



คณะกรรมการประสานงานสหพันธ์แรงงานขนส่งระหว่างประเทศแห่งประเทศไทย  
International Transport Workers' Federation Co-ordinating Committee of Thailand

To  
Bro. Marko Piirainen  
President, Finnish Transport Workers Union (AKT)

Bro. Risto Elonen  
President, Finnish Locomotive Drivers' Union (VML)

16 September 2015

Dear Brothers,

We have been reading with much concern about unilateral actions being taken by the new Finnish government that undermine and weaken the rights and interests of workers and trade unions in Finland. We understand that in the past several weeks the government has announced policies that will reduce workers' entitlements related to unemployment insurance, overtime and Sunday compensations, sick leaves, vacation leaves, holidays, etc. The government we also learn is planning to slash national budgets on education and health threatening social welfare of the people. This is alarming in a developed country like Finland which is also known to be a model welfare state.

The trade unions in Finland are planning a major demonstration & mass action on September 18th against government's coercive measures targeting employee working conditions.

The Transport Unions in Thailand representing nearly 47,000 members from Railways, Aviation, Ports & Road Transport sector express solidarity with AKT and VML our sister transport Unions in Finland, with whom we share a strong relationship over many years through our common affiliation with the International Transport Workers Federation (ITF). We stand with you and the working class of Finland in opposing unilateral cuts in employee working conditions. We also ask the Finland government to negotiate with the Unions and to find amicable solution to the problems confronting the workers and sections of Finnish society which are dependent on social welfare budgets.

Please keep us informed of further developments. Meanwhile we will inform and educate our members and appraise them of the difficult situation being faced by the Finnish workers and the need to mobilise international level workers solidarity.

In Solidarity,

(Mr. Sanan Boon-ngok)  
Chairman

ITF Coordinating Committee of Thailand

