

# GENERAL INDUSTRIES WORKERS UNION OF SA

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**TO: ALL COMRADES IN SOLIDARITY WITH WORKERS STRUGGLE IN SA.**

AN INTERNATIONAL APPEAL: SUPPORT GIWUSA AND CLOVER STRIKE IN SOUTH AFRICA!

*Post-apartheid South Africa has moved from the promise of reform to outright capitalist policies leading to a precipitous fall in employment and mass misery for the workers. Corporate bodies such as MILCO, an Israeli company owned by the Central Bottling Company (CBC), have taken advantage of an open economy. It bought out the 120 year old dairy producer, Clover, which is the largest dairy company in the country and followed through with venture capital asset stripping. It's possible that the closure of plants in rural communities will turn Clover into a distribution company with replacement products imported from Israel by CBC.*

*This attack has led to the strongest fighting strike by food and distribution unions, GIWUSA and FAWU, which have mobilized support from communities and other unions. The Clover struggle brings together two strands of solidarity; that of elementary workers' defense and of solidarity with the Palestinian people. MILCO, CBC, is owned by the billionaire Israeli Wertheim family and is notorious in Israel for taking advantage of monopoly power and repression to further its profits. Shamelessly, it also supports illegal Israeli settlements in Palestine through the bank Mizrahi. Coca-Cola services the illegal settlements and they also run dairy farms on illegally seized Palestinian lands.*

*Workers have now been out on a nation-wide strike for more than 10 weeks; showing determination second to none. The union has run down its reserves, has given the strikers everything possible and faces a challenge to pay its officials.*

*How can we support this struggle and force the SA government to reverse its decision to allow the asset stripping of Clover? How to achieve the nationalization of the company to reverse retrenchments and closures to save jobs and small rural towns dependent on Clover?*

*As in the fight against apartheid, the role of international solidarity is vital. More and more, workers in every country are having to face global companies that have no boundaries.*

*A victory in our struggle will not only aid us but be a victory for all workers around the world.*

*We need your help to make it happen.*

*Please consider a **donation** to the union's funds and a resolution of solidarity and support for our struggle. We also urge that you send statements of solidarity for us to the South African government which approved this takeover despite united opposition from all labour unions in South Africa.*

*We also would be happy to speak to your membership through Zoom to give a front row view of this struggle*

*An Injury To One Is An Injury To All!*

#### **BANK DETAILS**

**Please mark all contributions as "GIWUSA SUPPORT FUND"; we will acknowledge your support!**

Donate to the **GIWUSA Solidarity Fund:**

Account name: GIWUSA

Bank: Nedbank

Account No: 1180111508

Account type: Cheque account

Branch Code: 10210900

Reference: GIWUSA Support

OR

PayPal: [workerssolidarityfund@gmail.com](mailto:workerssolidarityfund@gmail.com)

Comradely



Mametlwe Sebei  
President