CONFEDERATION OF CANADIAN UNIONS
CONFÉDÉRATION DES SYNDICATS CANADIENS

P.O. Box 1117, Station B, Ottawa, Ontario CANADA K1P 5R2

October 27, 2010

Nguyen Tan Dung
Office of the Prime Minister
Hoang Hoa Tham
Ha Noi
Socialist Republic of Vietnam
By fax 844 3823 1872

To the Prime Minister

I write on behalf of the Confederation of Canadian Unions to urge your government to intervene in the case of the jailed trade unionists Doan Huy Chuong, Nguyen Hoang Quoc, and Do Thi Minh Hanh. We advocate the immediate release of these individuals.

From the many articles in the international media regarding this case and from the Vietnamese government's history of imprisoning union activists, it is clear to us that these individuals have been jailed solely as a result of engaging in just and legal union activity. It is our understanding that the actions these individuals engaged in were legal activities under Vietnam's constitution and under international instruments to which your government is a signatory.

The Confederation of Canadian Unions supports the right of all workers to bargain collectively with employers without the fear of being intimidated or deprived of liberty. We view the Vietnamese government's actions towards these individuals to be a violation of basic human rights, contrary to the principles of natural justice, and damaging to the international reputation of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

The CCU along with many other national and international organizations will continue to monitor the Vietnamese government's action in this case with grave interest and concern.

Yours sincerely,

John Hanrahan
Vice President
Confederation of Canadian Unions