



CIRCULAR GEN No. 9 (2013)

To all affiliates
All staff for information

File Reference: RP/GG-vd
Contact Name: genevieve.gencianos@world-psi.org
26 August, 2013

Dear Colleagues,

**PSI Preparations towards the United Nations High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development (HLD)
and the parallel event on the Peoples' Global Action on Migration,
Development and Human Rights (PGA)
30 September – 4 October 2013, New York**

This is in follow up to PSI Circular Gen. No. 5 dated 25 April 2013 regarding the UN High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development.

In a time of economic crisis and continuous assault on public services and on workers' rights everywhere, PSI is building forces within the trade union movement and with civil society coalitions in defending the human and trade union rights of migrant workers. Only when we are able to defend all workers, fight racism and discrimination, promote equality, access to justice and quality public services for all, can we truly make the trade union movement strong.

Together with the Global Union Federations and allied civil society organizations, we have put together a line-up of activities that will bring our voice, our union power and our force in bringing workers' rights at the global dialogue on migration and development.

1. Inside Events at the UN High Level Dialogue on Migration and Development (3-4 October 2013)

As per UN General Assembly Resolution 67/219, the second High Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (HLD) will convene at the UN Headquarters in New York on 3-4 October 2013. The HLD will consist of four plenary meetings and four inter-active multi-stakeholder round tables. The themes of the round tables will be:

- Assessing the effects of international migration on sustainable development and identifying relevant priorities in view of the preparation of the post-2015 development framework;
- Measures to ensure respect for and protection of the human rights of all migrants, with particular reference to women and children, as well as to prevent and combat the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and to ensure orderly, regular and safe migration;
- Strengthening partnerships and cooperation on international migration, mechanisms to effectively integrate migration into development policies and promoting coherence at all levels;
- International and regional labour mobility and its impact on development.

Civil society representatives accredited to the HLD will participate and observe in the plenary meetings and roundtables. The trade union delegation is working with other civil society organisations in forwarding our list of speakers to these plenary and round table meetings. Our ultimate aim in our participation to the HLD is to bring the global dialogue on migration and development back into the rights-based normative framework of the United Nations, and placing the issue of labour migration within the competence of the International Labour Organisation.

More information on the HLD at:

<http://hldcivilsociety.org/>

<http://www.un.org/esa/population/meetings/HLD2013/mainhld2013.html>

Moreover, the Global Unions will hold a preparatory panel event on **2nd October: “Migration and Development: A Decent Work Issue.”** The objective of the meeting is to bring together representatives of governments and trade unions in a dialogue to exchange information, highlight best practices and strengthen trade union-government cooperation on the gender-sensitive and rights-based approach to migration and development. The meeting will take place inside the UN building in New York. The exact time and location of the meeting will be confirmed shortly.

2. Outside Events at the Peoples’ Global Action on Migration and Development (30 Sept – 4 October 2013)

The 2013 People’s Global Action on Migration, Development & Human Rights (PGA) is an independent civil society and grassroots event held in conjunction with the 2013 UN High Level Dialogue on Migration & Development (HLD). Since the first HLD in 2006, the PGA has annually brought together grassroots migrant communities, migrant rights organizations, trade unions, faith groups, academia and civil society networks from around the world to share information, dialogue, strengthen analyses and develop joint positions on critical issues related to international migration. The PGA provides the space for communities to critically engage in the UN HLD process and to challenge neo-liberal economic policies that lead to forced migration and violations of migrant workers’ rights. A week-long programme of activities will include:

- Labour-Community Rally and March across the Brooklyn Bridge (Wednesday, 2 October, 5pm at Foley Square)
- Workshops, strategy sessions and forums to share analysis, organising and platform for migrants rights in the US and globally (1-4 October)
- New York City site visits and exchanges with migrant community organisations
- Migrant arts and activism – films, art, photography

PSI and its affiliates will be among the prime movers in the Labour-Community Rally and March at the Brooklyn Bridge. Likewise, PSI will be organising workshops at the PGA.

More information on the PGA at: <http://hld2013.gcmigration.org/about-pga-2013/>

3. PSI in the Trade Union Delegation

We now have a list of PSI-accredited participants to the UN HLD who have pre-registered before the deadline in May. All of them have received their UN accreditation documents allowing them to participate in the UN HLD and for use as support document for their US visa application.

If your union would like you to participate at the UN HLD and the PGA but have not pre-registered, please contact genevieve.gencianos@world-psi.org immediately.

Kindly note that PSI is not able to provide financial sponsorship for your participation in these events.

PSI will coordinate a delegation of trade union migration activists to the UN HLD and the PGA. Please contact Ms. Genevieve Gencianos, PSI Migration Programme Coordinator, genevieve.gencianos@world-psi.org, at the PSI Secretariat, who will serve as the PSI Delegation Coordinator.

4. Logistical Information

For reasons of proximity and coordination, trade union delegates, are encouraged to book their accommodation at the POD Hotel, <http://www.thepodhotel.com/>. There are two POD Hotels close to the UN New York. Please choose POD 51 (the Original POD). PSI delegates who are paying for themselves may proceed with their hotel booking directly.

Other logistical information on the UN HLD can be found at: <http://hldcivilsociety.org/>.

Registration and other logistical information on the PGA can be accessed at: <http://hld2013.gcmigration.org/about-pga-2013/>. PGA registration has now started. You may also apply to organise a workshop at the PGA. The deadline for submission of workshop proposals is on 4 September.

PSI delegates can proceed with their online registration to the PGA. Once you have completed your registration, please notify genevieve.gencianos@world-psi.org.

5. Background Documents

Background documents will be sent directly to the PSI delegation members and can be downloaded from the website www.world-psi.org.

We look forward to working with you at the UN High Level Dialogue and the Peoples' Global Action in New York.

In solidarity,



Rosa Pavanelli
General Secretary