

Avis de convocation

Congrès du travail du Canada défie les sanctions injustes contre Abousfian Abdelrazik

Point de presse

Mardi le 18 mai 2010 à 10h00

L'Hôtel Marriott, 100 rue Kent, Ottawa

Avec

- Hassan Yussuff, Secrétaire trésorier, Congrès du travail du Canada
- Abousfian Abdelrazik
- Denis Lemelin, Président, Syndicat des travailleuses et travailleurs des postes
- Dave Ritchie, vice-président canadien de l'Association internationale des machinistes

Des chefs syndicaux qui représentent des millions de travailleuses et de travailleurs au Canada vont annoncer une manière originale d'appuyer le droit d'Abousfian Abdelrazik de travailler librement, défiant des sanctions chancelantes sur un front nouveau.

Le mois dernier, le Congrès du travail du Canada a émis un appel aux Fédérations du travail et aux Conseils du travail à travers le Canada à se joindre à la campagne « TRAVAIL JUSTE » initiée par le Projet retour au bercail, le groupe qui a aidé à ramener M. Abdelrazik chez lui au Canada.

La campagne POUR UN TRAVAIL JUSTE! JUSTE POUR TRAVAILLER! défie directement le régime 1267 du Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU et appuie le droit de M. Abdelrazik de travailler avec dignité en dépit de sévères sanctions légales. Le Secrétaire trésorier du CTC, Hassan Yussuff annoncera les détails de cette contestation.

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Département des droits humain du CTC

Pour plus d'information: www.peoplescommission.org/en/abdelrazik

Background

Mr. Abdelrazik, a machinist by trade, is subject to the UN Security Council 1267 regime (so called after the number of the resolution which established it), which imposes financial sanctions as well as a travel ban on listed individuals. Under Canadian law, it is illegal for any Canadian to "provide or collect by any means, directly or indirectly, funds with the intention that the funds be used" by listed individuals. The penalty is up to ten years imprisonment. This prevents Mr. Abdelrazik from working, since anyone paying him a salary could be charged.

The 1267 regime is under increasing attack internationally. In June 2009, the Federal Court of Canada delivered a blistering assault on its legitimacy, stating that "there is nothing in the listing or delisting procedures which recognizes the principles of national justice". In January 2010, the UK Supreme Court struck down implementing legislation in that country. In the same month, Canadian opposition parties held Parliamentary hearings on the issue. In March, Swiss Parliament passed a resolution striking at the regime. In April, more than 170 people from across Canada joined in a "sanctions-busting telethon", donating to Abdelrazik in open defiance of the legislation. Mr. Abdelrazik's lawyers are expected to announce a legal challenge to the regime at any time.

Mr. Abdelrazik was arrested in Sudan on the request of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) in 2003. Imprisoned without charge for two periods, totaling more than twenty months, he was subject to beatings and tortured. In this context, he was interrogated by two CSIS agents. Freed from prison, he was blocked from returning to Canada, in large part because his name was added to the 1267 list shortly after his final release from detention in 2006. A public outcry and a Federal Court order finally forced the government to repatriate him in June 2009. In 2007, both CSIS and RCMP formally conducted reviews and concluded they had nothing against Mr. Abdelrazik. Although Canada consequently took the position that he should be removed from the 1267 list, it continues to impose sanctions on him in Canada. Mr. Abdelrazik's bank account was frozen earlier this year.

More information: Project Fly Home, www.commissionpopulaire.org/fr/abdelrazik