



PRESS RELEASE

The IOE¹ Files a Complaint Against the Government of Ukraine

Geneva 17 October 2007 – The International Organisation of Employers (IOE) has filed a complaint against the government of Ukraine following a refusal by the Ministry of Justice to register the amended statutes of its member: the Federation of Employers of Ukraine (FEU).

On 7 June 2007, the 3rd Congress of the Federation of Employers of Ukraine adopted amendments to the Statutes of the FEU in order to modernize and give more dynamism and financial means to the Federation. These statutes were developed on the basis of globally accepted practice following extensive consultations with members and adopted unanimously.

The Ministry of Justice of Ukraine refused to register the amended Statutes on 18 July 2007.

The International Organisation of Employers considers that the refusal by the Ministry of Justice to register the amended Statutes is in breach of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Convention No. 87.

Any legal provision on which the Ministry's decision is based is not compatible with the generally-accepted principles enshrined in this convention, in particular the principle that employers' organizations shall have the right to draw up their constitutions and rules in full freedom.

Consequently, the IOE has filed a complaint with the Committee of Freedom of Association of the International Labour Organization.

The IOE asks that the ILO Committee call upon the Government of Ukraine to respect the principle of freedom of association to which it is bound – owing to its ratification of Convention No. 87 in 1956 and its membership of the International Labour Organization – and to ensure the registration of the FEU's amended statutes in accordance with Article 3 of that convention and, if necessary, modify inappropriate laws in this context and bring them in line with the Convention's requirements.

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¹ The IOE is a worldwide member-based organization founded in 1920 representing the business community in social and labour policy at the international level. Its membership numbers 145 national employer federations in 138 countries.