



Public Services International  
Internationale des Services Publics  
Internacional de Servicios Públicos  
Internationale der Öffentlichen Dienste  
Internationell Facklig Organisation för Offentliga Tjänster  
国際公務労連

## INTER-AMERICAN REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF PSI

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### Circular IA 1 (2014)

To all PSI affiliates in Inter-America  
*cc. PSI staff for information*

Ref. JD/vm/IAMRECON 2015

28 May 2014

### INVITATION

#### **11th PSI INTER-AMERICAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE AND RELATED MEETINGS HOTEL FIESTA AMERICANA - MEXICO CITY, 20-24 APRIL, 2015**

#### **ADVANCING TRADE UNION RIGHTS IN THE STRUGGLE FOR QUALITY PUBLIC SERVICES!**

We are pleased to invite all of our affiliates in the Inter-American Region to participate at the 11th Inter-American Regional Conference of PSI (IAMRECON) and related meetings that will be held in Mexico City from April 20 to 24, 2015.

The Conference itself will be held on April 23 - 24 and will be preceded by several meetings concerning sectoral and transverse issues, which will be held on April 20, 21 and 22. The Regional Women's Committee will meet at the end of April 20 and the IAMREC will meet at the end of April 21 and of April 22. We will send more detailed information about these preliminary meetings in October 2014.

All of these events will be held in the Fiesta Americana Hotel and other hotels nearby and will be organized in cooperation with local affiliates.

#### **1. 11th Inter-American Regional Conference of PSI (IAMRECON): 23 - 24 April 2015**

#### **Background and Objectives**

PSI has entered a new political and organizational phase since its last PSI World Congress in Durban in 2012. With a renewed leadership, more focused policy actions and a more union-like organization, the influence of PSI is growing in international institutions and national governments, offering better opportunities for success in the struggles of its affiliates. On the other hand, the economic crisis continues to have a world-wide impact and brings new challenges, including economic, affecting our organization and all its members. The huge power of transnational corporations that guides the restrictive development model adopted and supported by leaders of many nations, the free trade agreements, the privatizations that are underway and the fragility of trade union rights in many of the countries of the region continue to be the central issues that must be overcome in our region. Updating our Regional Action Plan, adopting what we should do to better defend our rights and the quality public services is the goal we should strive for in the Conference.

Public Services International is a global trade union federation representing 20 million working women and men who deliver vital public services in 150 countries. PSI champions human rights, advocates for social justice and promotes universal access to quality public services. PSI works with the United Nations system and in partnership with labour, civil society and other organisations.

## Core Issues

The PSI theme for this conference will be "Advancing trade union rights in the struggle for Quality Public Services"

During the conference we will discuss, among other topics, issues such as:

- The full trade union rights for all public sector workers.
- The free trade agreements and their attacks on public services.
- Privatization
- Transnational corporations and the tax erosion.
- International financial institutions and their attacks on trade union rights.
- Organizing workers as a response to these attacks.
- The restructuring of the PSI and the strengthening of sectoral structures.

## Delegations

According to the PSI Constitution, trade unions have the right to send delegates and observers based on the average membership fees that were paid during the period since the last conference (2010 - 2015 inclusive) or since the affiliation date, if it was the most recent.

### Article 6.6

1 delegate	up to	5,000 members	
2 delegates	from	5,001 to	10,000 members
3 delegates	from	10,001 to	20,000 members
4 delegates	from	20,001 to	35,000 members
5 delegates	from	35,001 to	50,000 members
6 delegates	from	50,001 to	100,000 members

plus one delegate for each additional 50,000 paid-up members and/or part thereof.

**Observers:** each organization will have the right to send observers to the Conference in the proportion of 1 observer per 100,000 paying members or fraction of that amount.

**Guests:** guests are those invited to participate without being a delegate or observer, either because the quota for the delegation has been filled or because they represent an organization not affiliated with the ISP.

**Motions:** We remind the affiliates that the two-day Conference will focus on the Draft of the Regional Action Program and not on discussing resolutions. However, the affiliates who wish to make a motion may send a draft to [jocelio.drummond@world-psi.org](mailto:jocelio.drummond@world-psi.org) by the end of August.

Emergency motions may be submitted only if the situation warrants such action. The Standing Orders Committee of the Conference will decide if these resolutions will be accepted.

## Schedule preparations for the Conference:

- **MAY 2014:** First information circular with the date and location, criteria for participation and other information.
- **JUNE:** Second circular with first draft of the Action Plan.

- **JULY/AUGUST:** Receive suggestions for the Plan and proposed motions.
- **SEPTEMBER:** Third circular with new version of the Plan of Action and all motions received. Start of registration of delegates and observers.
- **OCTOBER:** Receive new contributions to the Plan and possible counter-motions. Continue registrations.
- **NOVEMBER:** Fourth circular, with Action Plan to be submitted to the Conference and report on the regional activities held since the last Conference in 2010. Continue registration.
- **DECEMBER:** Fifth circular with registrations and other information about the Conference.
- **JANUARY 2015:** Decision about who will receive the sponsorships of hotel per sub-region (made with each responsible officer for the sub-region in PSI, in consultation with the NCCs).
- **FEBRUARY 2015:** Final circular and closing of registration for the Conference.
- **APRIL 2015:** Conference and pre-Conference activities.

## 2. Sectoral, thematic and transverse issues meetings: April 20, 21 and 22

The IAMRECON will be preceded by sectoral meetings, which will focus on action planning for the Water and Sanitation, Energy, Health and Social Services, Justice, Universities, Municipal, Central Administration, State Control, Customs and Revenue, and Legislative sectors. Sectoral meetings will take place on April 20 and April 21 until noon.

Issue related meetings will be held on the evening of April 21, for the purpose of sharing experiences among affiliates on issues like Pension Funds, Natural Disasters and Emergency Care, Health and Safety in the Workplace, Trade Agreements and their impact on public services and others.

Meetings on transverse issues will be held on April 22 and will focus on policies related to gender, the struggle against racism and xenophobia, young workers, and LGBT workers. Each of these groups will meet with the Regional Committees of PSI Americas. On the same day, there will also be a meeting with the individuals who are attending a PSI Regional Conference for the first time.

During the Conference, meeting each sectoral meeting and every transversal group will present a report and the conclusions of the respective meetings. A detailed program for each of these meetings will be sent in due time. The working language in the sectoral and transversal meetings will be Spanish, and there can also be English, French or Portuguese in the groups if there are more participating members that speak those languages.

### 3. Sponsorships for IAMRECON and sectoral and transverse issues meetings

PSI will pay for double room accommodations during the conference and the preliminary meetings for up to 30 people from each of the following sub-regions: Andean, Brazil, Caribbean, Central America and the Southern Cone. Trade unions will be in charge of flights and the meals during their stay in Mexico. PSI will also cover hotel expenses for young workers that are registered as delegates and/or observers from the unions, as an extra support for the participation of young workers, independent of the 30 hotel subsidies for each sub-region.

The allocation of sponsorships will be discussed in each sub-region and country, taking into consideration gender balance and sectoral and transverse issues meetings. The final list of sponsored participants will be sent to affiliates in January 2015.

Please note that those receiving sponsorships for the sectoral and transverse issues meetings will also be sponsored for participation in IAMRECON representing their unions as **delegates or observers**.

Additional sponsorship for hotel expenses will be provided to an additional number of participants, subject to the budgetary limitations of PSI and the opportunities created by ongoing projects in the region.


A second circular related to the events in Mexico will be sent to all affiliates in June, as well as a first draft of the Action Plan.

Please do not hesitate to contact Regional Secretary Jocelio Drummond [jocelio.drummond@world-psi.org](mailto:jocelio.drummond@world-psi.org) and/or his assistant Vivian Makia [vivian.makia@world-psi.org](mailto:vivian.makia@world-psi.org) for any questions or further information.

Sincerely,



**Rosa Pavanelli**  
General Secretary



**Jocelio Drummond**  
Regional Secretary