**Statement in response to Hugo Boss from Faruk Aksoy, President of the Izmir branch of Turkish union, Teksif**

Despite what Hugo Boss says, we haven’t seen any progress since the Fair Labor Organization (FLA) released its report in January.

Bullying and harassment of union activists at the Hugo Boss factory in Izmir is as bad as it’s ever been.

Far from being neutral in its attitude towards unions, Hugo Boss is trying to decapitate my union Teksif, which is the only union trying to organize workers at the factory.

Of the 36 violations listed in the report, 17 were related to workers’ rights. The FLA identified issues concerning anti-union violence, anti-union discrimination, employer interference and dismissals, amongst others.

Since the investigation was carried out, two workers at Hugo Boss have been fired for union activities and the FLA is carrying out a further inquiry into their dismissals.

How can Hugo Boss claim it ‘supports and set the floor for freedom of association within its entire global supply chain’, when union activists at its own factory face such discrimination?

Why do the headquarters of Hugo Boss in Germany continue to turn a blind eye to serious abuse at its biggest factory? Why don’t they care?

We hope that as Hugo Boss is set to have a new CEO, it will pave the way for a new leader who will be serious about working with us to resolve the problems in Izmir.