



INTERNATIONAL UNION, UNITED AUTOMOBILE, AEROSPACE & AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKERS OF AMERICA – UAW

DENNIS D. WILLIAMS, *PRESIDENT* GARY CASTEEL, *SECRETARY-TREASURER*
VICE-PRESIDENTS: TERRY DITTES • CINDY ESTRADA • JIMMY SETTLES

April 11, 2018

Hon. Sergio Silva Do Amaral
Brazilian Ambassador to the United States
3006 Massachusetts Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20008

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

On behalf of the one million active and retired members of the International Union, UAW, I am writing to express our outrage regarding the conviction and imprisonment of former president Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, known as “Lula.” We are equally outraged over the denial of his *habeas corpus* motion. We are also deeply concerned that the judicial process in Lula’s case has been wrought with politics designed to keep him off the ballot in the 2018 presidential elections.

Lula’s trial was unfair because the verdict was issued by the judge who also prosecuted the case. Now that same judge, Sergio Moro, has issued the order for Lula to be put in prison. This process was further tainted because Judge Moro endorsed a book demonizing Lula prior to issuing his decisions.

Judge Moro hired the accounting firm KPMG to investigate Lula. Upon completion, KPMG announced publicly that it found no evidence of corruption or wrong-doing. During the trial, Lula's defense team presented evidence that neither he nor any relative ever owned the property that was allegedly given to him as a bribe. Judge Moro did not dispute this evidence.

We see this as a travesty of justice and a step backwards for a democratic Brazil which was under a military dictatorship not so long ago. A stable democracy means a stable economy especially for Brazil’s auto industry. Our union and many of the metalworker unions in Brazil represent members at some of the same major automotive multi-national companies. We are concerned that destabilization in Brazil could have an economic ripple effect throughout the Americas.

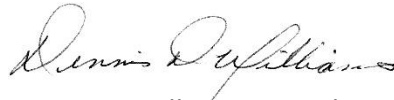
Therefore, we call on the government of Brazil to comply immediately with its treaty obligations and customary international law as well as protect the fundamental rights to due process of law and to a fair trial by pursuing the following measures:

Hon. Sergio Silva Do Amaral
Brazilian Ambassador to the United States
April 11, 2018
Page 2

- Immediate release of Lula until the appeals process has been completed in accordance with the Brazilian constitution.
- An impartial review of Lula's case by judiciary not connected to the Temer government.
- Allow Lula to run for the presidency in this year's election.

The government of Brazil must support and respect a transparent judicial system based on fundamental democratic principles.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dennis Williams".

Dennis Williams, President
International Union, UAW

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