

RURAL WORKERS' ORGANISATION

(Rural, Construction, Unorganised & General Workers Union) (Graama Iyakkam – கிராம இயக்கம்)

(Affiliated with BWI, Geneva and associated with FIAN, Heidelberg, Germany)

'Graama Iyakkam', Pudukattampur – 630 210, Thirupputhur, Sivagangai District, Tamilnadu, India.

15.04.2025

Mr. Saul Mendez,
General Secretary,
Unified Union of Construction and Allied Workers of Panama,
SUNTRACS.
E-Mail:suntracs@suntracs.info
CC:communication@bwint.org

Dear Brother Saul,

We come to you to express our solidarity regarding the actions of persecution, defamation, psychological intimidation, freezing of bank accounts and the filing of alleged legal cases against leaders and officials of the Unified Union of Construction and Allied Workers of Panama, SUNTRACS.

As affiliates of the Building and Wood Workers' International (BWI), we stand in solidarity with SUNTRACS, its affiliates and leadership, and with the people who are victims of the police repression.

We join BWI in requesting the Panamanian government to implement the ILO's recommendation to "adopt immediate measures in order to guarantee SUNTRACS full access to its funds and the functioning of its accounts in the financial system" and "ensure that SUNTRACS' leaders enjoy the necessary protection measures in cases where they are exposed to risk" expressed in the Interim Report of the International Labour Organization (ILO) Freedom of Association Committee (Report No. 409, March 2025) on Case No. 3456 – Panama presented by SUNTRACS, CONUSI, and BWI. Respecting the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87), and the Right to Organise and Collective Bargaining Convention, 1949 (No. 98), both ratified by Panama.

Yours sincerely,

A.RAAM, PRESIDENT.