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European Transport Workers' Federation
Fédération Européenne des Travailleurs des Transports
Europäische Transportarbeiter-Föderation
Federación Europea de los Trabajadores del Transporte

Brussels, 21 June 2016

SOLIDARITY STATEMENT WITH GROUND HANDLING WORKERS IN PORTUGAL

The Civil Aviation Section of the European Transport Workers' Federation (ETF), representing more than 250.000 workers in aviation all over Europe, which met on 15 June 2016, has been informed by its Portuguese affiliate, SITAVA, on the conflict opposing the workers and the management of Portway (Group ANA/VINCI) and Groundforce (Group TAP).

The ETF strongly supports the strikes that will be organised on 1st, 2nd and 3 July 2016 by SITAVA in all Portuguese airports. These strikes are the result of the liberalisation process in Portugal leading to massive loss of jobs, generalisation of precariousness, no respect for workers by Portway and Groundforce and the absence of social policy of the Portuguese Government in the sector.

SITAVA requests:

- the end of the blackmail process of 256 workers threatened with layoffs by Vinci/Portway
- the establishment of a proper and constructive social dialogue with SITAVA in Groundforce in order to find a balanced and solid solution to the new challenges of the company
- the adoption and the implementation by the Government of the Parliament Recommendation approved on 31 March 2016 stopping the liberalisation process and cancelling the Order 14886-A (specifically rejecting the 3rd operator in Lisbon airport)

If a solution is not found for the ground handling workers in Portugal, the ETF will launch a call for solidarity actions by its affiliates in Europe.



President Lars Lindgren

General Secretary Eduardo Chagas

Vice Presidents Alexander Kirchner
Ekaterina Yordanova

