

June 5, 2011

Volume 1, Number 3: Special issue for June 9th day of action

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Link to workers' news in Iran:

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Demonstration in support of workers' and trade-union rights in Iran A call for international solidarity by French and Swiss trade unions

When: Thursday June 9, 2011, 11 am
Location: ILO Headquarters, Place des Nations
Geneva- Switzerland

Join June 9th day of action in support of workers' rights and struggles in Iran

A Call by CGT, FSU, Solidaires and UNSA and supported by UNIA and CGAS

Endorsed by: International Alliance in Support of Workers in Iran



Paris, May 27, 2011

Support for trade-union freedoms in IRAN

In solidarity with the imprisoned Iranian trade unionists, the French trade unions call for a gathering in front of the head office of ILO in Geneva on June 9.

The repressive measures against Iranian trade-union activists this May 1st and the arrest of labour activists in Kurdistan constitutes violations of the basic rights.

We French trade unions, along with the international labour-union movement, express our solidarity towards the Iranian women and men who, in spite of the risks which the trade-union activity in Iran involves, engaged in the struggles in favour of defence of the workers.

We think of all the activists who have been imprisoned in the recent years and months, because they wanted to exert their basic right which is to undertake a trade-union activity. This combat is worth admiration and respect, for them and their families which support them.

More than ever, it is necessary to take with the word the countries which ratify on paper conventions of ILO and which actually ridicules them in reality. It is the case of Iran. It rests with the trade-union organizations in the world to affirm their solidarity and to implement the means of which they lay out to put an end to repression against the Iranian workers who want to create independent trade-union organizations.

For this reason we call for a gathering on June 9, 2011 in Geneva in front of the headquarter of the

About IASWI:

The International Alliance in Support of Workers in Iran (IASWI) is a progressive, non-partisan campaign in support of workers' rights and struggles in Iran. The IASWI was formed in 1999 and formally launched in January 2000 with the following objectives:

- Support workers' movement demands and struggles in Iran, including the right to organize free and independent labour organizations and the right to strike.
- Strive for an absolute end to the systematic repression, persecution, imprisonment, torture, assassination and execution of labour activists and political opponents in Iran.
- Promote the implementation and enforcement of internationally recognized human and workers' rights and freedoms for all people in Iran.

The IASWI has been working in collaboration with many labour and progressive activists and organizations in Iran and around the world to strengthen worker-to-worker solidarity in defence of workers' rights and struggles in Iran and against the repressive Islamic Republic of Iran and its capitalist and neo-liberal policies and practices. As an international solidarity campaign in support of workers in Iran, the IASWI has colleagues and branches in North America, Europe and other parts of the world that work collaboratively towards the realization of the above objectives.

Contact IASWI:

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www.etehadbinalmelali.com

ILO at the time of its annual conference

June 9, 2011 starting from 11h Place of the Nations in Geneva

Contacts members of French trade union collective

CGT: Jean-François Courbe jf.courbe@cgt.fr @ + 33 6 76 49 00 17

FSU: Corinne Vialle corinne.vialle@snuipp.fr @ + 33 6 09 80 46 04

Solidarity: Alain Baron contact@solidaires.org + 33 (0) 1 58 39 30 20

UNSA: Saïd Darwan darwane@unsa.org + 33 6 71 85 16 65



Paris, le 27 mai 2011

Soutien aux libertés syndicales en IRAN

En solidarité avec les syndicalistes iraniens emprisonnés, les syndicats français appellent à un rassemblement devant le siège de l'OIT à Genève le 9 juin.

Les mesures de répression à l'encontre des militants syndicaux iraniens ce 1^{er} mai et l'arrestation de militants syndicaux au Kurdistan constituent des violations des droits fondamentaux.

Nous syndicats français, avec le mouvement syndical international nous exprimons notre solidarité envers les femmes et les hommes iraniens qui, malgré les risques que comporte l'activité syndicale en Iran, se sont engagés dans le combat en faveur de la défense des travailleurs.

Nous pensons à tous les militants emprisonnés depuis des mois et des années, coupables d'avoir exercé le droit fondamental qu'est de mener une activité syndicale. Ce combat vaut admiration et respect, pour eux et leurs familles qui les soutiennent.

Plus que jamais, il faut prendre au mot les pays qui ratifient sur le papier les conventions de l'OIT et qui en réalité les bafouent dans la réalité. C'est le cas de l'Iran.

Il appartient aux organisations syndicales dans le monde d'affirmer leur solidarité et de mettre en œuvre les moyens dont elles disposent pour faire cesser la répression à l'encontre des travailleurs iraniens qui veulent créer des organisations syndicales indépendantes.

C'est pour cette raison que nous appelons à un rassemblement le 9 juin 2011 à Genève devant le siège de l'OIT à l'occasion de sa conférence annuelle.

9 Juin 2011 à partir de 11h Place des Nations à Genève

Contacts des membres du collectif syndical français

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9 juin 2011 à partir de 11h Place des Nations à Genève Soutien aux libertés syndicales en IRAN

mercredi 1er juin 2011 par [Claude REYMOND](#)

Le mouvement syndical genevois fait d'autant plus volontiers écho aux collègues français que le respect des droits fondamentaux n'a guère progressé en Iran malgré les légitimes exigences à cet égard exprimées publiquement [depuis](#) des années...

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C'est pour cette raison que nous appelons à un rassemblement le 9 juin 2011 à Genève devant le siège de l'OIT à l'occasion de sa conférence annuelle.

[Click here: CGAS-Geneva: labour movement in Geneva in support of June 9th action called by French trade unions](#)

French and Swiss trade unions call for a demonstration in support of workers in Iran

When: Thursday June 9, 2011, 11 am
Location: ILO Headquarters, Place des Nations
Geneva- Switzerland

Four French Trade Union federations, CGT, FSU, Solidaires and UNSA have released a joint statement (see below) in support of the workers activists currently jailed in Iran. Condemning the attacks on workers' basic rights, they will demonstrate outside the headquarters of the International Labour Organization, ILO, on June 9th 2011, whilst its annual conference is underway. This call out has since seen been supported by two Swiss trade unions, UNIA and CGAS.

The International Labour Conference is held every year and delegates representing governments, employers and workers from 183 countries gather to discuss matters relating to work and labour standards within a framework of ILO Conventions. The delegates from the Islamic Regime of Iran also will participate. The entire delegates from Iran are made of the mercenaries of the Iranian government. Those so-called "worker's representatives" among Iranian delegates are representatives of government-sponsored organizations like the "Islamic Councils" and "Workers' house", which have a direct role in the suppression of the labour activists and workers' struggles in Iran.

With respect to the fact that in previous years complaints have been launched with the ILO against the Islamic Republic of Iran's violation of workers' rights, it is important to note that this regime spins obvious lies, in attempts to create a false picture of the situation of workers in Iran. With these empty and unfounded positions it seeks, like many other repressive regimes, to hide its

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- Promote the implementation and enforcement of internationally recognized human and workers' rights and freedoms for all people in Iran.

The IASWI has been working in collaboration with many labour and progressive activists and organizations in Iran and around the world to strengthen worker-to-worker solidarity in defence of workers' rights and struggles in Iran and against the repressive Islamic Republic of Iran and its capitalist and neo-liberal policies and practices. As an international solidarity campaign in support of workers in Iran, the IASWI has colleagues and branches in North America, Europe and other parts of the world that work collaboratively towards the realization of the above objectives.

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essentially oppressive and anti-workers and pro capitalist aims and practices. Moreover, it is unacceptable that representatives of the Iranian regime are chairing ILO's Committee on Employment and Social policy and sitting at the ILO's Governing Body as deputy members.

The right to set up independent workers organizations by the workers themselves, the right of workers to collective bargaining, a proper wage paid on time, the right to a discrimination-free workplace and employment and the banning of child labour are foundational rights of working people. These rights also have been clearly stipulated in ILO conventions and agreed upon by all ILO member countries. Yet the Islamic regime has a long and dark history of violating these rights. Whilst the regime takes part in this conference, workers' activists remain in Iranian jails for the "crime" of seeking to build independent workers organizations. The right of Iranian workers to hold collective bargaining is trampled underfoot. Workers' wage has fallen to one third of the poverty line and, in many cases, workers have not been paid for months and in some cases for years. Discrimination based on gender, religion and nationality and against Afghan workers is widespread in the workplaces and society at large. Child labour and the exploitation of children is normal practice. All these are just a few examples of the way the regime rides roughshod over the basic and foundational rights of working Iranians.

The revealing of the anti-worker and inhuman essence of this reactionary regime and the defence of basic rights for Iranian workers is not only the duty of Iranian labour activists, but it is also a struggle to which workers' activists around the world and international labour organizations can play an important and indeed fundamental role.

The demonstration organised by French trade unions, on June 9th 2011, in defence of worker's rights in Iran and imprisoned labour activists, shows once more that Iranian workers are not alone.

We consider international solidarity amongst workers to be our key priority. We wholeheartedly support and will take part in this important solidarity demonstration. We invite all labour activists and organizations and progressive parties, along with all those who strive for freedom, to take part in this demonstration if they can, and to support the working class and activists in Iran. Let's expose the inhuman and anti-worker and oppressive essence of the capitalist Islamic regime of Iran to the world.

Long live international workers' Solidarity
 International Alliance in Support of Workers in Iran - May 30, 2011
 info@workers-iran.org
 http://www.ethadbinalmelali.com

A solidarity message from Mahmoud Salehi to French Trade Union federations, CGT, FSU, Solidaires and UNSA

Dear friends,

We were informed that you have organized a protest rally in front of ILO on June 9th, 2011 in defence of workers' self-initiated formations (independent organizations) in Iran. We Iranian workers as a battalion of the International army of the Proletariat and its activists, honour and thank you for this internationalist initiative.

As you had mentioned, during the International Day of Workers, tens of workers throughout different cities in Iran and Kurdistan, were summoned by the security forces, only because of their participation in May 1st celebrations and protests; some were incarcerated, later freed with heavy bails, only released until further notice and awaiting further prosecution and incarceration. You all know that right now in Iran tens of workers are in jail or prosecuted solely because of their defence of workers' rights, or been forced to leave the country, into a forced exile.

We, Iranian workers, were greatly pleased when we heard that French workers' organizations, in an unprecedented action, have formed a collective in support of workers' struggles in Maghreb and Middle East to defend the workers who have no right to organize freely.

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Friends and fellow workers;

The Capitalist order creates ever new methods and organizations to further exploit, and benefit, from us. We will emerge victorious from these struggles if we are able to organize our actions by means of class unity and solidarity with no illusions about capitalist powers and their organizations.

Once again I thank all members and officers of the French workers' organizations in support of workers in Maghreb and Middle East for their demonstration in front of ILO, and shake your hands. Hoping that we can use the bourgeoisie's forum to ensure our fellow workers hear our voices without becoming a voice of the bourgeoisie.

Best wishes,

Mahmoud Salehi

The Coordinating Committee To Help Form Workers' Organization Supports Workers' demonstration in Geneva

Following great pressures by the Iranian government on workers and labor activists and members of independent organizations of workers of Iran, the trade unions of France with support from other labor organizations, called for a rally on June 9, 2011 at the ILO headquarters in Geneva.

This call, which has been made by five French trade union federations, the CGT, FSU, Solidaires, UNSA and CFTD, is supported by the "International Alliance in Support of workers in Iran," "Socialist solidarity of workers in Iran - Paris", and Swiss trade unions UNIA and CGAS and other organizations and personalities.

The workers in Iran are being persecuted by police, fired or jailed for their activities including holding the celebration on May 1st and any type of activities related to creating or promoting independent organizations of workers. Only for the next two months, 16 separate trials have been arranged against members of the Coordinating Committee to Help Form Workers' Organizations. A number of other Committee members are charged under various pretexts by the intelligence and security forces. On and about May 1st, some activists of the Committee were arrested in Sanandaj and Saghez (Kurdistan), which were later released with large sums of bond: Mahmoud Salehi, Yadullah Ghotbi, Afshin Nadimi, Vafa Ghaderi Khaled Hosseini Sedigh Sobhani, Ghaleb Hosseini, Yadullah Samadi, Kiomars Ghaderi, Habibollah Kale-Kani, Erfan Naderi, Kaveh Bahrami, Jamal Govili, Vahed Khani, Fayegh Sobhani, Keyvan Sobhani, and Zahir Razavi are members of the Coordinating Committee pursued by the judicial and intelligence authorities in recent months and a number of them were incarcerated as well.

A number of activists from other labor organizations such as Reza Shahabi, Ali Nejati, Manour Osanloo, Ebrahim Madadi, Gholamreza Gholamhosseini, Behnam Ebrahimzadeh and education workers involved with teachers' associations such as, Hashem Khastar, Rasoul Badaghi, etc.. are in prison, dismissed or were subjected to trial.

The organizations calling for the protest rally against the Iranian government in Geneva have called on workers to join in this appeal challenging the Iranian government's pressure on workers and thus express their international solidarity with their fellow workers in Iran.

The International Labour Organization, due to its tripartite nature (State, employers and workers' representatives) is reflective of the interests of the capitalists. The Iranian government and its spurious, sham and imposed representatives (from Workers' House and the Islamic Labour Councils) are participating every year at the annual International Labour Conference. Each time, they attempt to deceive the public and participants of the conference by claiming that in Iran there

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is no repression against workers and their organizing efforts; however, as we have shown, and that is only a small aspect of the existing repression in Iran, their claim is absolutely false.

The Coordinating Committee To Help Form Workers' Organizations welcomes the initiative of the French unions and other organizations and personalities, and greatly appreciate and thank the workers who participate in this demonstration. We see ourselves as partners in this protest action. We hope that this initiative is the beginning of stronger actions to express workers' solidarity against repression of the capital and the Iranian government against the workers in Iran. We look forward to seeing members of the fellow labor organizations to become even more involved in strengthening workers' international solidarity and unity.

One again, while we support and admire workers, activists and organizations participating in June 9th day of action in Geneva, we are convinced that the emancipation of the world's working class is in the development of unity and solidarity amongst self-organized and independent workers' organizations, while simultaneously avoiding the approaches and prescriptions given by global forces and organizations that seek to impose compromises and concessions on workers.

The Coordinating Committee To Help Form Workers' Organizations June 4, 2011

Call To Action Protest Against Islamic Republic of Iran Thursday June 9, 2011 In front of International Labor Organization (ILO)

To the freedom lovers, social justice and political activists, supporters and members of labor movement:

As you are aware the ILO, proceeds its annual meeting in Geneva this June. At these meetings relations and implementation of labor laws in different countries are being discussed and argued amongst representatives of governments, employers and labors. Given today's world situation, often the rights of workers are trampled, and as usual the oppressed and workers of Iran have no voice to convey their side at these summits. The anti-worker and anti-people Islamic Republic of Iran as usual herds its own handpicked representatives to these summits and shamelessly walls off all protests and accusations of ongoing abuses of employees and workers, whit outmost disregards of compliance with protocols of The International Labor Organization with farce and false promises. The Islamic Republic of Iran needs the approval of ILO to join the World Trade Organization (in order to get in to the free!!! global market to gain more profit for the distinguished!!! merchants and greater theft of peoples wealth).

The denunciation by oppressed and workers of Iran, the exposing letters of protests by independent representatives of Iranian labor organizations who have been brutally repressed by the regime and are either in prison or in exile, the solidarity of international unions with Iranian workers, sustained protests by Iranian labor, political and social activists abroad have been able to expose the oppressive, predatory and the inhumane government of the Islamic Republic and have been very effective to keep this regime away from achieving its inhumane goals; these protests must continue.

The 2011, the centennial meeting of ILO will be held in Geneva, in June. The French syndicates have taken a progressive and internationalist solidarity action in support of labor movement, the unity of action in France by "The collective in solidarity with workers of Maghreb and the Middle East". This collective has issued a call to all political, labor and social activists to participate on June 9th in solidarity with the workers and oppressed of Iran. We warmly welcome this call and in our part have acquired necessary permits for this gathering.

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IASWI Special Issue for June 9th, 2011 day of action

Hereby we invite all parties, organizations, groups, and labor activists to participate in this demonstration on June 9th, 2011.

Down with world capitalism!

Down with capitalist regime of the Islamic Republic of Iran!

Victory to the workers and toilers (oppressed) of Iran in their struggle to achieve freedom and social Justice!

Long Live International Solidarity for Justice, Peace and Freedom!

International Alliance in Support of Workers of Iran- Switzerland Division

When: Thursday June 9, 2011 from 11 am

Location: Place des Nations

1202 Geneva- Switzerland

Contact:

kargar1357@hotmail.com

info@workers-iran.org

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<http://www.etehadbinalmelali.com>



Mansour Osanloo released on conditional bail

According to a number of sources, including the ITF report and the syndicate of Workers of Tehran and Suburbs Vahed Company's statement, Mansour Osanloo, the president of the board of directors of the Syndicate of Workers of Tehran and Suburbs Vahed Bus Company, was released on bail on June 2, 2011 after about four years of unjust imprisonment. The IASWI issued a statement in Farsi on the same day*; however, since the current newsletter is a special edition focusing on the June 9th day of action, we will issue a separate statement on June 7, 2011 in English about Osanloo's conditional release. By then, we'll be able to provide more detailed and up-to-date information about Osanloo's conditional discharge and his present situation.

We are extremely happy and excited about Osanloo's release and warmly congratulate his esteemed family and all fellow workers in Iran and around the world; nevertheless, we need to continue to pressure (and demand) for Osanloo's unconditional and absolute freedom.

*IASWI statement in Farsi: http://www.etehadbinalmelali.com/HTML_11/1_6_11/osanlou.htm

Photo source: <http://www.global-unions.org/liberez-mansour-osanloo.html?lang=en>