



VANCOUVER and DISTRICT LABOUR COUNCIL



March 5, 2019

Secretary Silvestre Bello
Department of Labor and Employment
7th Floor DOLE Building
Intramuros, Manila, 1002
Philippines

Dear Secretary Bello:

I write to you again today on behalf of the Vancouver and District Labour Council, its nearly 100 affiliated local unions, and 60,000 affiliated union members. We are a regional labour central in British Columbia, Canada, chartered by the Canadian Labour Congress.

We have learned from Hanjin Shipyard Workers' Organization (SAMAHAN) and Workers for People's Liberation (WPL) that Hanjin is refusing entry to the shipyard to workers who have not signed the so-called "voluntary resignation" papers they have offered to workers who are facing displacement.

On February 14 of this year, you advised the workers not to sign these papers, as doing so would make them ineligible for separation pay. You also indicated that forcing the workers to sign these papers is illegal.

It appears that despite this, Hanjin is continuing their illegal demand that workers sign these papers, all in an attempt to rob them of the separation pay they are entitled to.

We urge you to take swift action to ensure Hanjin ceases this practice and that all workers receive their legitimate entitlements to separation pay. We again express our full support for Hanjin workers and their union, SAMAHAN.

Sincerely,

Stephen von Sychowski
President

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