

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



No trade in public services



Public Services International
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