



GEN CIRCULAR 1 (2019)

To all PSI affiliates

To members of the PSI World Women's Committee

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Dear colleagues,

INFORMATION CIRCULAR

On the 63rd Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UNCSW63)

11-22 March 2019, New York, United States

The priority theme of Session 63 of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UNCSW63) is *“Social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls”*. PSI, in joint effort with ITUC and the Global Unions Federations, has decided to:

Call for:

- The realisation of gender responsive access to public social protection systems, quality public services and sustainable infrastructure for all women, including women migrants, refugees and asylum seekers;
- Bold decisions to prioritize public policies and long-term public investments through tripartite consultations and negotiations.

Be aware of:

- The expansion of corporate power, public-private partnerships, tax evasion, trade agreements on public services as the major barriers for strengthening the role of States in the realisation of women's access to social protection, gender responsive quality public services and infrastructure.

I. PSI DELEGATION

PSI has registered a 20-strong delegation representing affiliates in Africa and Arab countries, Asia, Europe and the Americas. We thank all the affiliates for their enormous response to our call for integrating the delegation.

II. PREPARATION FOR UNCSW63: the next steps

We invite PSI delegates to:

- Organise meetings during February and the first week of March with their respective national bodies responsible for the issues of women and gender, ascertain the composition of the official delegation to UNCSW63 and present the position of the international trade union movement;
- Inform the PSI Secretariat of the results of meetings with their governments. Based on these reports, we will request a meeting in New York with the accredited government missions of those countries

represented in our delegation, to lobby on key issues at the national level, as well as to publicise and promote the trade union agenda.

III. SIDE AND PARALLEL EVENTS

PSI is organising and/or participating in the following parallel events:

- **PSI-CRIAW-ICREF-ITF** – Building Sustainable Infrastructures for Women globally
Date: 12 March / Time: 8:30 am / Venue: The Armenian Convention Center, Vartan Hall
- **PSI-ILO-FEMMENT-APWLD** – Widespread privatisation of public goods and human rights protections
Date: 12 March / Time: 1:15-2:30 pm / Venue: Delegates Dining Room
- **ILO-ITUC-IOE-Government Representatives** – The future of women at work: A road map for gender equality and decent work
Date: 12 March / Time: 1:15-2:30 pm / Venue: tbc
- **GATJ** – Shifting the Narrative: Financing Women's Rights Through Tax Justice
Date: 13 March / Time: 12:30 pm / Venue: Church Center for the United Nations, Tenth Floor
- **Global Unions** – Stop gender-based violence in the world of work: Union women and feminist allies campaigning for the adoption of an ILO Convention in June 2019
Date: 13 March / Time: 4:30 pm / Venue: Church Center for the United Nations, Tenth Floor
- **Womankind-FEMNET-AWID-PSI-APWLD** – Making the Economy Work for Women: Rights and Realities
Date: 13 March / Time: 6:15 pm / Venue: Church Center for the United Nations, Tenth Floor
- **PSI** – Frontline Public Services Workers: strategic for GRQPS
Date: 14 March / Time: 12:30 pm / Venue: 4W 43rd Street Blue Room
- **ActionAid International-PSI** – Pushing Back on Macroeconomic Policy: Public Services for Women's Rights
Date: 14 March / Time: 2:30 pm / Venue: Church Center for the United Nations, Second Floor

IV. REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

We invite you to consult the [Trade Union Delegation Blog](#), which will be regularly updated and where you will find the [Global Trade Union Statement](#) setting out the joint trade union position on UNCSW63 and the [Zero Draft Agreed Conclusions](#).

We also invite you to consult the [UN Women webpage](#) for more information on the event, as well as the revision of the official documents which will guide the discussion and the Agreed Conclusions, such as the [Secretary-General's Report](#) and the [Report of the Experts Group Meeting](#) on “Social protection systems, access to public services and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls” (September 2018).

Please remember to keep us informed about lobbying activities and the position adopted by your government. Send emails to veronica.montufar@world-psi.org

Yours sincerely,



Rosa PAVANELLI
General Secretary