



Korean Public & Social Services and
Transportation Workers' Union
Education Workers Solidarity Division
(KPTU-EdSol)
Cheollohoigwan 4th floor
739-4 Daerim 3-dong
Yeongdeungpo-gu
Seoul
SOUTH KOREA

Email: limwolsan@gamil.com

File Reference: RP/SV/CHM
Contact Name: Rights@world-psi.org

13 June 2013

Solidarity with Korean Education Support Workers

On behalf of 20 million public sector workers around the world, who are members of our global union federation, Public Services International (PSI), I recognise and applaud the critical role of educational support workers in South Korea and around the world delivering high quality public education to all citizens.

PSI supports the education support workers in South Korea, who are planning a nation-wide rally for 22nd June, to fight for their demands (recognition and respect of their trade union rights, formalisation of their employment status, introduction of a fair pay scale and improvement of their working conditions). If the South Korean government and education authorities do not bargain in good faith, these workers are expected to go on strike in July.

South Korea counts 250,000 precariously-employed education support workers and their number continue to increase. Education support workers play a vital role in public education all over the world by providing healthy food to students and teachers, aiding in teaching, running school libraries, keeping schools clean, providing after school care and instruction, etc. They are not recognised as part of the teaching staff and are severely discriminated. They face continuous job instability and their wage scale does not account for years of experience.

We strongly support the struggle of the Korean education support workers to change these conditions and we call on the South Korean government to respond positively to these demands.

We call upon the South Korean government to respect the trade union rights of education support workers, to engage in collective bargaining with their union representatives, and to refrain from repression against peaceful collective action.

Sincerely,

Rosa Pavanelli
PSI General Secretary