Protecting the Public Interest
From Predatory Privatization and Outsourcing:
A Public Services International Leadership Meeting

2-3 DECEMBER 2015 WASHINGTON, D.C. USA

Hosted by the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)

The objective of our meeting is to agree on the ways we can strengthen the fight against the global push for privatization, linking national campaigns to regional and global dynamics. Union leaders at the meeting are familiar with the threats of privatization, so we will not provide new research papers. Several participants will provide short, informal remarks to assist in framing our discussions, but the focus will be on a free exchange of participants’ experiences and perspectives to identify common challenges, opportunities, and commitments for future collective action at the global level. All participants will be afforded ample time to explore relevant issues and make proposals for future action.

Also, we will meet with policy leaders from the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and the U.S. Government led by Treasury. All of these meetings will take place at AFSCME headquarters and will provide an opportunity to express our concerns about the policies and programs that encourage privatization through the international financial institutions (IFIs). Participants will have ample time to question and engage these officials during our meetings.

Location:

American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)
1625 L Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20036-5687

Dates:
December 2-3, 2015

Translation: English-Spanish, English-Japanese
Wednesday, December 2nd

9am  Welcome
President Lee Saunders, AFSCME
General Secretary Rosa Pavanelli, PSI

9:30-10:45 a.m. Patterns of privatization around the world
• Actors and Agents – finance, government, business and global institutions
• Funding and Finance – tax, austerity and debt
• Rules – legislation, trade and conditionality
Remarks: Richard Amparbeng and Julio Lacuerra

10:45am  Coffee Break

11:00 a.m.  Our Strategies and Experiences of Resistance
National and Regional Experiences and Responses to Privatization: What have we learned?
Remarks: Lee Saunders, Isolde Kunkel Weber, and Peter Werikhe

12:30pm  Lunch

2-3pm Tools to fight back – What we have, what we need
• Organizing and collective bargaining
• Research and communications resources on actors, trends, etc.
• Threat detection and coordinated responses
• Alliances and partnerships
• Pensions and shareholder activism to prevent privatization and support organizing campaigns
Remarks: Karen Batt and Randi Weingarten

3pm  Coffee Break

3:30-5pm The IMF and Public Investment Management/Fiscal Issues
http://www.imf.org/external/np/exr/key/fiscal.htm

Sanjeev Gupta
Deputy Director of the Fiscal Affairs Department
International Monetary Fund (IMF)
David Coaty
Division Chief
Expenditure Policy Division/Fiscal Affairs Department/IMF

5pm  Adjourn

5:15  AFSCME Hosted Reception
Thursday, December 3rd

9am
Welcome Back
President Lee Saunders, AFSCME

9:15-10:45am
Global Strategies to Fight Back - Commitments and Proposals
Chairs: Rosa Pavanelli and Lee Saunders
Remarks: David Prentis, Annelie Nordström, and Ritta Thandeka Msibi

10:45-11am
Coffee Break

11am-Noon
William Dorotinsky
Advisor, Knowledge, Learning and Partnerships
Governance Global Practice
The World Bank Group
See: http://www.worldbank.org/en/topic/governance/overview#1
Former Director of Public Service and Performance Practice

Noon-2pm
Lunch

2-3:30pm
The United States Government and the IFIs
See: https://www.fas.org/sgp/crs/misc/R41537.pdf

Dan Peters
Director of the Office of Development Results and Accountability
United States Treasury Department

Molly Brennan
Deputy Director, Office of Development Results and Accountability
U.S. Treasury Department

Rachel Bayly
International Economist, Office of Development Results and Accountability

Douglas D. Walker, PhD., PH
Senior Environmental Advisor, Office of Development Results and Accountability

Karen Travis
International Relations Specialist, U.S. Department of Labor

Jane Garrido
Attorney - International Affairs & USERRA, U.S. Department of Labor

Laura Sima, PhD
Office of Development Finance, U.S. Department of State

Jessica Slattery
Foreign Affairs Officer, United States Department of State
3:30-3:45pm  Coffee Break

3:45-4pm  Closing Comments and Adjourn
President Lee Saunders, AFSCME
General Secretary Rosa Pavanelli, PSI