



The Role of Public Service Trade Unions in achieving Decent Work for Persons with Disabilities
8-9 December 2016 – ILO Geneva, Room XI- South R2

A PSI meeting with the support of ILO Bureau for Workers' Activities (ACTRAV) and the Gender, Equality and Diversity branch (GED)

Achieving Decent Work for All, and realising the Sustainable Development Goals, requires focussed work to include persons with disabilities. In different contexts, whether in crisis or post-conflict, or in ageing societies, there are particular questions relating to disability and organisation of labour. Workers' organisations across the world have taken initiatives to make sure persons with disabilities are considered in all the elements of Decent Work. Disability is a crucial dimension to take into account in achieving inclusion for all, and organising around social and labour issues. It affects women and girls more as they are likely to experience "double discrimination", including gender-based violence, abuse and marginalisation. As a result, women with disabilities often face additional disadvantages when compared to men with disabilities and women without disabilities.

With ILO support, Public Services International (PSI) has conducted a survey of its members on actions that they have taken around disability. The ILO's Bureau for Workers' Activities (ACTRAV) is conducting research to identify best practices and the extent to which trade unions have taken action on disability inclusion. As such, the different contexts, approaches and best practices identified on one side and the gap to be filled in the organisation of decent work for people with disabilities offer a chance to develop shared awareness and ambitions for the way forward, through a systemic and comprehensive strategy to secure decent work for people with disabilities and their family.

PSI affiliates will share their experiences and work towards a common understanding on priorities for the future – including leading up to PSI World Congress in October 2017. The meeting is an opportunity to develop knowledge, awareness and advocacy relevant for a range of actors in their governance, actions and aims.

Goals

1. Raise awareness on connections between disability and decent work among PSI affiliates.
2. Promote awareness and application of the relevant provisions of the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as well as ILO Convention 159 and the International Labour Standard system.
3. Disseminate best practices and raise awareness of public service trade union actions on disability and their relation to decent work.
4. Communicate relevance and possibilities for action to public service trade unions and disability organisations.
5. Determine the way forward.

The meeting will be held in English, French and Spanish.

Thursday 8 December 2016 – Moderated by Sandra Vermuyten, PSI Head of Campaigns

- 14:00 - 14:30 Registration
- 14:30 – 14:45 Opening and Welcome by Rosa Pavanelli, General Secretary, Public Services International and Maria Helena Andre, Director, ACTRAV
- 14:45 – 15:00 Roundtable presentation of all participants
- 15:00 – 15:45 Presentation of mapping study of trade union activities related to persons with disabilities, by Peter Fremlin, ILO consultant, followed by Q&A
- 15:45 - 16:15 Presentation on the global framework related to employment of persons with disabilities (UN CRPD, 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development), by Stefan Trömel, followed by Q&A
- 16:15 - 17:30 Presentation of trade union activities and best practices related to persons with disabilities (promoting employment, collective bargaining, return to work, gender, 8-10 minutes each)
- Lauro Jr. Purcil, Public Services Labor Independent Confederation, Philippines
 - Fatou Diouf, Syndicat Autonome des Travailleurs de la Sénégalaise des Eaux
 - George Poe Williams, NAHWAL, Liberia
 - Zahra Yusufli, Free Trade Union Republican Committee of the Azerbaijan Employees of Culture
 - Jan Braem, Federatie Nederlandse Vakbeweging
 - Susanne Brandon, Public Service Alliance of Canada/Alliance de la Fonction publique du Canada
 - Darío Restrepo Valencia, Sindicato Nacional de Trabajadores al Servicio del Estado
 - Rodrigo Manuel López García, Asociación Nacional de Profesionales en Enfermería
- 17:30 – 19:00 Reception in Espace Gobelins, ILO

Friday, 9 December 2016 – Moderated by Stefan Trömel (morning)

- 9:30 – 11:00 Challenges and opportunities for the employment of persons with disabilities resulting from the future of work.
- Introduction by Baba Aye, Health and Social Services Officer, Public Services International
 - Carlos Carrion-Crespo, ILO SECTOR, Collective bargaining on disability policies
 - Phyllis Opuku-Gyimah, PCS, Disability and cross-cutting discrimination
 - Michael Whaites, New South Wales Nurses and Midwives' Association, PSI, People's Inquiry: the impact of Privatization on disability services
 - Q&A
- 11:00 – 11:30 Coffee Break

- 11:30 - 12:30 The role of global unions in the promotion of decent work of persons with disabilities, including reference to relevant initiatives (ILO and beyond): ILO Standard on violence at work, women at work initiative and others.
- Nikola Wachter, Education International
 - Sandra Vermuyten, Public Services International
 - Anna Torriente, ILO, NORMES (International Labour Standards Department)
 - Q & A
- 12:30 – 14:00 Lunch
- 14:00 – 15:30 What more can PSI and its regional, sectoral and national members do to promote decent work of persons with disabilities // future cooperation with ACTRAV and ILO GED // Group work (according to languages)
- 15:30 – 16:00 Coffee Break
- 16:00 – 16:45 Towards PSI Congress 2017
- 16:45 – 17:00 Closing remarks
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