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## UNIFOR LOCAL UNIONS

Greetings,

### Philippines Emergency Relief – Typhoon Haiyan

Here in Canada, as most Canadians were enjoying their weekend with friends and family, in the Philippines, families were being torn apart as Typhoon Haiyan ripped through their country. Today they are just beginning to get a clearer picture of the scale of devastation caused by one of the worst storms ever recorded.

The devastation in the Philippines has affected 9.5 million people, with more than 800,000 displaced and a death toll that remains uncertain. As well, the thousands of people that had already been displaced by the recent earthquake and were living in temporary shelters are now once again facing a challenge many of us will never face in our lives – the challenge of survival.

The desolation in the impoverished and densely populated nation of 96 million has left people speechless. Words are not what are needed. Instead, immediate action is needed – action from all of us to respond to those who did survive.

Our union through our Social Justice Fund will immediately donate \$50,000 to the Oxfam-Canada Philippines Typhoon Emergency Response who are the ground making sure people have clean water, safe sanitation and a roof over their heads.

Today, I am asking you to join in supporting those who have been affected by this tragedy by making a contribution to the Social Justice Fund. The Canadian government will set aside an additional dollar for the *Philippines crisis matching fund* for every dollar that is donated by individual Canadians by **December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2013**. These funds will be allocated appropriately as we work with the global trade union community to identify the most appropriate agencies to work with in direct relief and rebuilding efforts.

In order to donate, please make the cheque payable to: **'SJF Philippine Relief Effort'** and mailed to the Unifor National office - 205 Placer Court, Toronto, ON M2H 3H9. *A tax receipt will be issued for contributions of \$20 and over.* For more information, please contact Unifor International Director Annie Labaj at [annie.labaj@unifor.org](mailto:annie.labaj@unifor.org) or 1-800-268-5763.

Thank you in advance for your generosity during this terrible tragedy.

In solidarity,

Jerry Dias  
National President

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copies: Assistants, National Executive Board, National Representatives, Support Staff, Co-ordinators