

28th June 2007

JUNG Gab-Deuk
President
Korean Metalworkers' Union (KMWU)
5th floor, Daeyoung Bld
139 Youngdeungpo-2-ga
Youngdeungpo-ku, Seoul 150-032

Dear President Jung,

The European Metalworkers' Federation (EMF), which represents over 6.5 million metalworkers and their unions throughout Europe, stands in solidarity with the Korean Metal Workers' Union (KMWU) as it is taking strike action this week against the signing of the Korean-US Free Trade Agreement.

If signed, this free trade agreement will lead to an acceleration of capital mobility and financial speculation, thereby pitting workers in Korea and the US against each other in unlimited restructuring and driving down of wages, employment stability and working conditions as core labour standards are left out.

The EMF and its affiliated organisations are convinced that trade agreements between nations must lead to the creation of decent jobs and development through the inclusion of protection of core labour standards. In negotiating this deal, neither government has evaluated its likely economic and social impact on workers. This free trade agreement between the US and South Korea fails to include meaningful protection of fundamental workers' rights and threatens both the number of jobs and conditions of employment in both countries.

The EMF and its affiliates fully support you in these legitimate strike actions which KMWU is undertaking for the first time as a newly created industrial union. Your struggle is our struggle, not only against this free trade agreement but also for the respect of fundamental workers' rights in general.

Yours fraternally,

Peter SCHERRER
General Secretary

cc: IMF