

ACTU EXECUTIVE

WEDNESDAY 10th & THURSDAY 11th MARCH, 2021

RESOLUTION

Solidarity with unionists in the Philippines

The ACTU Executive stands in solidarity with unionists in the Philippines who are fighting to defend democracy and secure human and trade union rights.

In the Philippines, unionists are the target of brutal government repression because of their demands for job security, living wages, and climate action. The Duterte regime needs to know that we will not remain silent while trade union members continue to be persecuted, union leaders arrested, union offices raided and unionists/activists murdered.

We call upon the Philippines Labour Secretary. Bello to immediately convene a meeting amongst Secretaries of the Departments Interior and Local Government, National Defence, Justice and Chiefs of the Philippine National Police and Armed Forces of the Philippines to strictly implement without preconditions the Guidelines on the Conduct of the Department of Labour & Employment (DOLE), Department of the Interior & Local Government (DILG), Department of National Defense (DND), Department of Justice (DOJ), Philippine National Police (PNP) and the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) relative to the Exercise of the Workers' Rights and Activities.

We support the following demands of the Filipino trade union movement:

1. Stop red-tagging against trade unions and civil society organisations and demand accountability for the extrajudicial killings.
2. Junk the Anti-Terrorism Act and the implementation regulations.
3. Provide health security and safety at work for all.
4. Provide job and income protection in public employment programs.
5. Accept the ILO High-Level Tripartite Mission to the Philippines.
6. Ratify ILO Convention No. 190 to eliminate violence and harassment at work.
7. Call on the European Commission to initiate the GSP investigation of the Philippines on human and labour rights compliance.

We immediately demand the Australian Federal Government stop funding military and police in the Philippines via its aid program.

Moved: Allen Hicks, CEPU

Seconded: Melissa Donnelly, CPSU

Carried