

solidarity with



wednesday 2 september 6pm

stop police attacks - release arrested unionists - defend union rights - no more sackings

public meeting - trades hall, lygon street carlton

Ssangyong car workers occupied their factory at Pyeongtaek in protest against mass sackings. The occupation has now concluded and the union is negotiating with the company, but many unionists are in hospital because they were injured in police attacks. Many are in jail. The Korean Metal Workers Union and the KCTU are asking all unionists for continued solidarity. Come to this meeting to discuss what we can do.

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solidarity with ssangyong workers



Workers at the Ssangyong car company were subjected to mass sackings and they occupied the Ssangyong factory in Pyeongtaek in protest.

The KCTU conducted a general strike in support of the Ssangyong unionists. The KMWU organised a major solidarity rally attended by 10,000 unionists who marched to the Pyeongtaek factory to support the occupation.

The company and South Korean government responded with violent police attacks against the strikers and solidarity supporters including the use of riot police baton charges and chemical agents. The occupation has now ended, and many unionists are in hospital with severe injuries and more than 60 have been arrested.

The International Metalworkers Federation (IMF) has organised an international solidarity campaign sending protest messages to the South Korean government and support for the KMWU.

The company is in negotiations with the union, but the situation remains precarious. The KMWU has issued a global request for continued solidarity actions.

motion endorsed by vthc council 6 august 09:

This meeting notes the appeal issued by the Korean Metal Workers Union (KMWU), the Korean Confederation of Trade Unions (KCTU) and the International Metalworkers Federation (IMF) against police attacks and for solidarity with Ssangyong workers, who have been on strike since 21 May and have occupied the Ssangyong Pyeongtaek factory. This meeting supports the solidarity calls of the KMWU, the KCTU and IMF.

This meeting resolves to support a protest rally against Ssangyong management and the South Korean Government to demand that police attacks on strikers cease, the blockade of the occupation be lifted, that arrested unionists be released, that all charges against arrested unionists dropped, and that meaningful negotiation be conducted with the KMWU.

The rally will be held at 12:30 pm on Tuesday 11 August in front of the Korean Trade Centre, 468 St Kilda Road Melbourne. The Victorian Trades Hall Council will notify all affiliates, and urge them to attend the rally and send messages of solidarity to the KMWU and KCTU. The Victorian Trades Hall Council will contact the KMWU and KCTU to notify them of our action, express our solidarity and promise our continued support for the campaign for workers' rights and union rights in Korea.



KCTU: kctu.org **KMWU:** metal.nodong.org **IMF:** imfmetal.org **AMWU:** amwu.org.au

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