Resolution Calling on Gap to Act on the Labor Dispute at its Philippine Supplier Factory Faremo

Whereas, garment workers of Gap supplier factory Faremo International Inc., located in the biggest export zone in the Philippines, have been protesting at the picket lines for more than a month now; and

Whereas, last October 26 a thousand Faremo workers, mostly women, were laid off and locked out, as management declared closure due to lack of orders, an allegation that has been contradicted by Gap's statement that it has in fact increased it purchases for this year; and

Whereas, the labor union at Faremo contends that the closure is a scheme to bust the union and destroy the collective bargaining agreement concluded last June; and

Whereas, despite repeated demands by the union, Faremo has refused to pay legally mandated wages and CBA provided benefits; and

Whereas, the union is not aware and is not participant to any re-employment program for the dismissed workers as claimed by Faremo and its mother company Hansoll of Korea; and

Whereas, on the contrary, the union knows of a blacklisting move as the names and pictures of Faremo union officers and members were sent to at least two other garments factories within the export zone; and

Whereas, union busting and blacklisting are grave violations of the supplier code of conduct of Gap which commits to ensuring freedom of association and anti-discrimination;

Therefore Be it Resolved, that the San Francisco Labor Council demand that Gap remediate the code of conduct violations at its supplier Faremo at Hansoll; and

Be it Further Resolved that the San Francisco Labor Council call on Gap to persuade [or compel] its supplier Faremo and Hansoll to keep the factory open, reinstate the dismissed workers, respect the union and the CBA, and pay the mandated wages and benefits due its workers in the soonest possible time.

Submitted by Alan Benjamin, OPEIU 29, and adopted by the Executive Committee of the San Francisco Labor Council on December 13, 2016.

Respectfully,

Tim Paulson
Executive Director

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