



54 bis, route des Acacias
Case Postale 1516
CH 1227 Geneva
Switzerland

Tel: +41 (0)22 308 50 50
Fax: +41 (0)22 308 50 55
info@industriall-union.org
www.industriall-union.org

President: Jörg Hofmann
General Secretary: Valter Sanches

Geneva, 29 August 2018

Dr. Keith Rowley M.P.
Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago
13-15 St. Clair Avenue, St. Clair, Port of Spain
Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

Sent by email to pmsec@pm.gov.tt; admin@tperm-mission.ch and fax: +1 868/622-2241

IndustriALL Global Union urges Government of Trinidad and Tobago to include OWTU in negotiations on restructuring of Petrotrin

Dear Prime Minister,

I am writing on behalf of [IndustriALL Global Union](#), which represents 50 million workers in the manufacturing, mining and energy sectors in 140 countries, including Trinidad and Tobago, to urge the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to include the Oilfields Workers' Trade Union (OWTU), which is the recognised majority union, in any discussions involving the restructuring of Petrotrin.

IndustriALL Global Union wishes to express its grave concern over the government's apparent unilateral plan to close the country's only refinery, which would result in the loss of 2,500 permanent jobs. This decision would not only destroy the livelihood and welfare of the workers and their communities, but would also take the country back to colonial times.

Ceding of sovereignty—over the exploitation of key natural resources, and the generation of added-value products—to private interest, would run counter to the aspirations of the people and workers of Trinidad and Tobago to consolidate its democracy and achieve sustainable development on its own terms.

It is imperative that the government conduct negotiations affecting the future of the company in a democratic and transparent fashion to ensure that the country's assets are managed in the best interest of the people.

Therefore, IndustriALL Global Union calls on the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to engage in negotiations with the Oilfields Workers' Trade Union (OWTU) in order to seek consensus on how to tackle the restructuring of Petrotrin.

I anticipate your swift action, and immediate reply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Valter Sanches". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "V" that loops back.

Valter Sanches, General Secretary