



Maritime Union of New Zealand

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The Ambassador
Iranian Embassy
Fax Number 386 3065

Dear Ambassador

We are the Wellington Branch of the Maritime Union of New Zealand – representing seafarers and dockers.

Our Union is an affiliate of the International Transport Workers Federation which is an international trade union federation of transport workers, representing 5 million transport workers in 150 countries.

Through that body – the ITF, we learnt of the plight of Mansour Osanloo, a bus driver who assisted in the formation in 2005 of Sherkat-e Vahed - an independent trade union representing 17,000 bus drivers in Tehran.

He has been detained by the Iranian Government because of his trade union activities. His trade union activities have consisted of asking for basic human rights for his fellow workers who are paid less than they need to survive and do not have the basic protections and conditions provided for in ILO core conventions.

We are deeply alarmed to learn of this and wish to relay our deep concern at the detention of Mansour and other members of his Union who have committed no crime. Mansour Osanloo and his fellow unionists have question why – in a country rich in oil reserves and exports (cars) its people are living in poverty and the reply he received from his Government was to imprison him.

We stand with our international trade union body (ITF) and its affiliates, and call on the Iranian Government to release Mansour Osanloo unconditionally from prison and that fundamental workers rights as provided for in ILO Core Conventions, be respected.

Yours faithfully

Joe Fleetwood
Secretary

Mike Clark
President