

March 23, 2009

Mr. Philip Jennings, General Secretary
Union Network International
Avenue Reverdil 8-10
CH-1260
Nyon, SWITZERLAND

Dear Philip:

Attached is a copy of a Statement of Evidence prepared by United Food and Commercial Workers Canada (UFCW Canada) on behalf of agriculture workers in the province of Ontario.

The Statement of Evidence is in support of a complaint that UFCW Canada would like to submit against the Government of Ontario (Canada). The complaint is against *Agricultural Employees Protection Act, 2002* which denies all agriculture workers employed in the agricultural sector in the province of Ontario the right to join a union and engage in collective bargaining.

This legislation denies agriculture workers in the province of Ontario their fundamental right to freedom of association. UFCW Canada is of the view that the *Agricultural Employees Protection Act* is in violation of the constitution of the ILO and its core Conventions: No. 87 – Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize and No.98 – Right to Organize and Collective Bargaining, as well as the ILO's 1998 Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work.

I would appreciate if you, on behalf of Union Network International (UNI), would write the ILO Director-General informing him that the UNI fully supports our complaint against the Government of Ontario and would like to have UNI's name associated with the UFCW Canada complaint.

I have also asked Ken Georgetti, president of the Canadian Labour Congress, to support the UFCW Canada complaint.

I thank you for whatever assistance and support UNI can provide the UFCW Canada on this matter.

In solidarity,

Wayne Hanley, National President
UFCW Canada

c.c. Joe Hansen, President, UNI