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07 September 2009

Dear Prime Minister,

## **Proceedings against Mr Kamal Abu Eita, President of the Real Estate Tax Authority Union**

Public Services International (PSI) wrote to you on 18 August 2009 concerning serious interference in the affairs of its affiliate the Real Estate Tax Authority Union (RETA). In particular we drew to your attention the pressure being exerted by Mr Hussein Megawer, President of the Egyptian Trade Union Federation (ETUF), on various officials in order to discredit and threaten the leadership of RETA.

We pointed to the fact that ETUF had filed a report with the Public Prosecutor against the President of RETA, Mr Kamal Abu Eita, falsely alleging that Mr Abu Eita's election as President was irregular and that RETA is therefore an illegal entity.

PSI has learned with grave concern that proceedings against Mr Abu Eita will begin tomorrow, 08 September 2009. PSI condemns in the strongest terms this persecution and harassment of the leadership of RETA. PSI again urges your government to take the necessary steps to ensure that RETA is able to function as a free and independent trade union, including the dropping of all charges against Mr Abu Eita.

[continued...]

PSI is monitoring developments closely and will not hesitate to bring this matter to the attention of international partners, including the International Labour Organisation.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Peter Waldorff', with a large, sweeping initial 'P'.

Peter Waldorff  
General Secretary

Cc: H.E. Dr. Youssef Boutros-Ghali, Minister of Finance; H.E. Mrs. Aesha Abdel Hadi Abdel Ghani, Minister of Manpower and Immigration; PSI Arab countries and PSI Africa; Real Estate Tax Authority Union; Centre for Trade Union & Workers Services; Mr Kacem Afiya; ITUC Geneva and Brussels.

*Public Services International (PSI) is a global trade union federation that represents 20 million women and men working in the public services around the world. It has some 600 affiliated unions in more than 150 countries. PSI is an autonomous body, which works in association with federations covering other sectors of the workforce and with the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC). PSI is an officially recognised non-governmental organisation for the public sector within the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and has consultative status with ECOSOC and observer status with other UN bodies such as UNCTAD and UNESCO.*