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INTERNATIONALER METALLGEWERKSCHAFTSBUND
FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES ORGANISATIONS DE TRAVAILLEURS DE LA METALLURGIE
INTERNATIONELLA METALLFEDERATIONEN
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M. Petar Dimitrov
Minister of Economy and Energy
Sofia, Bulgaria

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April 8, 2009

Dear Minister Dimitrov,

Our Bulgarian affiliated organisations –the Federation of Metallurgy CL Podkrepa and Metalicy – have informed us about the recent developments at the Kremikovtzi steelmaking plant and the massive protests that have been taking place in downtown Sofia over planned lay-offs and several months of unpaid salaries.

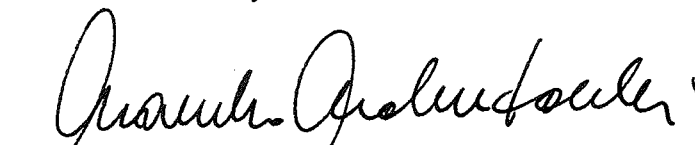
Workers are extremely concerned and angry about the lack of appropriate measures on the part of the Bulgarian government to secure the future of a plant that provides the jobs and livelihoods for over 5000 people and many more if all the workers in related business are included.

On behalf of the 25 million metalworkers we represent in over 100 countries, the International Metalworkers' Federation is writing to you to express its solidarity and full support with all the workers at Kremikovtzi in their fight for safeguarding their jobs, the payment of their wages and the respect of human dignity.

The global financial and economic crisis should not be used as an excuse for inaction and indifference to workers' distress, and for violating the fundamental right of all people to work and have a decent life.

As a matter of urgency we call on the Bulgarian authorities to take all necessary measures to avert closure of the plant and ensure its normal operations for the benefit of the workers concerned, their families and the country as a whole.

Yours sincerely,



Marcello Malentacchi
General Secretary

c.c. Metallurgy CL Podkrepa, Metalicy