

OLME

GREEK FEDERATION OF SECONDARY EDUCATION STATE SCHOOL TEACHERS

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His Excellency Ali Abdullah Saleh, President of the

Republic of Yemen

Office of the President, Sanaa

Republic of Yemen

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19/05/2011

Re: Stop the killing of teachers and peaceful protesters

Dear President,

On behalf of OLME, the Greek Federation of Secondary Education State School Teachers, we are writing to condemn in the strongest possible terms the shooting of peaceful protestors including teachers, students and unionists.

The crackdown on the pro-democracy movement is escalating. The Yemen Teachers Syndicate (YTS) informed the international teacher unions community that 20 teachers have already been killed. Amongst them were:

- Murad Abdalhak Alouraqui,
- Abdullah Ahmed Alhumaikani,
- Ali Ahmed Alfalahi,
- Muhamed Hussein Althalaya,
- Naji Musleh Nasm, and
- Awad Alsarihi.

OLME is very concerned about the escalating violence in Sanaa and other Yemeni cities. Police fired live ammunition to break up demonstrations in front of the education ministry in Taiz where teachers were opposing salary cuts and attempts to force them to stop a strike called by their union YTS. The security forces also arrested many activists, including women and young people.

OLME urges the Yemeni authorities to:

- Stop the bloodshed and the firing of live ammunition by security forces, snipers and police;
- Respect the fundamental rights and freedoms of teachers and union activists in accordance with international standards;
- Engage in respectful dialogue to bring about a peaceful resolution of the legitimate claims of the people, including demands related to education and training;
- Respect trade union rights as a pillar of democratic development.

We look forward to hearing about your positive intervention on this very serious matter.

Yours sincerely,

For the E. B. of OLME

The President

The General Secretary



Dimitris Peppes

Nikos Papachristos