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President: Jörg Hofmann General Secretary: Valter Sanches

Geneva, 28 May 2018

To Brother HAN Sang-gyun Former President Korean Confederation of Trade Unions (KCTU) Korea

## IndustriALL Global Union celebrates the liberation of Brother HAN Sang-gyun

Dear Brother Han,

I am writing this letter to you as the General Secretary of <u>IndustriALL Global Union</u>, which represents more than fifty million workers in mining, energy and manufacturing sectors throughout the world, including in Korea, to celebrate your liberation from prison on 21 May. This is a fantastic moment for the whole union movement and working class in Korea and elsewhere in the world. We are extremely happy and proud that, after having been unfairly imprisoned since 10 December 2015, you regain your freedom.

You were put in prison over ungrounded and undemocratic arguments. However, we were always convinced you were in prison for defending and advancing democracy, human rights and dignity and workers' rights. Your name is already written in the history of the labour movement with golden letters. Together with our comrades from different organizations, IndustriALL Global Union visited you in the Detention Centre several times to express our full support and solidarity.

While we rejoice over this significant victory for the labour movement in Korea and worldwide, we reiterate our commitment for international solidarity with Sister LEE Yeong-Ju, and we demand her immediate release as well.

IndustriALL Global Union once again calls on the Government of the Republic of Korea to honour the pledge made last year by Mr. Moon Jae-in during his presidential campaign to ratify ILO core labour standards, including Convention 87 (Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize, and ILO Convention 98 on the Right to Organize and Collective Bargaining.

The Government of the Republic of Korea should fulfil its commitment to abide by national and international labour standards. In consequence, it must put an end to the persecution of union leaders, release all imprisoned trade unionists, and guarantee the respect of fundamental workers' rights.

Reiterating our happiness and being proud of your liberation, Dear Brother Han, I look forward to seeing you soon.

In solidarity,

Valter Sanches, General Secretary