## Meeting of the Council of the Socialist International United Nations, Geneva, 1-2 July 2016

## **Declaration on Equatorial Guinea**

The Council of the Socialist International, meeting at the United Nations in Geneva on 1-2 July 2016:

Expresses its solidarity with the people of Equatorial Guinea and its member party, the Convergence for Social Democracy (CPDS), following the presidential elections of 24 April 2016.

Considers that the elections, which were boycotted by the CPDS and the coalition of the Democratic Opposition Front (FOD), lack all credibility. Indeed, in a country where the incumbent president has ruled for 37 years, winning every election with over 95 percent of the vote, it is impossible to speak of democracy.

Condemns the stifling of opposition forces and the repressive political environment.

Further considers that the president and government of Equatorial Guinea are responsible for the widespread poverty, inequality, injustice and lack of opportunity that persist in spite of the oil wealth of the country.

Expresses the determination of the Socialist International to continue to stand by all democratic actors in Equatorial Guinea, who are stifled and prevented from engaging in the political life of the country.