed that sister union of SINTRAINCAPLA has been in negotiation with Goodyear since last August with a list of demands to sign a new collective agreement, but no agreement was reached.

It appears that there are differences between the union and local management over wage increase and benefits on education and housing, among other things.

The participating unions in the IndustriALL Goodyear Global Union Network sends their heartfelt support to their sisters and brothers in Colombia in their fair and justified demands.

Standing shoulder-to-shoulder with the Colombian striking Goodyear workers, the Global Union Network calls on Goodyear to sit down with SINTRAINCAPLA for good faith negotiations with a view to find a proper solution to address the demands of the union members.

Birmingham, 03 November 2015