



Education International
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President
Susan Hopgood
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TO ALL MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

URGENT ACTION APPEAL - HAITI

Solidarity with teaching union leaders and activists in Haiti

Dear colleagues,

In March 2020, Education International alerted its member organisations to the increasingly concerning situation in Haiti, with the country experiencing a period of anarchy and general violence which is seriously affecting students, teachers and teaching unions.

Education International is today launching a new call for solidarity with our colleagues and the people of Haiti. We have been informed by our affiliate organisations, namely the *Confédération Nationale des Educatrices et Educateurs d'Haïti* (CNEH), the *Union Nationale des Normaliens/Normaliennes et Educateurs/Educatrices d'Haïti* (UNNOEH) and the *Union Nationale des Normaliens d'Haïti* (UNNOH), of the Ministry of Education's sudden decision to arbitrarily transfer several teaching union leaders and activists. Magalie Georges, General Secretary of the CNEH, and Georges Franck, UNNOEH Coordinator, received transfer notices to areas located far from their places of residence. Josué Mérilien, UNNOH Coordinator, has had his salary suspended.

These punitive measures have been taken while education unions are mobilising in favour of a resumption of school activities that guarantees that the rights of teachers, students and parents are protected. Such transfers and salary suspensions will prevent unionists from carrying out their legitimate activities, which are particularly necessary to protect workers in the context of the global health crisis that is severely impacting the living conditions of Haiti's citizens, as is the case elsewhere in the world.

Education International is asking your organisation to protest these serious attacks on freedom of association by taking the following actions:

- Send a letter of protest to the Ministry of Education. A [template letter](#) is attached.

- Contact the Haitian embassy or consulate in your country, asking your diplomatic representatives to condemn these violations.

You can also show your solidarity by making your members aware of the situation in Haiti, on your websites and social media.

Please also keep EI informed of your actions in support of our colleagues in Haiti, by sending a copy of any letters you might write to the Secretariat (headoffice@ei-ie.org).

Thank you for your solidarity.



David Edwards
General Secretary