



Education International
Internationale de l'Éducation
Internacional de la Educación
Bildungsinternationale

TO ALL EI MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

Brussels, 7 February 2011

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**EGYPT – Join the International Day of Solidarity Action for Egypt
on 8 February**

President

Susan Hopgood

General Secretary

Fred van Leeuwen

Dear colleagues,

In the context of the Urgent Action Appeal requesting EI member organisations to register their condemnation of the violent repression of workers and citizens in Egypt, EI invites you to join activities organised for the International Day of Solidarity Action for Egypt on Tuesday 8 February.

Following a decision by the General Council of the International Trade Union Confederation, unions will organise demonstrations at Egyptian embassies, and continue to press their governments to demand a democratic transition that includes social justice and full respect for freedom of expression and association, collective bargaining and all core labour standards.

Workers' issues and equal opportunities are central to the current protests in Egypt. The Secretary General of the United Nations insists that the leaders of Egypt "*listen attentively and sincerely to the voices of the people*", and on "*their responsibility, first of all, to provide decent jobs and good opportunities to maintain a decent living.*" Amidst calls for freedom and democracy, the Independent Teachers Union of Egypt indeed requested better educational levels, employment opportunities and adequate standards of living.

EI representatives will join meetings in Brussels to express their support and solidarity to the Egyptian people who share the common aspirations to quality education and decent employment; and enjoyment of fundamental freedoms and rights. EI will also condemn the killing of innocent men and women, will reiterate its call for an impartial investigation into the violence and that those responsible are held accountable and brought to justice.

Please contact the National Centres affiliated to ITUC in your country to know the scheduled activities and inform EI of your plans and outcomes of such activities (headoffice@ei-ie.org or fax +32 2 224 0606)

I thank you in advance for your solidarity and support.

Yours sincerely,

Fred van Leeuwen
General Secretary