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International Transport Workers' Federation
Federación Internacional de los Trabajadores del Transporte
Fédération internationale des ouvriers du transport
Internationella Transportarbetarefederationen
Internationale Transportarbeiter-Föderation
Международная федерация транспортников
التنظيم عالمياً، النضال من أجل حقوقنا

Warren Smith
Assistant National Secretary
Maritime Union of Australia

2nd August 2015

Dear Warren,

Solidarity message for HPA workers

I would be grateful if you could convey the following message of support from the ITF Dockers' Section to our brothers and sisters at Hutchison Ports Australia:

My brothers and sisters,

The ITF has been shocked and appalled to hear from the MUA that Hutchison Ports Australia is planning on introducing automation by stealth and using forced redundancies to get rid of union members. We understand that HPA has now announced that it will be withdrawing from current bids for work in Australia and reviewing the level of services that it will be offering effective immediately, and that around a hundred comrades out of a workforce of 224 are facing compulsory redundancy. We have also been briefed about the leaked documentation outlining plans to introduce automated equipment, received by the MUA.

The ITF Dockers' Section's position is unequivocal:

We stand with you in your fight for your jobs;
We stand with you in your fight against union busting by automation; and
We stand with you in your fight for respect, equity and decent treatment

We do this because you are our comrades and ITF family. We do this because all strong dockworkers' unions face the same threats. We are united. This is our fight.

Yours in solidarity,

Sharon James
Secretary, Dockers' Section