



## **European Union**

### **Statement**

**ILO Governing Body, 320<sup>th</sup> session  
(13 – 27 March 2014)**

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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 (November 2012)"  
"Complaint concerning non-observance by Fiji of the Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organise Convention, 1948 (No. 87), made by delegates to the 102nd Session (2013) of the International Labour Conference under article 26 of the ILO Constitution"**

**(GB.320/INS/10.11)**

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**Geneva, 26 March 2014**

**- CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY -**

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**(GB.320/INS/10.11)**

**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: Turkey\*, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia†, Montenegro†, Iceland‡, Serbia†, Albania†, Norway§ 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. The European Union as well as its member States are engaged in the promotion of universal ratification and implementation of the four ILO core labour standards.

We call on the Government of Fiji to respect its commitments regarding human rights and fundamental freedoms, respect for democratic principles and the rule of law. We urge the Government to ensure that freedom of expression and assembly are respected.

We have already invited three times the Government to engage with the ILO to enable the organisation of a Direct Contacts Mission.

We call upon the Government to accept the Direct Contacts Mission so that its results can be presented at the October-November session of the Governing Body that will commence on 30 October 2014. We

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\* Candidate country

† 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 Iceland continues to be a member of the EFTA and of the European Economic Area.

§ Liechtenstein and Norway are members of the EFTA and the European Economic Area.

urge the Government to prepare this Direct Contact Mission with the ILO far in advance and to accept the visit of a Senior ILO Official, so as to secure the mission to be held in time.

Thank you chair.