

(PRINTED ON IMF-SC LETTERHEAD)

12 Sep 06

Fax : 67331039

Mr Kojima Taka-aki  
Ambassador  
Embassy of Japan  
16, Nassim Road  
Singapore 258390

Dear Sir

**Re: Need for Urgent Resolution at Toyota Motor Philippines**

On behalf of the International Metalworkers' Federation - Singapore Council (IMF-SC) representing 43,600 members, we strongly urge you to use your considerable influence to bring a resolution to the longstanding unresolved dispute at Toyota Motor Philippines Corporation.

As you know, in March 2001, Toyota Motor Philippines unjustly dismissed 227 union officers and members and suspended 64 others for taking part in a peaceful union assembly. The workers were demonstrating in front of the Department of Labour and Employment to protest the company's refusal to collectively bargain with the union, the Toyota Motor Philippine Corporation Workers Association (TMPCWA).

Since that time, the International Metalworkers' Federation, to which we are affiliated, has vigorously campaigned for the reinstatement and recognition of TMPCWA union members, a position supported and affirmed by the Supreme Court of the Philippines and the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

More recently, the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) which represents 155 million workers in 156 countries, has released a damaging report on labour rights abuses in the Philippines. In their *2006 Annual Survey of Violations of Trade Union Rights*, the report specifically refers to the Toyota Motor Philippines dispute as an example of foreign companies exploiting Philippine labour laws to break unions and trample workers' rights.

Toyota Motor Corporation has a long proud history as one of Japan's great companies. Toyota's actions in the Philippines do not represent Japan well. As a representative of the Japanese government, we call on you to exercise your authority and to strongly advise Toyota to resolve this issue as soon as possible.

The IMF and the TMPCWA are available to discuss this matter at any time.

Yours sincerely

*Original letter signed*

**Lim Chin Siew (Mr)**  
**President,**  
**IMF-Singapore Council**

Cc General Secretary, IMF HQ

/kly