

ORGANISATION OF AFRICAN TRADE UNION UNITY (OATUU)



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Our Ref:

18th December 2025

STATEMENT ON THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF MIGRANT WORKERS

On the occasion of the **International Day of Migrant Workers**, observed on **18 December**, the **Organization of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU)** pays tribute to the commitment, courage and essential contribution of migrant workers to the economic, social and cultural development of both host societies and countries of origin.

OATUU reaffirms its **unwavering commitment to the defense of the fundamental rights of migrant workers**, regardless of their status, origin or sector of activity. Migrant workers are not a substitute labor force, but women and men endowed with inalienable rights enshrined in international labor conventions, African human rights instruments and national legislation.

In this regard, OATUU **strongly condemns all forms of abuse, discrimination, racism, xenophobia, human trafficking and exploitation**, including forced labor, precarious employment, denial of social rights, unsafe and undignified working conditions, and violations of human dignity, **under any pretext whatsoever**.

OATUU calls upon governments in Africa and host countries to:

- guarantee equal treatment and rights for national and migrant workers;
- strengthen social protection systems, health coverage and occupational safety;
- ensure full respect for international labor standards, particularly ILO conventions on migrant workers;
- effectively combat exploitation networks and abusive practices;
- promote social dialogue and the trade union inclusion of migrant workers.

OATUU also urges its affiliated trade union organizations to intensify awareness-raising actions, legal assistance and solidarity initiatives in favor of migrant workers, and to work toward their full integration into trade union structures.

On this day of international mobilization, OATUU reaffirms that **migration must never mean a loss of rights**, and that **social justice, human dignity and decent work must be guaranteed to all workers, without distinction**.

Unity, solidarity and social justice remain at the heart of our struggle.

Arezki MEZHOUD
Secretary General

