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badidas: all in sweatshops

March 21, 2013

Dear President Coleman,

This Thursday, March 21st, the United Students Against Sweatshops (USAS) chapter at the University of Michigan are **Working Out for Worker's Rights**. We are flexing and stretching our muscles in solidarity for the former PT Kizone workers in Indonesia. We are training and preparing ourselves to continue the struggle against Adidas as we demand that they pay PT Kizone workers their legally-owed severance. President Coleman, we ask that you join us in solidarity by committing to non-renewal of the University's contract with Adidas.

It has been almost two years since the PT Kizone factory closed. The workers still have not been paid the \$1.8 million of severance that they are legally owed. They struggle to feed their families, send their children to school, and to survive without their day-to-day necessities. Eight Universities have now dropped Adidas, the latest being Pennsylvania State University, a fellow member of the Big Ten. Are the Wolverines going to remain idle while other schools lead the forefront in protecting workers' rights?

Two former PT Kizone workers, Aslam and Heni, visited the University of Michigan last month to share their story with our administration. During their meeting with your Advisory Committee on Labor Standards and Human Rights, they revealed the fallibility of Adidas' account of the situation. The food vouchers that Adidas gave to the workers are nowhere near equitable to the amount of severance Adidas owes the workers. Our University must not continue to support a company that violates workers' rights and fair labor standards. Our University must commit to not renew its contract with Adidas.

It is up to our University, which has the largest Adidas contract, to show the world that we stand for human rights, as laid out in our Code of Conduct. It is up to our University, whose apparel was made at PT-Kizone, to join the workers in solidarity. It is up to our University, and it is up to you President Coleman, to commit to non-renewal and drop Adidas.

In solidarity,

United Students Against Sweatshops at the University of Michigan

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