

**Position paper on  
Chinese Construction behavior in Pakistan and follow up as  
suggested in meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> February with ILO mission in Pakistan**

**Neelam Jehlum Hydro Power Project – Muzaffarabad AJ&K:**

This Hydro Power Project was started in 2008 in the Muzaffarabad, Azad Jammu and Kashmir. The WAPDA is the client of this Project. The Chinese MNC , CGGC and CMEC are working in this project in 2010 the workers were organized by Awami Labour Union and a union namely Awami Labour Union- Neelam Jehlum Hydro Power Project was registered which was declared collective bargaining agent CBA by the labour department of Muzaffarabad , AJ&K.

The union gave a charter of demands to the Chinese Joint Venture which was discussed and an agreement was signed but not implemented by the management. Later on, with the help of WAPDA authority another agreement was signed, regarding termination benefits to the workers under the law which was a collective agreement and implemented. However, the company has terminated workers illegally and against the labour law. The union filed some cases of illegal terminations in the labour court which has not been decided even 9 years has been passed.

The union paid huge fees to the advocates because the case was decided and appealed by the management in the labour tribunal, high court and then supreme court of AJ&K, these case are still referred to labour court again but in AJ&K, labour courts are still no move function and a new labour commission is formed by the authority which is still not working and thus the workers are facing much problems being unemployed and attending the cases in court and still waiting for decisions. We want to bring that in your knowledge that Pakistan federation of building and wood workers (PFBWW) requested to Building and Wood Workers international (BWI) to file a case in the ILO regarding the freedom of association and collective bargaining ILO Convention # 87 and 98. The BWI filed this case which was later on finalized and gave its recommendations to the Government of Pakistan that due to completion of NJHP Project, the workers may be compensated instead of reinstatement on duty. We want to point out regretfully that the ILO recommendations for compensation to workers upto now has not been

implemented by AJK Labour Department for onward powers to implement it through WAPDA authorities. This point was also raised in the meeting of 11<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2020 with ILO mission. Bro. Zahoor Awan also wrote to ILO Pakistan and Federal Government regarding this issue and also directly discussed with the Director Labour Government of AJ&K Muzzafarabad which still need ILO Country Office Islamabad for their interaction with AJK Labour Department that workers now need compensation in lieu of reinstatement as recommended by ILO CFA Committee.