**MAXIMA GRUPĖ, UAB
Kirtimų g. 47
LT-02244 Vilnius, Lietuva**

Tel. (+370 5) 219 6000
Fax. (+370 5) 219 6001
e-mail: info@maximagrupe.eu

Tatiana.Ihnatovich@maximagroup.eu

+370 659 60845

Riga, 04 March 2014

**Re: Negotiations on Protection of Workers Rights in „Maxima” Store Chain in the Baltic States**

Dear Sirs,

Please be informed that the leaders of five national trade union centres – Free Trade Union Confederation of Latvia (LBAS), Trade Union Confederation of Lithuania (LPSK), Lithuanian Trade Union “Solidarumas”, Lithuanian Labour Federation (LDF), Trade Union Confederation of Estonia (EAKL) – held a meeting on the 18th of February in Riga and agreed on joint position and activities concerning protection of workers’ legal labour rights and labour security in „Maxima” store chain in the Baltic States.

We regret the fact that the reputation of „Maxima” store chain has suffered after the tragedy in Riga, Zolitude, on the 21st of November 2013. However, as this store chain is an important employer in all three Baltic States we are ready to be involved and to take an active part in the improvement of the situation.

All five leaders of the national trade union centres kindly invite the leaders of the store chain “Maxima” to arrange a meeting in order to discuss the scope of necessary measures and activities to elaborate further joint cooperation model.

The leaders of national trade union centres authorize the President of Free Trade Union Confederation of Latvia (LBAS) Mr.Peteris Krigers (krigers@lbas.lv; +37129473975) to manage practical issues regarding the proposed meeting which could be organized in any of the three capitals of the Baltic States according to time schedule convenient for you.

We thank you for your understanding and cooperation!

Looking forward to your positive response!

Yours sincerely,



**Peteris Krigers**, President, Free Trade Union Confederation of Latvia (LBAS)

**Artūras Černiauskas**, President, LPSK, Lithuania

**Aldona Jašinskiené**, President, LPS Solidarumas, Lithuania

**Svajūnas Andriulis, President, LDF, Lithuania**

**Peep Peterson**, President, EAKL, Estonia

|  |
| --- |
| **Free Trade Union Confederation of Latvia (LBAS)** is the biggest non-governmental organisation in Latvia, which protects the interests of professional trade union members and employees on the branch and inter-branch level. LBAS coordinates the cooperation between 20 independent trade unions, represents and protects the interests of its members in national and international institutions, implements a joint working program. The purpose of LBAS activities is to protect the interests of trade union members. The main principle of operation is solidarity – joint coordinated actions of the affiliates. LBAS represents its members' interests and protects their rights in the socio economic field. At present LBAS unites more than 15% of all workers of Latvia. [**www.lbas.lv**](http://www.lbas.lv)**Lithuanian Trade Union Confederation (LPSK)** is a biggest trade union centre in Lithuania, at the moment comprises twenty-six branches of trade unions. Lithuanian Trade Union Confederation is independent organization from government and managing authorities, from employers and their organizations and also from public organizations and movements.Objectives: On national level to join, support and coordinate the actions of LPSK members at branch and regional level, to protect the rights and legitimate interests of trade union members, to seek to influence the government policy and employers activity on labour, economic and social issues, to represent LPSK and trade union members solving social, economic and labour issues with state institutions, employers and their organizations. [**www.lpsk.lt**](http://www.lpsk.lt)**The Lithuanian Trade Union “Solidarumas”** is a trade union organization uniting industrial-occupational, urban and regional trade unions of Lithuania with the aim of defending workers’ rights, improving social and economic conditions and coordinating the trade union movement in Lithuania. The activity of LPS “Solidarumas” includes:* holding meetings at enterprise and regional level to discuss problems and solutions;
* consulting members on legal, economic and social issues;
* organising workshops to which representatives of the government, employment services and employers are invited;
* holding seminars for trade union leaders and members on labour law, collective bargaining, collective agreements and other issues; and arranging round-table discussions at regional level, to which representatives of local governments, employers and trade unions are invited.[**www.lps.lt**](http://www.lps.lt)
 |
| **The Lithuanian labour Federation (LDF)** is a Christian trade union. Objectives of Lithuanian Labour Federation are: to consolidate the members of LDF on national level; to protect professional, labour, economical and social  rights and interests of members of LDF, to represent members of LDF in relations with employers, their organizations, state institutions, international organizations, to influence social politics in order to reach better economical, social and labour conditions for employees, to strengthen social partnership, to strengthen solidarity between trade unions in Lithuania and abroad; to encourage the creation of new organizations of LDF and to recruit new members to LDF; to coordinate activities of LDF subdivisions; to pursue education and training of LDF members; to participate in activities of workers representative institutions in Lithuania, Europe and all over the world.[**www.ldf.lt**](http://www.ldf.lt) |
| **The Estonian Trade Union Confederation (EAKL)** comprises ot 20 [branch unions](http://www.eakl.ee/index.php?pid=432&lang=7) that represent state and municipal government officials, education workers, health care workers, transport workers (including road, railway, sea and air transport), industrial workers (including energy, light industry, food industry, timber and metal industry) and people employed in the service sector (postal, communication, trade, hotel and cleaning sector workers, etc).The EAKL operates to ensure that the principle of social justice is respected in society. The EAKL represents employees’ interests in collective agreements and protects employees’ rights in employment relations, consults employers on developing a sustainable labour market and the government on developing a socially sustainable economic model. The EAKL participates actively in the formation of legislation and policies in order to guarantee the social security of employees and a healthy working environment.[**www.eakl.ee**](http://www.eakl.ee) |