

**Regional Office for Africa of the International Confederation of Unions of Pensioners and Retirees (IUS R&P) For the "World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU - FSM)":
Unconditional solidarity with the trade union movement is recorded in Benin, Burkina Faso, Tunisia and Morocco,**

And calls for an immediate response to demands and respect for trade union freedoms

Rabat/ Morocco, on May 8, 2024

The Regional Office for Africa of the «International Union of Pensioners and Retirees IUS P&R» affiliated with the “World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU - FSM)” after observing many violations of trade union rights and freedoms by the authorities of some African countries:

1- It Condemns the repression imposed on the trade union movement in the State of **Benin**, where demonstrators were prevented and suppressed on May 1, 2024, the International Day of the Working Class. Tear gases were used and demonstrators were suppressed, within the framework of the “Confederation of Trade Unions of Benin Workers CSTB”, a member of the “World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU - FSM)” and arrest trade unionists (72 of whom 21 will be brought under arrest, today, May 8, 2024, to the Public Prosecutor on charges of unarmed and unauthorized assembly), and it calls on the Beninese authorities to respect trade union rights and freedoms, release all trade union and political detainees, and stop... Fabricating charges and judicial prosecutions against them and allowing the exiles to return to their country, Benin, without restrictions or conditions;

2- It Condemns the ban imposed by the government on the May 1, 2024 march of the “UAS Union Action Unit” in **Burkina Faso**, the repeated attacks on democratic and trade union freedoms in Burkina Faso and the restrictions imposed on trade unionists and trade union organizations that are not loyal to the government;

3- It Condemns the deprivation of the “**Tunisian** Labor Organization (OTT), a member of the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU - FSM), of the deduction circular for the year 2024, and deprives it of union freedoms and the right to organize, and it denounces the practice of discrimination against it by the official authorities in Tunisia, and stands in solidarity with The Secretary-General of the Tunisian Labor Organization, Mr. Al-Assaad Obeid, has been engaged in an open sit-in inside the organization’s headquarters and a brutal hunger strike without food, drink, or medicine since May 6, 2024, and calls on the relevant Tunisian authorities to open dialogue and put an end to the violation of union rights and freedoms.

4- It condemns the continuation of the marathon trials of 70 male and female teachers in the state of **Morocco** and about 200 who are being presented to disciplinary councils, all of them due to protest, peaceful demonstration, solidarity and struggle to achieve union rights and demands, a number of which were achieved legislatively, materially and morally..., and among these teachers are male and female union activists of “The National Federation of Education FNE”, a member of “the International Federation of Educational Unions FISE” and the International Confederation of Unions of Retirees and Pensioners (UIS R&P) within the framework of the World Confederation of Trade Unions (WFTU - FSM).

He Condemns the procrastination and refusal of the Moroccan authorities to hand over the legal deposit receipts to many unions after renewing or forming their structures in accordance with applicable laws;

And it calls on the Moroccan authorities to respect trade union rights and freedoms and to put an end to the criminalization of trade union activity.

5- He expresses its joy at the success of the Third International Conference in Athens on 15 and 16 April 2024 of the «International Union of Pensioners and Retirees IUS P&R» within the framework of the World Federation of Trade Unions (FSM WFTU) and it renews its denunciation of the policies and bureaucracies of the Greek authorities responsible for the visas that have refused to hand them over for a number of its African applicants, despite the availability of the imposed conditions and guarantees;

6- It Calls on the struggling unions in African countries to unite ranks and solidarity and strengthen the “World Federation of Trade Unions (FSM WFTU)” and the international federations of trade unions affiliated with it (UIS), including the “International Confederation of Retirees and Pensioners’ Unions (UIS R&P)”, and it calls on pensioners and retirees in African countries to organize Unity to defend demands, achieve and preserve gains, and confront the common problems faced by both workers and retirees.

Long live the struggles of the working class in African countries for their rights!

For the Regional Office for Africa of the «International Union of Pensioners and Retirees IUS P&R» of the World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU - FSM)

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