3rd ITUC Asia Pacific Conference Resolution No. 19

REPUBLIC OF KOREA VIOLATION OF TRADE UNION RIGHTS

The 3rd ITUC-AP Regional Conference in Kochi, India, on 1-3 August 2015:

EXPRESSES GRAVE CONCERNS over the oppression of trade union movement and the deterioration of workers' rights in the country, especially over the retrogressive labour market reforms pushed ahead by the Government of Korea.

NOTES that the Government of Korea has attempted to enforce unilateral and anti-labour policies under the pretext of labour market reforms which will definitely pose growing threats to workers' livelihood and job security.

DEPLORES that such attempts by the government, especially the extension of use period of fixed-term workers and the expansion of temporary agency work, longer working hours, wage cuts, unfavorable change of wage system, the relaxation of requirements for dismissals, etc.

STRONGLY BELIEVES that labour market reforms are meant to achieve economic democracy through the alleviation of social polarization and intergenerational harmony based on social consensus.

CALLS UPON the Government of Korea, extending full support to Korean workers' struggles

- To immediately stop the unilateral labour market reforms and endeavor to devise effective measures for promoting job security and social safety nets.
- To respect fundamental workers' rights and stop oppression on trade unions
- To cease illegitimate interference in industrial relations and guarantee voluntary negotiation between labour and management.

CALLS UPON the employers in Korea to:

- Participate in the dialogue and negotiations in a sincere manner on the pending issues.
- Immediately stop the attempts to downgrade working conditions and unilateral lay-offs.