AFRICA ENERGY UNION NETWORK COMMUNIQUE

At the end of the workshop held on 5th AND 6th March, 2014 at CESTRAR HEAD OFFICE, KIGALI RWANDA energy workers unions from Nigeria, Ghana, Uganda; Rwanda, Kenya as well as PSI representatives; come up with the following communiqué.

We reemphasize that access to Electricity is a right to everybody but not a privilege to a few.

It is therefore mandatory for Governments to provide this essential service to all her citizens, especially in Africa;

Our network members hereby resolved the following:

1. Policies of privatization in energy sector by various Africa governments must be resisted and condemned
2. We call for the return of all privatized services back to the public
3. We call on the various governments in Africa to provide adequate, reliable and affordable electricity to all her citizens
4. Build alliances with Civil society organizations (CSOS) and community based organizations (CBO); and encourage individual member countries to come up with programs targeting at achieving the needs and collaborations with the CSOS towards fighting privatization
5. We call on Governments to promote Public Public partnership (PUP) as alternative to public private partnership (PPP) and all other forms of privatization
6. We encourage network members to identify within their countries progressive and committed leaders and organizations to fight privatization
7. To build and promote international solidarity among our members in Africa
8. PSI should assist the unions through capacity training and other capacity building to enable unions to engage multinationals and other influential private organizations
9. PSIRU to assist in training Research officers of the energy sector unions
10. To create awareness on dangers of privatization in energy sector through the development of appropriate educational and campaign tools
11. To urge all Governments to implement ILO conventions by provision of friendly labor laws
12. To lobby to have a permanent status at regional and sub-regional political organizations

Unions:

1. PUWU(Ghana): Bondzi Quaye: General secretary
2. PSWU(Ghana): Debrah-Gyamfi: National Vice Chairman
3. SYPELGAZ(Rwanda): Jordi Michel MUSONI: National Chairman
4. UEAWU(Uganda): Amiti Tom General secretary
5. KETAWU(Kenya): Rodgers Kweyu: 2nd National Vice Chairman
6. NUEE(Nigeria): Joe Ajaero: General secretary