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**GENERAL ASSEMBLY
HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL**
40th session

UPR : Nigeria

Oral statement
À vérifier à l'audition

Mr. President,

This statement is made on behalf of the Europe-Third World Center (CETIM). My name is Diana Junquera Curiel and I am from IndustriALL Global Union, which represents 50 million workers in 140 countries.

Nigeria is failing to meet its obligations to protect the rights of its citizens in the face of many human rights violations committed by third parties, and in this case, by the Dutch corporation, Royal Dutch Shell.

In September last year, I joined a mission to Port Harcourt in Nigeria and witnessed first-hand the human rights violations of contract workers at Shell.

We found that most, if not all, of Shell Nigeria's blue-collar workforce are employed by a complex network of recruitment companies on behalf of Shell, making it extremely difficult for workers to organize into trade unions.

Contract workers at Shell Nigeria are living in poverty, with no job security and inadequate healthcare that is costing workers' lives.

Contract workers face dismissal if they join a union or ask for a pay rise. They lack safety equipment and risk death in the field.

Shell is violating the human and labour rights of Nigerian workers with impunity, highlighting the urgent need for an international legally-binding instrument to regulate the activities of transnational companies.

We urge the authorities in Nigeria to honour their commitment to human rights and international labour standards by taking action to ensure that Shell Nigeria respects the rights of workers working on its behalf, to safety, health, a decent income and freedom of association. We also call on the Human Rights Council to urge the Dutch government to hold Shell to account for the many violations committed in Nigerian soil.

Thank you.

Geneva, 14th of March 2019