



201 16th St., N.W. | Washington, DC 20036 | Phone: (202) 833-4000

Dennis Van Roekel
President

Lily Eskelsen
Vice President

Rebecca S. Pringle
Secretary-Treasurer

John I. Wilson
Executive Director

January 19, 2010

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton
United States Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary of State Clinton:

On behalf of the 3.2 million members of the National Education Association, I have grave concerns about the impending execution of Iranian teacher Mr. Farzad Kamangar, who is held in Evin Prison in Iran. The National Education Association and the American Federation of Teachers, together with Education International, call for this case to be reviewed for fairness and this death sentence to be commuted. The Iranian authorities charged Mr. Kamangar, from Kurdistan, with endangering national security and “Mohareb” (at enmity with God). The Iranian government may follow through with his death sentence soon, based on threats from the prison.

Throughout Mr. Kamangar’s imprisonment, he has been tortured, harassed, intimidated and denied medical treatment by the Iranian authorities. His mistreatment is reflective of the Iranian government’s violation of trade union and human rights, with unwarranted detentions and condemnations of unions and their members.

The United Nations Human Rights Council is due to review human rights in Iran on February 15, 2010. In the submission to the Council on Iran from the International Trade Union Center to the Council, Mr. Kamangar’s case is specifically included.

I implore you to do all you can to intervene in the execution of Farzad Kamangar, ensuring that the unfounded charges against him are dropped. I appreciate your continued efforts within the international community to pressure Iran to respect human and trade union rights.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dennis Van Roekel". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent "D" and "R".

Dennis Van Roekel
President