

RESOLUTION ON ANGOLA

The Education International Africa Regional Committee (EIARC), meeting in Johannesburg, from 20 -22 March 2023,

1. Concerned about the Government of Angola's response and handling of teachers' legitimate demands for improved remuneration;
2. Noting that since 2019, strikes have gone through several stages and negotiations with some progress on certain issues, yet others remain unresolved;
3. Considering that Education is a basic human right and a public good and that a highly valued teaching profession is a prerequisite for providing high quality education for all as envisioned in the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 4;
4. Observing that the Government of Angola has ratified the ILO Fundamental Conventions, including C87 on Freedom of Association and Protection of the Right to Organize and C98 on the Right to Organize and Collective Bargaining;
5. Concerned that education workers are paid subsidies or allowances lower than those of workers in other sectors;
6. Observing that there have been several industrial unrests since 2019 between the teachers' representatives with little response from the government: continuously affecting teaching and learning in a country still recovering from the impact of civil war; and,
7. Concerned that for 3 years the government has ignored the implementation of a Memorandum of Understanding signed with the union causing unnecessary repeated frustrations to the teaching profession;

The Education International Africa Region Committee (EIRAC) Calls on the Government of Angola to:

1. Consider teacher trade unions as equal partners in relation to developments affecting the education sector and provide space for genuine and continuous social and policy dialogue in line with international labour standards;
2. Respect the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed between the government and the teacher representatives by moving with speed to implement the agreements within the given time frames; and,
3. Harmonize the remuneration of teachers with counterpart professionals to ensure equal pay for work of equal value.