

ORGANISATION OF AFRICAN TRADE UNION UNITY (OATUU)

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ORGANISATION DE L'UNITE SYNDICALE AFRICAINE (OUSA)

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STATEMENT

Following the military coup d'état that led to the ousting of President Mohamed Bazoum on 26th July 2023 in Niger, the Organisation of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU) expresses its concern about the current situation in the country, particularly the consequences on the workers and people of Niger, who are already facing enormous challenges.

OATUU unequivocally condemns this military coup, which undermines the constitutional order and unfolds in a vulnerable context in the Sahel region caused by the terrorist threat.

OATUU is deeply concerned about the economic and social state in Niger, which will undoubtedly be severely affected by the current difficult situation, the consequences of which will be harmful to the lives of the people and workers of Niger, who are already suffering.

OATUU stands in solidarity with the trade unions, workers and people of Niger who, through their patriotism and commitment to peace, freedom, democracy, inclusive development and social justice, are the only ones in a position to take the future of their country into their own hands, to defend its sovereignty and to disrupt all hegemonic and predatory attempts to return our continent to the era of colonial domination.

We are opposed to any foreign interference in Niger's internal affairs and believe that only the people of Niger are entitled to find, in complete sovereignty, the solution they deem necessary to their problems and to defend their interests while respecting the international and regional commitments of the State of Niger.

To enable Niger, regain its stability and continue to develop in peace, OATUU calls for a return to constitutional order and respect for the freedom and sovereignty of the people.

The current situation in Niger needs dialogue, wisdom and appeasement in order to lay the foundation for a negotiated, appropriate and lasting solution.

OATUU regrets certain measures taken by ECOWAS, such as the closure of all borders, the freezing of all financial transactions with Niger and the use of military force. Such measures will only worsen the security in Niger and the Sahel region, increase cross-border crime and worsen the already precarious socio-economic situation of Nigerien workers, depriving many of them of their income and the remittances on which many families depend. It therefore falls to ECOWAS to reconsider these issues, giving priority to diplomatic channels and dialogue with the aim of finding a peaceful and lasting solution.

The Secretariat

