**Mr Horacio Manuel Cartes Jara**

President of the Republic of Paraguay

Palacio de Gobierno

Asunción

Dear Mr President,

The …………………. is writing to you to firmly condemn and repudiate the antiunion actions of La Limpeña SRL bus company, Line 49, which has dismissed 51 drivers who formed a trade union.

These drivers worked informally at the company for more than ten years, undergoing labour exploitation, abuses of power and inhuman treatment at the hands of the management, including excessively long working hours, pay per round, and the violation of their right to social security and a monthly salary.

In response to this situation, on 22 June 2015, the drivers decided to form a trade union to fight for the defence and fulfilment of their rights. The following day, however, the company dismissed en masse and without justification 51 drivers from the newly formed trade union. It also requested the Labour and Social Security Ministry to revoke the organisation’s registration.

The dismissed workers nailed themselves to crosses and have been on hunger strike since July of this year in front of the company’s workshops in Asuncion, demanding a response to their labour grievances.

We urge you to intervene immediately to ensure a definitive and favourable solution for the workers of Line 49, taking into account their appalling health condition and the serious violation of their human rights.

Yours sincerely,