ECVC supports FNSA workers in their struggle with the Sudaphi company

European Coordination Via Campesina works to bring together agricultural workers' organisations in the Mediterranean. Under this framework, it has been informed by members of the National Federation of the Agricultural Sector (the FNSA union) of serious violations of workers' rights at Sudaphi, a tomato processing company in Souss Massa, Morocco.

Sudaphi workers have been fighting for the reinstatement of their elected staff delegate after he was wrongfully dismissed by the company. The delegate has organized a permanent sit-in in front of the Sudaphi facilities since his dismissal on June 2. His dismissal comes in the context of repeated protests by Sudaphi workers against the imposition of new amendments to their contract which threatens workers' job security, and punitive actions against other delegates and FNSA members. The workers also allege numerous violations of the Moroccan Labor Code, details of which can be found here. Despite credible allegations that the company was breaking the law, Moroccan authorities chose to repeatedly raid the delegate’s sit-in, seizing banners and property on June 14, 17 and July 16. Despite these attacks, the delegate continued his protest for nearly two months.

Sudaphi produces the Sud'n'Sol and Sunblush Tomatoes brands and sells its products to a wide range of supermarkets and food processors in Europe. ECVC calls on buyers of Sudaphi products to intervene immediately to demand a just resolution to this dispute. ECVC condemns the violation of union rights and working conditions at Sudaphi, and calls on the buyers of Sudaphi's products to intervene immediately to demand a just resolution to this dispute.

ECVC also condemns the intervention of the gendarmerie against the FNSA, and calls on the local Moroccan authorities to do what is necessary to resolve the social problems of the workers and facilitate dialogue between the social partners at Sudaphi rather than taking the side of an abusive employer.

ECVC fully supports the demands of the Sudaphi workers and demands the immediate reinstatement of the dismissed delegate and compensation for lost work days. ECVC calls on Sudaphi to withdraw the detrimental amendments to the contract and engage in immediate negotiations with the FNSA to improve working conditions and resolve the illegal violations of the Labor Code in its facilities.

Solidarity is our strength! Victory to the FNSA and workers of Sudaphi!

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