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ITUC-AFRICA Condemns the Argentina Government Resolution 943/2023 that Criminalises Social Protests and Curtails the Right to Freedom of Expression.

The African Regional Organisation of the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC-Africa: <https://www.ituc-africa.org/>) express profound dismay and condemnation concerning Resolution 943/2023 recently promulgated by the Ministry of Security of the Argentine Republic.

This resolution, purportedly established to outline a "Protocol for the maintenance of public order in the face of roadblocks," egregiously endows unchecked authority upon the Federal Police and Security Forces, directly infringing upon the basic rights of individuals and trade union entities.

We are deeply troubled by the disregard for judicial protections embedded within this resolution, enabling the identification of demonstrators and unjustly discriminating based on nationality. Further alarming is the provision creating a registry of participating organizations in mobilizations, coupled with the potential for legal repercussions against individuals and entities to cover incurred "operational costs" in quelling perceived "illegitimate acts."

This authoritarian maneuver unfolds amidst a precarious economic landscape, marked by severe fiscal adjustments, destined to yield grave social repercussions.

ITUC-Africa firmly denounce this veiled attempt by the Argentinean government to stifle legitimate dissent against the detrimental impact of its policies, veiled behind the guise of preserving order and addressing traffic disruptions. These actions flagrantly curtail fundamental rights and freedoms.

We urgently implore the Argentine government to swiftly reconsider this resolution and unequivocally uphold the human rights and essential freedoms of workers. We call upon the global community to unite in censuring these authoritarian tactics and to remain vigilant against any erosion of democracy and civil liberties within Argentina.

Resolution 943/2023 does not only assail fundamental freedoms; it aims to silence the collective voice of the Argentinean populace during a pivotal juncture for the nation. ITUC-Africa supports and stands in solidarity with the Argentinean national trade unions, aligns with the positions of TUCA and ITUC in urging the government to redirect its course and genuinely commit to safeguarding democratic and social rights in Argentina.

Lastly, we extend our unwavering solidarity and resolute support to the trade unions in Argentina, standing in defense of justice, freedom, and the sanctity of fundamental rights.

Yours sincerely,

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General Secretary, ITUC-Africa.