You are invited to a special forum presented by Public Services International at the 9th WTO Ministerial, Bali

**Trade In Services Agreement – The dangers of liberalising services**

**Thursday, 5 December 2013, 12:30 - 2pm**

Tanjung Benoa Meeting Room, 1st Floor, BNCC Phase 2

_All welcome!_ (Info: Daniel.Bertossa@world-psi.org)

The Trade in Services Agreement is a significant departure from the usual multilateral process. Negotiated by only a small number of the WTO members it aims to significantly liberalise trade in services that are predominantly provided by large multinational corporations. However, the agreement risks deregulating sectors of the economy that are regulated for good reason. Public services, environmental services and financial markets all operate with significant public interest components. Water, energy, health and education are but a few examples of sectors where market provision cannot achieve the social objectives that governments, and the people they represent, demand. The recent financial crisis makes clear the profound risks of under-regulated financial markets.

Public Services International is pleased to present a panel of distinguished experts to discuss the risks and problems with radical liberalisation trade in services. This forum aims to shed light in dark corners: Why is a new services agreement required? Why must it be negotiated in secrecy outside the multilateral process? Why are so many developing countries refusing to participate? What benefit will it provide to the majority in the community?

SPEAKERS:

_Sanya Reid Smith_, Legal Advisor and Senior Researcher, Third World Network – _What’s in the TISA and why it’s a secret_

_Daniel Bertossa_, Senior Policy and Advocacy Officer, PSI – _Effects of trade in services on public services_

_Michael Whaites_, New South Wales Nurses and Midwives’ Association – _Impacts on providing public health care_

_Jane Kelsey_, Professor of Law, University of Auckland – _Tying governments’ hands, restricting policy space_

_Esther Busser_, Assistant Director, ITUC Geneva – _Mode 4 and labour migration_

_Melinda St Louis_, International Programs Director, Public Citizen: Global Trade Watch – _Regulating finance_

_David Robinson_, Senior advisor, Education International – _what’s at stake for public education_

Chaired by _Rosa Pavanelli_, General Secretary, Public Services International

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No trade in public services