EMERGENCY RESOLUTION - SOLIDARITY STATEMENT WITH TÜRKİYE

ADOPTED BY THE ETUC 15TH STATUTORY CONGRESS (BERLIN, 23-26 MAY 2023)
The ETUC offers sincere condolences to all people in Türkiye hit by the earthquake. The tragedy of 2 earthquakes, one after the other in a 9-hour difference, happened on 6 February 2023 and resulted in the loss of around 51,000 people in Türkiye. In addition, missing people have been reported, and there was large-scale destruction in these cities.

A high-level ETUC delegation paid a mission to Ankara and the earthquake zone to show solidarity with trade unions in Türkiye and with its people. The delegation was shocked at the scale of devastation. It expressed its gratitude to emergency service workers, first responders, and all workers, as well as volunteers involved in helping to deal with the impacts of the earthquakes.

ETUC salutes all acts of solidarity and support and urges swift action to repair the damage, restore homes, and protect livelihoods.

ETUC asks the whole ETUC family to offer tangible and continuous support to the affiliates in Türkiye, particularly in the areas impacted by the earthquake concerned with salvaging and rehabilitating their lives and works.

ETUC extends its appeal to national and international authorities and financial institutions and calls on these institutions and actors to take appropriate mitigating measures by paying attention not only to short and mid-term needs but also to long-term needs. Such efforts should ensure healthy reconstruction, considering workers’ rights and benefits under ETUC principles and meaningful inputs of all stakeholders, particularly trade unions. Furthermore, it calls on the EU Commission to take concrete steps regarding this issue.