



Agenda PSI energy meeting 24-25 September, 2013

Purpose of the meeting

- Define PSI priorities in the sector over the current congress period
- Develop global and regional networks and determine union commitments and actions

Work methods

The meeting will be in plenary, for language and room availability reasons. There will be 50+ participants, so we will need to be very disciplined and focused with our inputs.

Some assumptions to guide the meeting :

- Union density is a pre-requisite to union strength, and organising new members is a constant priority that informs each issue
- Discuss each issue with a focus on how global/regional union networks can increase union capabilities to influence decisions (what commitments must unions make to develop effective network actions)
- Identify the global/regional actors which harm or help (multinational corporations and their lobby groups, development banks, trade agreements, NGOs, international governmental organisations, etc.) and how to project union voice into these
- Most issues in this sector are fundamentally political

24 September 2013

09h00–09h45

- Opening remarks Rosa Pavanelli
- Snap introductions (name, organisation, one key expectation or one key challenge)
- Outline of agenda, work methods, key challenges identified, key outcomes needed
- Approval of agenda, including order of priority of thematic issues

09h45 - 10h00

- PSI Durban Congress Mandate - Energy, Climate, Sector Networks

10h00 – 11h00

Functioning and effectiveness of union sector networks : *these networks allow unions in the same industry to collaborate directly. Unions need to commit to support the network partners with a focus on activities as opposed to in-person meetings.*

PSI Regional Secretaries

11h00 – 11h30 Break

Key issues : speakers/discussion leaders are asked to identify key challenges, successes, failures, opportunities and propose ideas for collaboration and coordination (these we bring to conclusion).

11h30-12h30

Privatisation, liberalisation, PPPs : *One of the top concerns expressed by affiliates in all countries, most often driven ideologically, often for corrupt purposes.*

PSIRU, SITRANDE, KPTU, NUEE, SEKO, EVDSZ

12h30-14h00 Lunch

14h00-15h00

Outsourcing : *applies to both private and public employers, is a fundamental attack on worker rights, OHS, wages and working conditions. Can also be seen as a form of privatisation. Unions can block and even recruit the casuals*
Prospect, CGT

15h00-16h00

Climate change and renewables : *the energy sector is the prime target for reduction of CO2 emissions. A few countries are seeing rapid growth in renewables, mainly solar, some wind. Do these threaten our jobs? Can we help promote RE, including infant industry and domestic employment?*
PSIRU, ver.di, Cornell, UGTT

16h00-17h00

Financing ; Development (including IFIs) : *for rich countries, the austerity budgets are cutting off funds for public investments, and for developing countries, the public funds have apparently never been available. Hence both are placing hopes in private investment and management.*
PSIRU, Rwanda, SAMWU, PSI APNet

17h30-18h00 Any other business

18h30 Depart for collective dinner at 19h00

25 September 2013

09h00-09h30 Refresh from Day 1 *which were the best ideas for regional/global cooperation*

09h30-10h30

MNCs : *a number of powerful global corporations are present in the energy sector, although some have been forced to reverse expansion plans. At minimum, we should defend the rights of the workers in these corporations.*
PSIRU, EPSU, CGT

10h30- 11h00 Break

11h00 -12h00

OHS; Training; New Technology : *these are all cutting-edge issues, especially important in a dangerous sector where few young people appear willing to work.*
ASU

12h00-13h30 Lunch

13h30-14h30

Corruption : *big money means big bribes, threatening quality public services and decent jobs*
PSIRU, NUEE

14h30-15h30

Trade : *global and regional trade agreements increasingly include the energy sector, and can be used to block new public initiatives, including RE, and can block public interest regulation such as limiting fracking, and prevent the growth of domestic industry.*
CUPE

15h30-15h45 Break

15h45-18h00 Conclusions, wrap up