Geneva, 28 August 2018

To Siniša Kosić
President
Metal Workers' Trade Union of Croatia (SMH-IS)
Trg Kralja Petra Kresimira IV br. 2 10 000 Zagreb
Croatia

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# IndustriALL Global Union in solidarity with SMH-IS at shipyards in Croatia

Dear Brother Siniša,

I am writing this letter to you as the General Secretary of IndustriALL Global Union, which represents more than fifty million workers in mining, energy and manufacturing sectors throughout the world, to reiterate our full support and solidarity with SMH-IS's struggle to defend workers' rights at the Uljanik shipyard in Pula and the 3.Maj shipyard in Rijeka in the Istrian Peninsula, Croatia.

IndustriALL Global Union fully supports the struggle of SMH-IS to defend jobs in the shipbuilding industry in Croatia, and in particular, we rally behind you on the strike action 4,500 workers have taken at the Uljanik shipbuilding company, after the financially troubled company failed to pay their wages for July.

It is vitally important that the workers at Uljanik receive their salaries and that their jobs are saved. Shipbuilding is a cornerstone of Croatian industry. These are skilled jobs within a complex supply chain, which is critical to the local economy.

It is also vital that a long term strategy to ensure the sustainability of these yards is found. A restructuring plan, which is subject to approval from the European Commission should be finalized without further delay. Workers suffer as the company lurches from crisis to crisis, and the government cannot keep lending public money to privatized industries. It is important to add that we fully appreciate the efforts of industriAll Europe in getting European Union (EU) support.

IndustriALL Global Union stands shoulder to shoulder with the metal workers at Uljanik and 3.Maj in their fight to defend their fundamental rights.

In solidarity,

Valter Sanches
General Secretary