

Geneva, 1 September 2014

Mr. Hassan Rouhani
President of the Islamic Republic of Iran

Sent by email to media@rouhani.ir and mission.iran@ties.itu.int

IndustriALL Global Union Calling for the Immediate Release of Workers and End of Plan to Privatize Bafgh Iron Ore Mine in Yazd in Iran

Dear Mr. Rouhani,

I am writing to you on behalf of [IndustriALL Global Union](http://www.industriall-union.org), which represents more than 50 million workers in mining, energy and manufacturing industries in some 141 countries, to call on you to intervene immediately to end the repression of workers at the Bafgh Iron Ore Mine in Yazd, including the withdrawal of the riot police, the unconditional release of all the miners, and to stop any plans of privatizing the mine and worsening of the working conditions of more than 5,000 workers.

We are utterly dismayed at the unlawful arrest of scores of miners and the escalation of the conflict by sending the riot police to the mine in response to the legitimate strike called by the workers on account of earlier illegal arrests on 19 August. It is important to note that workers have been detained because of their opposition to the government's insistence in privatizing the company, and, as consequence, deteriorating the working conditions of the miners.

We call on your government to listen to the workers' demand and stop any plans of privatization of the Bafgh Iron Ore Mine in Yazd. Furthermore, it is imperative that fifteen percent of the mines' revenues be spent in the region. In addition, all arrested workers should be immediately and unconditionally released.

It is incumbent upon your government to guarantee the full respect of national labour legislation and international core labour standards. Therefore, we urge you to exercise your authority to intervene and resolve this labour conflict fairly and without resorting to further use of force.

Sincerely Yours,



Jyrki Raina
General Secretary
IndustriALL Global Union