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International Transport Workers' Federation
Federación Internacional de los Trabajadores del Transporte
Fédération internationale des ouvriers du transport
Internationella Transportarbetarefederationen
Internationale Transportarbeiter-Föderation
Международная федерация транспортников
التنظيم عالمياً، النضال من أجل حقوقنا

Mr Mehmet Kösemantoğlu
Chairman of the Board
TEDİ Discount Tekstil Mağazacılık A.Ş
Istanbul
Turkey
Via email: tuzladepo@tedi.com.tr

OGS/SMC/MU/ap

5 August 2016

Dear Mr Mehmet Kösemantoğlu,

On behalf of the International Transport Workers' Federation (ITF), which represents 4.8 million transport workers in 150 countries, I am writing to you to raise our serious concern over union busting practices by management in two of the warehouses operated by your company, TEDİ Discount Tekstil Mağazacılık A.Ş.

ITF affiliate DiSK/Limter-İş Union started organising workers in the TEDİ warehouse in the Topkapı and Tuzla districts of Istanbul this year, and now represents most of the workers there. DiSK/Limter-İş was pleased to inform the ITF in May this year that management at the warehouse had responded positively to the union's request for a meeting.

However, DiSK/Limter-İş has now told the ITF that management changed its mind about meeting the union and began to dismiss workers and mistreat other workers to make them resign from the union. In total, 16 workers have been dismissed in two of TEDİ's warehouses.

In protest, workers from both operations began picketing the warehouses on 2 August and have now stopped working. We understand the company is still refusing to negotiate with the union, despite the fact that DiSK/Limter-İş represents 60 of the 90 employees in the two warehouses.

The company's actions seriously violate fundamental workers' rights, as enshrined in the core labour standards of the International Labour Organization (ILO).

The ITF therefore urges you to act swiftly to reinstate the sacked workers and negotiate with DiSK/Limter-İş about working conditions and salaries.

Thank you for your time and attention, and I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Cotton
ITF General Secretary

cc: MsSinem Öner, Fiscal and Administrative Affairs Manager
DiSK/Limter-İş