Resolution to Support Namibian Minner’s Labor Lawyer Hewat Beukes & to End the Shut Off Of His Water & Electricity

Whereas, the San Francisco Labor Council voted to support the nine dismissed Namibian Mineworkers Union Rossing Branch union leadership who had been fired by the Chinese National Nuclear Corporation CNNC; and

Whereas, on July 20, 2021 Namibian police surrounded the home of their lawyer Hewat Beukes in Khomasdal and tried to illegally gain entrance to their home without a warrant and government authorities also have cut-off supplies of water and electricity in the middle of the Covid lockdown in Namibia; and

Whereas, Namibian lawyer Hewat Beukes also represents the Namibia United Fisherman’s union as well as many other workers in Namibia; and

Whereas, Erica Beukes his wife, who leads the Namibia Workers Help Center which has supported community members around housing, justice and health; and

Whereas, other disabled residents of their home are also threatened by this action and this is causing a health hazard to the Beukes and other residents; and

Whereas, this attack on the Beukes is not only an attack on them but the Rossing mine union leaders and working people in Namibia and a threat to legal representation for all; and

Whereas, the next labor arbitration hearing for the MUN Rossing Miners is on October 27, 2021; and

Whereas, there will be an international day of action in solidarity with the fired Rossing miners and against forced contract and part time temporary work,

Therefore be it Resolved we call on the Namibian government to end to this government harassment of lawyer Beukes and his family and immediately end the shutoff of his water and electricity; and

Be it Further Resolved we support the International Day of Action for the MUN Rossing fired mine union branch leaders, in defense of their lawyer Hewat Beukes; and

Be it Further Resolved we encourage financial contributions to Hewat Beukes legal defense and that of the Mineworkers Union of Namibia Rossing Branch fired members; and

Be it Further Resolved we call on Namibian government officials to halt this political targeting of the lawyer Hewat Beukes for his legal work in support of the struggle of the Namibian unions and working people; and

Be it Finally Resolved this Council will contact the below officials to let them know of our concerns urge all affiliated bodies to concur with this action and send statements of their own.