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Caption 1: Press Statement of President Mitrevski on the square Macedonia, Skopje

Today the Federation of Trade Unions of Macedonia, CCM, organized an event for the celebration of First of May, the International Workers' Day on which the campaign "For safe and secure jobs" was promoted, on the square Macedonia in Skopje starting at 10.00. On this event 18 branch unions affiliated in CCM had their promotion with trade union and educational materials. Contribution to the celebration of this holiday and a support to the campaign gave the Macedonian Occupational Safety and Health Association (MOSHA).

The President of CCM, PhD Zivko Mitrevski gave a statement to the media and congratulated this holiday to all workers emphasizing that the union will continue to work on promotion of workers' rights.

"CCM as a massive trade union federation is determined to represent workers' rights and interests, to promote labor legislation and align it with the EU and European directives", said President Mitrevski. He pointed out that since 2010 several important laws have been passed, such as the Minimum Wage Law. And if we make a difference from 2010, 98.85 % the minimum wage was increased. We have implemented 19 EU directives in labor legislation, 8 ILO Conventions; we have defended from the worst economic and financial crisis the three basic pillars: we have not allowed mass layoffs, wage cuts, increasing of pension limit, but contrary, we have increased the wages, noted Mitrevski.

With the signing of the General Collective Agreement for the private sector of the economy the annual leave allowance has been given back for 2014 to all workers in the private sector. This year, we will continue with our joint activities to sign a general collective agreement for the public sector which will provide benefits for all employees in the sector.

The Federation of Trade Unions of Macedonia this year will launch the campaign "For safe and secure jobs". "As CCM we are ready through our demands on amending the Law on Health and Safety at Work to raise the responsibility of all stakeholders in the enterprise, to raise the importance of the President of the Trade Union Organization and to allow with these changes the President to be the Controller regarding the implementation of all safety measures. The employer shall be obliged to inform the President of TUO for all types of undertaken activities", said Mitrevski.

President Mitrevski noted that last year 98 accidents happen out of which 28 with fatalities. CCM this campaign will realize jointly with all stakeholders and we do expect the security of employees to be improved.

Upon completion of the activities regarding the celebration of the International Workers' Day, the Council of CCM held a Solemn Session of the Council on which members and invited guests were present.

