

**His excellency Sooronbay Jeenbekov**

**President of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan**

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**cc: Embassy of your country in Kyrgyzstan (if applicable)**

**Embassy of Kyrgyzstan in your country (if applicable)**

Dear Mr. President,

I am writing on behalf of **(your union)** to express our opposition, as well as our deep concern, regarding the trade unions rights and freedoms and government pressure on trade union leaders in Kyrgyzstan.

As an affiliate of Building and Wood Workers International we were informed about government interference with the internal decision-making process of the Federation of Trade Unions of Kyrgyzstan (FTUKg). This interference resulted in destruction of FTUKg Council meetings and systematical pressure towards FTUKg leaders and activists. Furthermore, criminal prosecutions were initiated against members of the FTUKg Council and acting FTUKg president was interrogated in the police department.

On 10 June 2020 Kanatbek Osmonov, Deputy Chairman of the FTUKg, President of the Kyrgyzstan Forestry Workers Union, BWI affiliate in the country, was put to the house arrest for two months because of the police manipulations with the criminal accusations. On 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2020, 24 hours house arrest for Kanatbek Osmonov was substituted by night house arrest. We believe that criminal accusations against Kanatbeck appeared because of his continuous fight against government pressure on trade union rights in the country – like the other accusations finished by nothing for many times in previous years.

Mr. President, we are joining our voice with the global union movement and urge you to put to the end any forms of interference in internal trade union affairs from state agencies and private lobby groups. This interference undermines Constitution of the Kyrgyz Republic, and the international Conventions, including the ILO Convention No 87, ratified by the Kyrgyz Republic in 1992.

Mr. President, we urge you to immediately free Kanatbeck Osmonov from the house arrest and ensure proper and fair investigation of the legitimacy of the criminal accusations incriminated to Kanatbeck Osmonov.

Mr. President we urge you to act as guarantor of the Constitutional rights and stop any pressure on trade union leaders and activists in the country.