

INTERNATIONAL TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION (ITUC)
ITUC OnLine

Bahrain: ITUC Denounces the Ongoing Failure to Reinstate Workers

Brussels, 31 January 2012 (ITUC OnLine): In November 2011, the Governing Body of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) agreed to a proposal to establish a tripartite committee to review the mass dismissal of Bahraini workers referred to in the complaint concerning the Non-Observance by Bahrain of the Discrimination (Employment and Occupation) Convention, 1958. In a letter to the chair of that commission, the ITUC acknowledged progress in the public sector but expressed its serious concerns regarding the failure of employers, largely in state-owned companies, to reinstate many wrongfully dismissed workers or to rehire the workers only under completely unacceptable conditions. The very few trade union leaders reinstated had to agree not to carry out any further union activity.

"It is time for the committee to redouble its efforts and take all necessary measures in order to secure reinstatement of all illegally dismissed workers by the March 2012 Governing Body meeting," said Sharan Burrow, ITUC General Secretary. "It is also unacceptable that many of the workers who have been reinstated were brought back to inferior posts or have been forced in many cases to agree to unacceptable conditions," she added.

In addition, the ITUC points out that many trade unionists continue to face criminal prosecution for participating in strikes and demonstrations last year.

See the ITUC Letter to the Bahrain Ministry of Labour for more information: <http://www.ituc-csi.org/bahrain-ituc-denounces-the-ongoing.html>

The ITUC represents 175 million workers in 153 countries and territories and has 308 national affiliates.

Website: <http://www.ituc-csi.org> and <http://www.youtube.com/ITUCCSI>

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