



الشبكة النقابية للهجرة ببلدان المتوسط و جنوب الصحراء  
Réseau syndical migrations méditerranéennes subsahariennes  
Mediterranean – subsaharan migration trade union network

## Tunis Declaration

**The members of the General Assembly of the Mediterranean Sub-Saharan Migration Trade Union Network (RSMMS)**, who met in Tunis, are very pleased of the debate level that was reached at the international conference held on 2 and 3 July 2019, in the presence of participants from Tunisia and about one hundred international guests representing 26 trade unions from West Africa, North Africa and Europe, regional trade unions and relevant international institutions and organizations to discuss migration governance, social dialogue, regularization and mobility of migrant workers.

In addition, the members express their appreciation of the quality of the training workshop of the Network Focal Points held in Tunis on 30 June and 1 July 2019, which reflects the start of coordinated trade union assistance for migrants, and in consultation with civil society actors.

Also, RSMMS members stress the persistence of the failure of current development models, the escalation of conflict and violence, poor governance and corruption as the main causes of migration. Furthermore, the members shed the light on the disengagement of the majority of Sub-Saharan countries from their nationals abroad, the lack of fair management of migration flows by the Maghreb governments who are slow to assume full responsibility for the necessary regularization of migrants situations according to international standards, as well as the unilateral management of migration issues by the governments of Europe which are dismissing European trade unions from cross-border considerations of labour mobility.

RSMMS members reaffirm their principled position on the need for tripartite social dialogue in each of the three regions of the world which they represent, to contribute to the development of equitable policies based on respect for fundamental human rights, and workers rights in particular.

The members of the Network denounce the xenophobic and racist drift that feeds the migration policies which were carried out during the recent years. They also express their indignation at the attempts to criminalize migrants and the assistance they receive. They alert public opinion to the opportunism and political calculations that stigmatize migrants and divert the citizens of the three regions from the real problems.

Equally, RSMMS members express their outrage at what they see as a war crime following the air raid that cost the lives of more than 50 migrants in Libya. They reiterate their strong opposition to the very existence of detention centers such as that of Tajoura.

We observe that:

- Our states choose the security approach and are unable to develop policies that respect the rights of migrant workers and members of their families;
- The militarization of borders promotes the capture of internal resources and development aid, without providing coherent and relevant responses to the situations of insecurity and vulnerability of populations.

We emphasize that:

- The unions are developing pilot activities, articulating trade union solidarity between countries of departure, transit and destination, with a view to proposing new policies that commensurate with the current challenges;
- The work of the Network and Migrant Spaces focal points which was established within the unions of different countries, as well as the inter-regional cooperation promoted by the RSMMS, are able to promote unity of action in the international trade union movement around the world with regard to reception, assistance, advice and defense of migrant workers.

**The Fifth General Assembly of the Mediterranean Sub-Saharan Migration Trade Union Network (RSMMS), which has strong membership initiatives and accumulated experience since its establishment in 2014, proclaims the following:**

- The need for the ratification and application of international conventions (United Nations and ILO) for migrants;
- The reaffirmation of the fundamental mission of trade union organizations to defend, inform and assist all migrant workers (regular and irregular), so that they have the same rights as those of national workers;
- Refusal to endorse readmission agreements;
- The right of migrant workers regardless of their legal status, to membership of trade unions, as provided for in international conventions on migrant workers;
- The willingness to contribute to the implementation and follow-up and review of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in its dimension of labour migration and decent work;
- Strengthening cooperation in all geographical directions, and developing alliances with other actors working for migrant workers;
- Its active role in the development and implementation of bilateral and multilateral labour agreements;
- The provision of its expertise for a better understanding of the situation, including the data collection on labour migration;
- The mobilization of members to carry out a cross-regional sensitization campaign among trade union members and populations, with a view to combating xenophobic and racist excesses and feeding into a constructive debate based on data and evidence.

**Tunis, July 4<sup>th</sup> 2019**

**List of trade union organizations members of the  
Mediterranean Subsaharan Migration Trade Union Network (RSMMS)**

*(as of July 4, 2019 - List updated after the 5<sup>th</sup> GA)*

Country	Designation	Acronym
<b>General coordination of the RSMMS (&amp; member)</b>		
<b>1. Tunisia</b>	1. Union Générale Tunisienne du Travail	<b>UGTT</b>
<b>Trade unions members of the RSMMS</b>		
<b>2. Algeria</b>	2. Confédération Générale Autonome des Travailleurs en Algérie	<b>CGATA</b>
<b>3. Belgium</b>	3. Confédération des Syndicats Chrétiens	<b>CSC</b>
<b>4. Benin</b>	4. Union Nationale des Syndicats des Travailleurs du Bénin	<b>UNSTB</b>
<b>5. Burkina Faso</b>	5. Union Syndicale des Travailleurs du Burkina	<b>USTB</b>
<b>6. Côte d'Ivoire</b>	6. Union Générale des Travailleurs de Côte d'Ivoire	<b>UGTCI</b>
<b>7. Spain</b>	7. Confederación Sindical de Comisiones Obreras	<b>CCOO</b>
	8. Unión Sindical Obrera	<b>USO</b>
	9. Unión General de Trabajadores	<b>UGT</b>
<b>8. France</b>	10. Confédération Française Démocratique du Travail	<b>CFDT</b>
	11. Confédération Générale du Travail	<b>CGT</b>
<b>9. Italy</b>	12. Confederazione Generale Italiana del Lavoro	<b>CGIL</b>
	13. Unione Italiana del Lavoro	<b>UIL</b>
<b>10. Mali</b>	14. Confédération Syndicale des Travailleurs du Mali	<b>CSTM</b>
	15. Union Nationale des Travailleurs du Mali	<b>UNTM</b>
<b>11. Morocco</b>	16. Confédération Démocratique du Travail	<b>CDT</b>
	17. Union Marocaine du Travail	<b>UMT</b>
<b>12. Mauritania</b>	18. Confédération Générale des Travailleurs de Mauritanie	<b>CGTM</b>
	19. Union des Travailleurs de Mauritanie	<b>UTM</b>
<b>13. Niger</b>	20. Union des Syndicats des Travailleurs du Niger	<b>USTN</b>
	21. Confédération Nigérienne du Travail	<b>CNT</b>
	22. Confédération Démocratique des Travailleurs du Niger	<b>CDTN</b>
<b>14. Portugal</b>	23. Confederação Geral dos Trabalhadores Portugueses – Intersindical Nacional	<b>CGTP-IN</b>
<b>15. Senegal</b>	24. Confédération Nationale des Travailleurs du Sénégal	<b>CNTS</b>
	25. Confédération Nationale des Travailleurs du Sénégal - Forces du changement	<b>CNTS-FC</b>
	26. Confédération des Syndicats Autonomes	<b>CSA</b>
	27. Union Démocratique des Travailleurs du Sénégal	<b>UDTS</b>
	28. Union Nationale des Syndicats Autonomes du Sénégal	<b>UNSA</b>
<b>16. Togo</b>	29. Confédération Syndicale des Travailleurs du Togo	<b>CSTT</b>

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