



Circular LC 4 (2013)

To all South African affiliates
PSI Sub-regional Office for Southern Africa

File Reference: RP/PCH/South Africa

6th December 2013

Dear Comrades,

On the day that Madiba has left us, I want to express my profound sadness to all of PSI's affiliated unions in South Africa and to all of your members.

Words are not enough to celebrate the greatness of Nelson Mandela, but I would say that today we have lost the very last hero of the world's recent history.

All the leaders of the world will celebrate Mandela's greatness today. I would simply say that we must be grateful to him for the extraordinary lessons that he taught the world. He suffered and fought for ending apartheid, he struggled to establish democracy through dialogue. He succeeded in being a great President for South Africa, a respected and inspirational political leader for the whole world, a champion for anti-discrimination, social justice and solidarity.

But his greatest lesson has been that of dignity, human dignity above all.

As many other countries, South Africa may face difficult times in the future, but Madiba's legacy will give your country the powerful strength to overcome the problems.

I am sure that you will not give up, that you will not allow the contradictions of globalisation to pollute the values of the free South Africa. I know that you will remain autonomous, independent and will continue fighting to abolish any form of discrimination, poverty and inequality. In one word, I know that your fight for human dignity and justice will never end.

Comrades, PSI stands with you today to mourn the loss of Madiba, but will be with you tomorrow to keep his lessons alive.

In solidarity,

Rosa Pavanelli
General Secretary