



**THE CONFEDERATION OF CANADIAN UNIONS
LA CONFÉDÉRATION DES SYNDICATS CANADIENS**

His Excellency Lt General Seretse Khama Ian Khama
President of Botswana
Private Bag 001
GABERONE
BOTSWANA

June 7, 2011

Dear Mr. President,

I write on behalf of the affiliates of the Confederation of Canadian Unions to express our deep concern with regard to reports of unlawful acts of intimidation on the part of the employer relating to the Public services strike.

The Confederation of Canadian Unions supports the right of all workers to freedom of association including the right to bargain collectively free of intimidation and fear of reprisal.

We find the Governments wage offer of 5% to be unreasonable given the fact that inflation rates in Botswana are well above 5% and that the workers have just endured a three year wage freeze. We strongly urge the government to return to the table in good faith and to respect the rights of public sector workers to bargain collectively.

Sincerely,

John Hanrahan
Vice President, Confederation of Canadian Unions