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**Solidarity with unions in Swaziland**  
TUC statement  
21 February 2010

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## **Swaziland Democracy Campaign**

Welcoming the launch of the Swaziland Democracy Campaign today (Sunday), TUC General Secretary Brendan Barber sent a message of solidarity with the trade unions in Swaziland to be read out at the launch.

“The TUC salutes the launch of the Swaziland Democracy Campaign, and we will do whatever we can to assist our colleagues in the Swaziland Federation of Labour and the Swaziland Federation of Trade Unions.

“Trade unions have always been at the forefront of campaigns for democracy. We demand it so that trade unions can defend and promote the interests of working people, and so that people can control their own lives.

“The feudal dictatorship which runs Swaziland represses its trade union movement and its people, but more than that it denies them health, education and freedom from poverty. That is why trade unions are calling for democracy in Swaziland.

“As the representative of Britain at work, with 59 affiliated unions and 6 million members, international solidarity demands that the TUC support our brothers and sisters in Swaziland in calling for democratic reforms and workers’ rights.”