HUMAN TRAGEDY IN PT MANDOM, INDONESIA

On 10 July 2015, near the Eid Fitri holiday, a great tragedy struck Indonesia. A chemical pipe exploded in PT Mandom, West Java, Indonesia. Twenty three workers lost their lives and more than 39 workers are still in the hospital for intensive care with severe burn injury. Furthermore all the victims are on-the-job trainee workers who have not been offered any proper education and training including on health and safety before entering workplace. More than 80% of 1,500 workers are on-the-job trainees and this type of work is worse than outsourcing with lower pay but high production target. This accident is suspected to have happened because of negligence and intention of the PT Mandom management to chase high production targets.

The KSPI has responded to the tragedy as follows:

1. Reported to the local and national governments about the tragedy;
2. Demanded the employer to cover all cost of treatment for the injured victims; and
3. Demanded compensation for the families of the deceased.

The trade unions suspect that there are attempts to cover up real causes of the tragic accident. The government has not taken any real action in this matter which is clearly against the mandate of the 1945 Constitution on protection of all citizens in any case.

CALLS upon the ITUC, ITUC AP, and all affiliates to send letters to the President of the Republic of Indonesia, Manpower Minister, and the Employer of PT Mandom, both in Indonesia and Japan, urging them for:

1. Conducting a thorough investigation into the accident in order to find out real causes;
2. To improve the OHS system in Indonesia;
3. To give adequate compensation to the victims; and
4. To take deterrent action against the employers who are responsible for this tragedy.