UNION DUES

1. The Trade Unions Congress of Kenya is deeply concerned about the continuing blatant abuse of the law by the Teachers Service Commission in total disregard to Section 48 (2) of the Labour Relations Act that compels them as an employer to deduct trade union dues from the wages of the members of the Kenya National Union of Teachers (KNUT) an affiliate of this Labour Center.

2. Without regard to due process and in contravention of Section 48 (6) of the Act, the Teachers Service Commission has without authorization by members as envisaged in the said Law stopped the said deductions for more than six months now, which action has rendered the Union incapable of executing its mandate in serving the teachers of this Republic.

3. Further, the said action has caused great financial strain on the Union who cannot now meet its financial obligations such as statutory...
deductions including payment of salaries to its employees and allowances to its officials.

4. The Trade Unions Congress of Kenya having considered the consequences of the action by the Teachers Service Commission observes as follows :-

(a) There exists a trade dispute as envisaged under Section 62 (i) of the Labour Relations Act.
(b) The Cabinet Secretary for Labour should exercise her mandate and immediately resolve the dispute.
(c) In the absence of an amicable solution, the matter calls for an industrial action and members are legally entitled to take any action as provided by the law.
(d) TUC-Ke will henceforth take over the matter and move to attempt to solve the stalemate.

ABUSE OF OFFICE BY THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF INTERIOR & CO-ORDINATION

The Trade Unions Congress is equally disturbed by the uncivil and unprocedural manner in which several Administrative Officers in the title of Chiefs and Assistant Chiefs working for the Kenya Government have been purportedly sacked from employment contrary to the Employment laws in place.
In all the cases cited, the Principal Secretary, Ministry of Interior and Coordination has acted in a manner that has embarrassed Public Officers who have families and friends who rely on and admire them. This has caused the said Officers stress and pecuniary embarrassment.

The Labour centre makes the following demands:

(i) That the Government and in particular the Principal Secretary Dr. Karanja Kibicho tender an apology to the said Officers.

(ii) That the Government re-instate the Officers to their jobs without conditions.

(iii) That if the Government has reason to believe that the Officers have acted in a manner contrary to their job descriptions, the due process as provided for by law be followed to cause disciplinary action.

(iv) That it is sad to note that even with the knowledge of one Chief having been shot with arrows, no Government officer has visited the victim in hospital or condemned the inhuman act.

(v) That failure by the Government to meet our demands, The Trade Unions Congress of Kenya in consultation with the Union of Kenya Civil Servants will without further reference to the Government move to seek legal redress as prudent.

TOM ODEGE

NATIONAL CHAIRMAN - TUC-Ke