



Public Services International
Internationale des Services Publics
Internacional de Servicios Públicos
Internationale der Öffentlichen Dienste
Internationell Facklig Organisation för Offentliga Tjänster
國際公務勞連

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Mswati III
King of Swaziland

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File Reference: PW/JG/CHM

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Cc.: Barnabas Sibusiso Dlamini, Prime Minister
PSI Regional Secretary for Africa and Arab Countries
PSI Sub-regional Secretary for Southern Africa
PSI Communications
Vincent Dlamini, General Secretary of SNACS/NAPSAWU
COSATU (South Africa)

18 July 2012

His Majesty King Mswati III,

Letter of Protest

Public Services International is a global trade union federation representing 20 million workers in health, municipal, state administration, utilities and other public services. PSI affiliate unions come from 150 countries, including Swaziland.

We are deeply concerned to learn that, on 12 July 2012, peacefully protesting public sector trade union members in Swaziland were fired upon by police – resulting in hospitalisation and injuries to at least 12 persons. The repression of peaceful protest is a fundamental abuse of human rights.

PSI will defend the human and trade union rights of our members with all our capacities. We call on you to open immediate negotiations with public sector unions – the Swaziland National Association of Civil Servants (SNACS), Swaziland Nurses Association (SNA) and Swaziland National Association of Teachers (SNAT) – to realise the fair and reasonable demand of a 4.5% wage rise.

The continued denial of democratic, human and trade union rights in Swaziland only further exacerbates the country's economic decline and isolation. PSI will continue to work with our affiliates and allies worldwide in demanding democracy and human rights become fully realised in Swaziland.

We look forward to your immediate and positive action to improve this situation.

Sincerely,

Peter Waldorff
General Secretary

Public Services International is a global trade union federation representing 20 million working women and men who deliver vital public services in 150 countries. PSI champions human rights, advocates for social justice and promotes universal access to quality public services. PSI works with the United Nations system and in partnership with labour, civil society and other organisations.