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NEW ZEALAND COUNCIL OF TRADE UNIONS

www.union.org.nz

Te Kauae Kaimahi

22 March 2010

President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni

Government of Uganda

To President Museveni

The New Zealand Council of Trade Unions is deeply distressed about legislation before your Government in Uganda that would impose the death penalty or life imprisonment for some homosexual acts, require people to report any lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals they know and criminalise renting property to gay men and women. At a recent meeting the New Zealand Council of Trade Unions (NZCTU) passed a resolution of unanimous support condemning the anti homosexuality Bill before the Ugandan parliament.

The NZCTU is the largest democratic and representative organisation in New Zealand representing 40 affiliated trade unions. The NZCTU is a member organisation of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC). As part of its constitutional structure the NZCTU has a standing committee to represent and advance the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) workers.

The NZCTU supports other governments around the world and citizens in Uganda who are calling on your Government to withdraw the anti-homosexual Bill and to protect the human rights of all citizens as embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other human rights conventions. We urge your Government to uphold values of peace, justice and tolerance.

The measures being proposed in the anti homosexuality Bill are widely condemned around the world. We stand in solidarity with governments, human rights organisations and citizens against any actions or measures that would marginalise, criminalise and penalise LGBTI people and their communities.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Helen Kelly". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Helen Kelly

President,

New Zealand Council of Trade Unions

c.c Hon Murray McCully, Minister of Foreign Affairs, New Zealand Government