



- Mr. Mahmoud Ahmadinejad
President
The Presidency
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Teheran
Islamic Republic of Iran

Deres ref.

Vår sak

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TG
Oslo, 16.11.2005

Dear Mr. President,

SENTENCES IN THE SAQEZ TRIAL

The Norwegian Confederation of Trade Unions (LO-Norway), on behalf of 830.000 members, is protesting against sentences handed down to trade union members.

LO-Norway has been informed that on 9 November this year Mahmoud Salehi, the former President of the Bakery Workers' Association of the city of Saez and a co-founder of the Coordinating Committee to Form Workers' Organisations was sentenced to five years imprisonment and three years in exile in the city of Ghorveh. Jalal Hosseini, a member of the Bakery Workers' Association of the city of Saez, was sentenced to three years imprisonment.

We have been informed that the Saez Revolutionary Court has also sentenced Moshen Hakimi, Borhan Divangar and Mohammad Adipour to two years imprisonment. Hence five out of the seven initially charged have now been sentenced, including Mahmoud Salehi and Jalal Sosseini.

LO-Norway believes that similarly to those condemned earlier, Moshen Hakimi, Borhan Divangar and Mohammad Adipour were sentenced for their trade union activities, especially given the fact that the initial arrests were made in connection with their participation in May Day 2004 celebrations and that charges against them were made shortly thereafter.

LO-Norway maintains that these sentences show that your government violate fundamental trade union rights, such as freedom of association

LO-Norway urges you to take all necessary measures to ensure the immediate repeal of the sentences against Mahmoud Salehi, Jalal Hosseini, Mohsen Hakimi, Borhan Divangar

and Mohammad Adipour. We urge you to ensure that all charges against Borhan Divangar in connection with his arrest on 7 August 2005 be dropped.

We trust that the innocence of our above-mentioned colleagues will be fully recognised in later stages of this judicial process.

Yours sincerely

THE NORWEGIAN CONFEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS

International Department


Karin Beate Theodorsen


Toril Grini

Copy:

- Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Embassy of The Islamic Republic of Iran
- International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU)