



Algiers, 22 January 2026

JOINT STATEMENT

The Trade Union Confederation of Productive Forces (COSYFOP), the National Autonomous Union of Public Administration Personnel (SNAPAP), the National Autonomous Union of Electricity and Gas Workers (SNATEG), and the National Union of the Industrial Sector (SNSI) hereby declare that, on 20 January 2026, they submitted a formal communication to the Director-General of the International Labour Organization (ILO), following the public statements made by the Director of the ILO Office in Algeria, Mr. Halim Hamzaoui.¹

These statements in no way reflect the reality on the ground regarding trade union freedoms in Algeria and stand in clear contradiction to the recommendations and observations issued by the ILO supervisory bodies.

We emphasize that these statements, widely disseminated by the official media, were made at a moment of extreme sensitivity, while a broad international mobilization — led by trade union organizations, human rights organizations, as well as several United Nations Special Rapporteurs — is underway in support of the release of COSYFOP trade union leader Ali Mammeri.

He remains detained on the basis of terrorism-related charges, sentenced to fifteen (15) years of imprisonment, and subjected to persistent pressure and restrictions at his place of detention in Oum El Bouaghi.

We are deeply concerned that such statements, issued by a senior ILO official, may be interpreted by the Algerian authorities as a green light to continue their hostile policies toward independent trade union organizations, as well as to maintain the detention of Ali Mammeri, thereby giving this case a particularly serious and alarming dimension.

In this context, we have decided to inform national and international public opinion of our formal referral to the ILO Director-General, with the aim of obtaining without delay clear explanations regarding these statements and of requesting his intervention to ensure respect for the fundamental principles of the Organization concerning trade union freedom.

The signatory organizations

COSYFOP

SNAPAP

SNATEG

SNSI

Raouf Mellal

Nassira Ghazlane

Abdelkader Kouafi

Hamza Kherroubi



¹ **Algeria Press Service (APS)**, “Mr. Saihi Receives the Director of the ILO Office in Algeria”, published on 13 January 2026, available online at: <https://www.aps.dz/fr/algerie/societe/mkd0bmcx-m-saihi-recoit-le-directeur-du-bureau-de-l-oit-en-algerie>