



European Union
Statement

ILO Governing Body, 318th session
(21 June 2013)

**Follow-up to the resolution on the trade union situation in Fiji, adopted by the
Governing Body at its 316th Session in November 2012
(GB/318/INS/4)**

Geneva, 21 June 2013

- CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY -

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Follow-up to the resolution on the trade union situation in Fiji, adopted by the Governing Body at its 316th Session in November 2012 (GB/318/INS/4)

EU Statement

Thank you chair.

I speak on behalf of the European Union and its Member States.

The following countries align themselves with this declaration: Croatia^{*}, Turkey[†], the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia^{*}, Montenegro^{*}, Iceland[‡], Serbia^{*}, Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova.

We attach great importance to human rights, including freedom of association, and recognise the important role played by the ILO in developing, promoting and supervising international labour standards. We call on all States to ratify and implement the core labour rights Conventions.

We call on the Government to respect its commitments regarding human rights and fundamental freedoms, respect for democratic principles and the rule of law. We note the Committee's observations that the outstanding issues in this case concerned numerous and grave allegations of the violations of the basic civil liberties of trade unionists, including arrest, detention and assaults and restrictions of freedom of expression and of assembly. We urge the Government to ensure that freedom of expression and assembly are respected.

We have already invited the Government to engage with the ILO to enable the organisation of a new fact finding mission. We note that the Conference Committee on the Application of Standards expresses the hope that a new mission may visit the country in time to report back to the Governing Body in October 2013. We urge the Government's acceptance of the direct contacts mission as soon

^{*} Accessing Country Croatia and the Candidate countries former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia as well as potential candidate countries Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

[†] Candidate Country

[‡] Candidate Country Iceland continues to be a member of the EFTA and of the European Economic Area.

as possible.

On this basis we support the points for decision proposed in paragraph 5 of the document.

Thank you chair.