



DATE
October 23, 2009

OUR REFERENCE
INT/LI/UE/MS

YOUR DATE

YOUR REFERENCE

Mr Carl Bildt
Minister for Foreign Affairs
Ministry for Foreign Affairs
103 33 STOCKHOLM

Honduras – approach the de facto government of R. Micheletti

Dear Mr. Minister,

LO Sweden, affiliated to the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), which represents 170 million workers in 158 countries and territories through its 316 national affiliates, is writing to urge you to approach the de facto government of Roberto Micheletti, to strongly condemn the violations that have been taking place since 28 June, when the legitimate president of Honduras, Manuel Zelaya Rosales, was illegally ousted by a coup d'état and taken to Costa Rica. We would also urge the European Union to take necessary action promptly.

In the 100 days or so since the coup, 20 people have been killed, 12 of whom were trade unionists, over 3000 people have been arrested, and the de facto regime has committed countless serious violations of human and trade union rights, including the suppression of the Honduran people's fundamental rights and freedoms and the closing down of media loyal to the legitimate government.

LO Sweden joins with the ITUC in expressing its deepest concern about this situation that has stretched out for so long without the reaching of an agreement, and urges you to appeal to the de facto government of Honduras to place every effort into ensuring that the talks held under the auspices of the OAS result in a prompt agreement concerning the restitution of the legitimate president, Manuel Zelaya, with a view to enabling the holding of legitimate elections and bringing an end to this regrettable coup d'état, a phenomenon we thought had been confined to history in Latin America, and that could, failing this, set a very dangerous precedent.

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The Swedish Trade Union Confederation

We are attaching the Resolution on Honduras unanimously approved by the ITUC General Council meeting in Berlin at the beginning of October.

Yours sincerely,
THE SWEDISH TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION (LO)

Ulf Edström
Director of International Affairs

Encl.
ITUC Resolution on Honduras

cc: International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC)