

Finally, after such a long wait, a little bit of justice!

**At last, the French Supreme Court of Appeal (*Cour de Cassation*) has rendered its decision, today on 7 June 2016.**

**At last, it has been said that the CEO Mr Claude Chopin will be held accountable in front of a criminal court for the working conditions at AMISOL – an asbestos textile factory in Clermont-Ferrand, France.**

This decision is released **20 years after the victims filed their complaints.**

Not all of them are still here to see this judgement. Their asbestos-related illnesses were faster than the courts.

This adds a bitter taste for us.

Nonetheless, we receive this decision with satisfaction.

AMISOL has become the name of a disaster, the name of the asbestos scandal. It will be judged in criminal court. That is critically important.

Society owed it, and still owes it, to the victims. We were hoping for it – not for our own sake, but for all the victims, so that the offences will be sanctioned and workers' fundamental right to health and integrity acknowledged.

All our actions, including legal ones, aim to express the victims' dignity, which is vital for all of us.

**A remark prompted by current events related to the protests concerning the labour reform in France:**

At a time when those who resist are accused of committing the greatest violence, when their actions are caricatured, it would be appropriate, in order to assess the situation, to at least count and recount the workers who have fallen victim to unacceptable working conditions – and then exercise sound judgement. That's minimum decency.

Because people continue to die from asbestos, often with little public notice, the AMISOL victims continue to stand in solidarity with all victims of fatal working conditions.

We hope that Mr Chopin will take on his responsibility as CEO.

**We will be there, standing together, in dignity, determined as ever.**