



Int Dept/Keth Thapper/gp

DATE
2011-05-24
YOUR DATE

OUR REFERENCE
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Embassy of Kingdom of Bahrain In Brussels
Avenue Louise 250
Brussels
Belgium

Bahrain - Attacks on the trade union movement

We are writing to you on behalf of the Swedish Trade Union Confederation, LO, representing 1.5 million members, to express our deep concern over the attacks on the trade union movement and citizens in Bahrain.

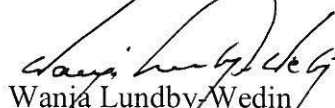
LO-Sweden has been informed by the International Trade Union Confederation that more than thousand workers have been dismissed for taking part in trade union activities in support of the peaceful calls for democracy and reforms. Many of the Executive members of the General Federation of Bahraini Trade Unions have been dismissed from their jobs, as have many local trade union leaders.

The people of Bahrain are living in a state of fear of further violence, arbitrary detention, and loss of their livelihoods. The elimination of trade union activity is being given a high priority by those in the ruling circles who intend to complete the transformation of the country into a totalitarian state

LO-Sweden urges you to intervene with the Government of Bahrain, calling on them to assume their responsibilities to protect trade unionists and citizens from further violence and dismissals.

LO-Sweden expresses its solidarity with its Bahraini brothers and sisters in this difficult situation. We urge you to remind the Bahraini Government that they must fulfill their obligations under international law and respect trade union rights and fundamental liberties such as freedom of expression.

Yours sincerely,
THE SWEDISH TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION (LO)


Wanja Lundby-Wedin
President