



Brussels, 8 February 2008

JM/cd

- To all affiliated organisations

Pay and Living Standards **Call for Mobilisation**

On February 7, the Steering Committee of the ETUC decided to call a demonstration on pay on Saturday April 5 in Ljubljana, Slovenia. This will be around the same time as Europe's finance ministers and the European Central Bank meet there to discuss the financial crisis.

We are protesting about:

- the falling shares of wages and salaries, (and purchasing power) in the national income of most European countries
- calls by Europe's leaders for pay restraint by workers, especially in the public sector, at a time when living standards are stagnant or falling and more purchasing power is needed. Even the OECD has said there is no wage problem in the EU
- the excessive rewards of the directors and other top earners which continue to accelerate
- the persistent pay gap between men and women

We are campaigning for:

- improvements in purchasing power to end poverty and boost demand in sluggish European economies
- decent minimum wages in all European countries and narrowing the earnings gap between countries
- greater equality between the boardroom and the shopfloor, and between men and women
- a fair deal for all workers, including in the public services

Join us in Ljubljana

Further details will be circulated shortly but commit yourselves to support the ETUC support Europe's workers by sending a strong delegation and message to the finance ministers and central bankers in Ljubljana on April 5.

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John Monks
General Secretary