



3 November 2022

(By Email)

Business & Human Rights Resource Centre
London, UK

Attn: BHRRC - Asia Desk

Dear BHRRC,

Dismissal of workers following strike at Pou Chen, Myanmar

Thank you for your email of 31 October 2022 and for your invitation to respond to news coverage of a strike at a footwear supplier in Myanmar, which resulted in the dismissal of workers.

We can confirm that there was a strike at Pou Chen organized by a group of workers who have sought, unsuccessfully, to register as a union with the local labor authority. Their protest focused on demands for higher wages for their fellow workers and, although unregistered, for recognition as a union with collective bargaining powers.

For the safety of the workers, the strike was conducted within the grounds of the factory. At its peak, approximately 600 workers had participated in the strike.

The factory has argued that the strike was illegal and jeopardized the safety of all employees. After 3 days absence, workers were asked to return to work. Those that failed to do so were dismissed.

adidas has objected strongly to these dismissals, which are in breach of our Workplace Standards and our long-standing commitment to upholding workers' freedom of association. We are investigating the lawfulness of the supplier's actions and we have called on Pou Chen to immediately reinstate the dismissed workers.

We trust this addresses your questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "William Anderson".

William Anderson
Vice President, Global
Social & Environmental Affairs