

113th TUAC Plenary Session, Paris, 22 Nov. 2004

RESOLUTION ON KOREA

The TUAC Plenary Session

Recalls the Korean Government's commitment to reform existing laws on industrial relations in line with internationally accepted standards when joining in the ILO (1991) and OECD (1996).

Notes with concern that the Korean government neither fulfills its commitment nor respects the recommendations of the special monitoring process by the OECD, namely to

- establish the right of public servants to join unions;
- limit the categories of public service workers who are denied freedom of association and the right to strike concerning essential and other public services as defined by the ILO;
- redefine the penal code with regard to the article on "obstruction of business" to allow industrial action;
- end permanently the arrest of trade unionists for normal trade union activities;
- remove legislation prohibiting the payment of full time trade union officials by employers.

Condemns the ongoing suppression of KGEU

Urges that the Korean government

- set the time table for consultation and dialogue with KGEU;
- withdraw immediately the arrest warrants against union leaders;
- release the detained leaders and unionists immediately;
- stop the disciplinary procedures;
- reinstate those dismissed or suspended from office.

Recalls Korean MP Roh Moo Hyun's opinion that often "the strike of working people is the weapon they have to break poisonous laws" to the same Hon. Roh Moo Hyun, now President of the Republic of Korea.

Criticises Korean government for not implementing the previous commitment but instead suppressing basic labour rights;

calls for the special monitoring process to be continued;

confirms that solidarity actions will be taken, if the above-mentioned demands by the Korean government are not accepted.