IRTF

InterReligious Task Force on Central America

3606 Bridge Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44113 tel: 216.961.0003 fax: 216.961.0002 e-mail: irtf@igc.org

November 29, 2004

Mr. Stephane Lemay Vice-President, Public and Legal Affairs Gildan Activewear 725 Montee De Liesse Montreal, Quebe, CANADA H4T 1P5 via FAX: 1 514 735 6810

Dear Mr. Lemay:

We, members of the InterReligious Task Force, thank you for responding to our letter of August 16, 2004 concerning the closing of your El Progresso factory in Honduras and the results of the investigations conducted by the Fair Labor Association (FLA) and the Workers Rights Consortium (WRC). However, to date, you have not taken the necessary actions to comply with conditions set by the FLA for continued membership in that organization for which they have given you a November 30 deadline.

We now **urge you** to take the following corrective actions:

- Include full back pay to all unjustly fired union supporters from the date of their firings to the date of the
 factory closure;
- first-hire job opportunities for laid-off El Progresso workers;
- assistance to those workers to find employment at other factories in the free trade zones;
- protection against blacklisting at those factories;
- public acknowledgement of the violations of workers' associational rights in El Progresso;
- effective communication to your remaining Honduras workers of their freedom of association;
- workers rights training on freedom of association open to all workers, not just a selected group.

If Gildan's membership in FLA is terminated on December 10, we will urge organizations we know who bulk purchase from Gildan to cease placing orders because Gildan does not respect workers' rights.

Thank you for your immediate attention to these matters of justice.

Sincerely,

Brian J. Stefan Szittai, Coordinator

Copies: Lic. Ricardo Maduro, President of Honduras ~ via fax: 011-504-221-4552
Ambassador Mario Miguel Canhuati, Embassy of Honduras ~ via fax: 1-202-966-9751
Tom Kelly, Desk Officer for Honduras, US State Department ~ via fax: 1-202-647-2597
Ambassador Larry L. Palmer, US Embassy in Tegucigalpa ~ via fax: 011-504-236-9037
Senator George Voinovich, US Senate ~ via email: Daniel_knezevic@voinovich.senate.gov
Rep. Dennis J. Kucinich, US House of Representatives ~ via email: Samantha.spinney@mail.house.gov
Rep Marcy Kaptur, US House of Representatives ~ via fax: Jennifer Goedke 202.225.7711
Rep Steve LaTourette, US House of Representatives ~ via email: kate.ostrander@mail.house.gov
Rep Tim Ryan, US House of Representatives ~ via email: kate.ostrander@mail.house.gov
Rep Stephanie Tubbs Jones, US House of Representatives ~ via email: tannaz.haddadi@mail.house.gov

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