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Caribbean Sub-regional Women's Advisory Committee (SUBWOC) meeting “ Strategising for the future. Building union power and influence.”

Friday March 27, 2015
ABVO Headquarters, Curaçao
9:15 am to 5:30 pm

Venue

Algemene Bond van Overheidspersoneel (ABVO-Curaçao)
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The **Sub-regional Women's Advisory Committee (SUBWOC)** meets on the day preceding the Sub-regional Advisory Committee (SUBRAC) meeting and comprises the women representatives attending that meeting. The chair is *Sis Jillian Bartlett*, the Caribbean Women's Titular. The SUBWOC meets annually. In accordance with PSI's constitution, the number of representatives attending the SUBWOC meeting must be **at least 50%** of the number of representatives attending the SUBRAC meeting.

During the meeting, the committee deliberates on a wide range of issues and in general advises on:

1. ways to promote the full development of the potential of women in trade unions and in their workplaces;
2. activities and campaigns that would compensate for the results of discrimination against women at all organisational levels within unions;
3. ways that affiliates might work to achieve fair and equitable recognition of women's contributions within unions and in paid employment;
4. ways to support the work of the wider trade union movement in achieving gender equality and equity.

The meeting provides a focussed opportunity for women members to deliberate and make recommendations on the achievement of gender equality and equity. Equally important, members examine and articulate their perspectives on the wide range of issues to be discussed at the SUBRAC meeting.

The meeting seeks to **Inform, Educate and Motivate/Inspire** committee members.

Working methods

The meeting includes presentations, small group activities, and plenary discussions. The draft agenda and schedule is on the next page.

Draft agenda and schedule

9:15 am **Call to order, Opening remarks, Introductions, Announcements**
Excuses for absence
Minutes of the 2014 SUBWOC
Matters arising

10:30 am **NETWORKING BREAK**

11:00 am **Status of women in trade unions in Curaçao**
Representatives from ABVO and SEBI

11:45 am **59th session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (UNCSW 59) – outcomes and follow-up for post 2015**
Sisters Sandra Massiah and Jillian Bartlett

SUBWOC members will discuss the key outcomes from the meeting and the implications for women trade union activists in the Caribbean.

12:15 noon **PSI's Anti-Corruption work**
– The PSI campaign
– A look at Sextortion
Sister Jillian Bartlett

1:00 pm **LUNCH**

2:15 pm **Activities and work in progress**
– The fight against gender-based violence at work and in the community; including report on regional workshop in Chile
Sister Jillian Bartlett (NUGFW TT)
– Surveys conducted by women's committees
Sis Rebecca Suazo, PSU of Belize; and Sis Nadia Riviere, DPSU (via Skype - tbc)
– Precarious work in the Caribbean public service: two case studies
– Other campaigns and activities led by women activists

SUBWOC members will examine the various activities and projects that affiliates' women's committees are undertaking. By paying attention to the lessons learnt and the success stories, members will also examine how the activities can be replicated throughout the sub-region.

3:45 pm **Small group activities/discussions**
– Leaflet on the raison d'être, role and activities of trade union women's groups and committees - *Sis Susan Hodge, ACSA*
– What **do** women want? - *Sis Rebecca Suazo, PSU of Belize*
– Organising and bargaining for workers in precarious jobs
– Raising women's voices at the ILO and the UN (women activists' role in preparing shadow reports and in national and regional consultations)

SUBWOC members will work in small groups to draft and revise checklists, guidelines and information leaflets on the above.

5:00 pm Reviewing and Amending the Action Plan

- Conclusions
- Key recommendations to SUBRAC

This item draws on analyses and conclusions from the day's discussions and activities

5:30 pm

END OF MEETING

Note:

Afternoon break is optional.

SUBWOC members are free to get coffee, tea, juice, water at their leisure.