

STATEMENT FOR SUBMISSION AT THE RENGO/TUAC SYMPOSIUM ON THE OECD GUIDELINES

MTUC Secretary General G. Rajasekaran conveys his apologies for his inability to participate in this important symposium and has requested me to make the following submission on his behalf:

MTUC was delighted when OECD relaunched the guidelines on multinationals.

In Malaysia, MTUC together with ICFTU-APRO and TUAC held a series of meetings with union leaders from the Region to create awareness of the OECD guidelines and the mechanism available to raise complaints against any MNCs originating from OECD countries.

In the name of globalisation, many MNC's are adopting dubious and unethical means to evade union recognition and refuse to bargain with the union. Many MNC's are also using the judicial review as a way to cause protracted delay in settlement of industrial disputes.

On 12 March 2003, MTUC submitted a formal complaint to the National Contact Point, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan regarding violation of the OECD Guidelines by Top Thermo Manufacturers (M) Sdn. Bhd.

MTUC received an acknowledgement.

With the help of ICFTU-APRO a meeting was arranged in April 2003, to review the complaint together with RENGO, IMF-JC and local union representing the parent company in Japan.

Unfortunately the NCP in Japan did not take any action on MTUC's complaint.

MTUC is of the view that unless NCP take their responsibilities more seriously and make genuine effort to find an amicable solution between the parties involved the guidelines will be of no effect.

MTUC is mindful that it is only a guideline and OECD cannot enforce it with any authority. NCP's and OECD can do more.