

His Excellency Mr Fereidoun Haghbin
Ambassador of Iran
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7 August 2020

Your Excellency,

I write on behalf of the Australian union movement to express my solidarity with the thousands of workers protesting and striking across Iran.

Workers at the Haft Tappeh Sugarcane Industrial Complex have been on strike since 11 June to demand wages and social security benefits not paid since March, and workers at major refineries and industrial projects in the South Pars gas fields have been on strike since 1 August protesting the late payment of wages, poverty wages, insecure employment, and poor working and living conditions as they battle 50-degree heat.

The International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) ranks Iran as among the worst countries in the world for workers, with no guarantee of rights.¹ We condemn the harassment and dismissals of workers, the repression of workers' demonstrations, and the arrests and imprisonment of workers and union leaders.

The ACTU calls on the Iranian Government and employers to respect workers' rights, and for:

- the immediate payment of all unpaid salaries of striking workers;
- an end to dismissals and threats against workers' lives;
- the unconditional release of all imprisoned workers.

We request that you urgently communicate this message to your Government. The ACTU will continue to stand in solidarity with Iranian workers and closely monitor the workers' rights situation in Iran.

Yours sincerely



Michele O'Neil
President

¹ https://www.ituc-csi.org/IMG/pdf/ituc_globalrightsindex_2020_en.pdf