



International Dockworkers Council

Coordination Office

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To COSCO PCT Workers – Piraeus, Greece

Dear Brothers & Sisters,

The International Dockworkers Council (IDC) would like to express its full solidarity with the COSCO dockworkers' demands, and celebrates the recent labor developments at PCT which have not only ended with an outstanding victory for a better pay and working conditions but also shows a new turn of force and unity of workers at PCT.

Since the establishment of COSCO at the port of Piraeus, the IDC has been urging the company for the improvement of labour standards at the terminal. After COSCO was granted the concession in 2009, the IDC subsequently tried to contact the management in many occasions during 2010 and 2011 by e-mail and phone to try and organise a joint meeting in order to convey our concerns over labour conditions at COSCO PCT and discuss negotiated solutions for the situation. The company refused to engage in any dialogue with the IDC, despite our statements that we would not accept sub-standard conditions and violations of any workers rights. The IDC also took industrial action at the Port of Piraeus and in many other European ports on 23 November 2012 to urge COSCO to enter a meaningful dialogue with the IDC. On that day, an IDC delegation also met with the Minister of Maritime Affairs in order to discuss working conditions at the COSCO terminal.

The European Zone of the IDC also sent a formal complaint to the European Union on 22 October 2010 and 2013 concerning labor standards at PCT, the denial of freedom of association and the right to collective bargaining, as established by the ILO Convention 137.

The recent developments at PCT undoubtedly show that COSCO dockers are taking a step forward, winning assurances and aiming at securing an enforceable collective bargaining agreement with a substantive increase of labor standards at the terminal. The unity of all workers is the key to success, united we can win.



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The main pillar of the IDC is to provide solidarity amongst its members, or any unions worldwide to raise dockworkers' labor conditions and rights. The IDC and all its affiliated members fully support the COSCO workers and are ready to assist you in forming the new Collective Bargaining Agreement, ensuring that it conforms to recognised international standards and all ILO conventions. For this purpose, for future assemblies and negotiations we remain at your disposal to travel to Piraeus to support the process.

We will never walk alone again! Proud to Be Dockers!

In solidarity,

Anthony Tétard

European Zone Coordinator

INTERNATIONAL DOCKWORKERS COUNCIL