



Mody GUIRO

President

Président

Kwasi ADU-AMANKWAH

General Secretary

Secrétaire Général

Route Internationale d'Atakpamé

Centre FOPADESC Agoè – Nyivé

B.P. : 4401 – Tel. : 00228 225 07 10

Fax : 00228 225 61 13

LOME - TOGO

Email : info@ituc-africa.org

Web : www.ituc-africa.org

ITUC-AFRICA STATEMENT ON THE KILLING OF THULANI MASEKO.

The African Regional Organisation of the International Trade Union Confederation, ITUC-Africa, (<https://www.ituc-africa.org/>) strongly condemns the brutal murder of Thulani Maseko and calls on the authorities in Eswatini to conduct a full and transparent investigation into his death and bring those responsible to justice.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to the Maseko family, the Mass Democratic Movement and the entire trade union family of Eswatini.

The killing of human rights lawyer and defender of trade unionists Comrade Thulani Maseko in Eswatini is deeply troubling as a fundamental violation of human rights and a severe blow to the promotion and protection of human rights and workers' rights in the country.

Comrade Thulani Maseko was a true champion for workers' rights and democracy in Eswatini. He possessed a fearless spirit and unwavering determination in the face of the oppressive King Mswati regime. He dedicated his life to fighting for the rights of working people in the country, and has been an outspoken advocate for greater political and economic democracy.

Through his tireless efforts, Comrade Thulani Maseko has helped to raise awareness of the struggles faced by workers in Eswatini, and has been a leading voice in the fight for greater political and economic democracy in Eswatini. He has spoken out against the repression and human rights abuses of the King Mswati regime, and has called for greater transparency and accountability in government. He has also been a strong advocate for the protection of civil liberties and human rights, and has worked to promote greater participation in the decision-making processes that affect the lives of people in Eswatini.

The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, which Eswatini has ratified, guarantees the right to life, the prohibition of torture, and the right to freedom of expression, association, and peaceful assembly. Article 9 of the charter states that "Every individual shall have the right to receive information" and "Every individual shall

have the right to express and disseminate his opinions within the law." The killing of Thulani Maseko is a clear violation of these rights.

We urge the government of Eswatini to respect and protect the rights of human rights defenders, trade unionists, and all its citizens, in accordance with its international human rights obligations. The international community should also continue to support and advocate for the protection of human rights and the rights of workers in Eswatini.

Thulani Maseko is an inspiration to all those who care about workers' rights and democracy. His fearless spirit, dedication and courage has been a shining light in the struggle for justice and progress in Eswatini. May his blood, the sterling price he has paid for fighting for human rights and workers' rights fuel the struggle for democracy, social justice, peace and security.



Kwasi Adu-Amankwah
General Secretary, ITUC-Africa
23rd January, 2023.