

AU/JE/2006

21st August, 2006

**The Ambassador,
Satoru Miyamura
Japan Embassy,
P.O.Box 60202-00200
NAIROBI.**

Dear Sir,

REF: **NEED FOR URGENT RESOLUTION AT TOYOTA MOTOR -PHILIPPINES**

On behalf of Amalgamated Union of Kenya Metalworkers representing 5000 members we strongly urge you to use your considerable influence to bring a resolution to the longstanding unresolved dispute at Toyota Motor Philippines Corporation.

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 workers' Union, the Toyota Motor Philippines Corporation Workers Association (TMPCWA).

Since that time, the International Metal 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 Organization (ILO). See attached document.

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 Philippines Corporation has a long proud history as one of Japan's great companies even in our country. Therefore Toyota's actions in the Philippines do not represent Japan well. As a representative of the Japanese Government in Kenya, we call on you to exercise your authority and strongly advise Toyota to resolve the Philippines issue as soon as possible. We believe that your Government respects Human and Trade Union rights and as a member of the ILO you adhere to Conventions on Freedom of Association and Right to Collective Bargaining.

Our Union, the IMF and workers body in Philippines TMPCWA are all available to discuss this matter at any time. We look forward to your response on this matter.

Yours Sincerely,

MAERO TINDI
GENERAL SECRETARY

Attach: