

**Item 8. PSI Congress, 27 – 30 November 2012
“In the People’s Interest”**

<p>A</p>	<p>HISTORY OF THE DOCUMENT & POINTS FOR DECISION</p> <p>The EPSU Executive Committee is invited to discuss and to agree any amendment¹ to the enclosed. Affiliated unions have until <u>27 July 2012</u> to submit further amendments to the proposed revision of the Constitution and the Program of Action submitted by the PSI Executive Board.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Draft Programme of Action ii. Draft Amendments to the PSI Constitution
<p>B.</p>	<p>BRIEF OUTLINE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. <u>Draft Programme of Action</u> <p>The draft Programme of Action (PoA) was sent out with EPSU General Circular 2 (2012). The PoA sets the direction of future PSI work to be undertaken in 2013 – 17. It is founded on PSI values and takes inspiration by the PSI analysis of the growing challenges to labour rights in the midst of the contemporary crisis. The PoA concentrates on four areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Confronting the real crisis and rebuilding social solidarity 2. Asserting the rights of public sector workers 3. Building union influence and achieving quality public services 4. Union action in a globalized world. <p>The activities report (2008-2012) to be formally presented to the Congress includes recommendations on how to continue work within the sectors and on cross-cutting issues (enclosed).</p> <p>The last PSI Executive Board (EB-41) of November 2011 agreed to circulate the draft PoA (January 2012 version) for consultation to all constituency meetings (taking place in the other 3 PSI regions from 26 January to 25 March) and to the Regional Executives (28 March to 19 April). Comments from all RECs as well as from the EPSU EC will be used to finalize the version to be adopted by the next EB-142 (30 May-1 June). This version validated by the EB will be sent early June to all affiliates who will have up to 27 July to submit any further formal amendments (same process as for all other Congress resolutions according to the PSI Constitution).</p> <p>An extraordinary meeting of the PSI Steering Committee was held on 1 March with a major part of the discussion being dedicated to the discussion on the PoA. An extract from the draft minutes of that meeting is enclosed.</p>

¹ The EPSU Secretariat would request to receive any comments to both the Draft PoA and the proposed amendments to the PSI Constitution in written form by 23 April.

	<p>As far as EPSU is concerned, the PoA has been forwarded to the Standing Committees and the WGEC for possible input and will also be discussed at upcoming constituency meetings in Central & Eastern Europe.²</p> <p>ii. <u>Draft Amendments to the PSI Constitution</u></p> <p>The enclosed draft revision of the PSI Constitution is the result of a series of discussion rounds by members of the Constitutional Working Group, which was launched with 1 physical meeting before the PSI EB in November 2010. All other exchanges were organised through telephone conference calls, the latest taking place on 23 March. EPSU was represented in the Constitution Working Group by its General Secretary.</p> <p>The proposed revision of the PSI Constitution is to simplify and reduce its text to the main governing principles of the organisation.</p> <p>The comments received to date can be summarised under the following main headings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Election process for the General Secretary; • Gender balance between position of General Secretary and President; • Role and composition of the Executive Board • Role of Steering Committee; • Establishment of a Young Workers Committee; • Regional and subregional structures; • Inclusion of sectoral structures into the Constitution. <p>In its Article 12.4. the draft PSI Constitution recognises EPSU as its European regional structure. PSI and EPSU shall closely co-operate and mutually support each organisation's objectives. The PSI – EPSU Cooperation Agreement is to be appended under Annex 9.</p>
<p>C.</p>	<p>GENDER EQUALITY ASPECTS</p> <p>i) Gender Equality is covered in programme area 3, A of the draft PoA and commits PSI 'to redress the growing inequalities between women and men.'</p> <p>ii) Article 3, d of the current Constitution commits PSI to ensure equal representation of women and men in all its structures and those of its affiliates; this concept is picked up in the proposed revision of the Constitution in Article 1 d): PSI is committed to achieve at least 50 % women's representation in its own structures and expects all affiliates to strive towards the attainment of equal representation of women and men in their own decision making bodies.</p>
<p>D</p>	<p>BUDGET IMPLICATION(S)</p> <p>Travel cost to Durban for the EPSU ex officio representatives to be covered by the EPSU budget.</p> <p>An amount of € 72.500 of non-used funds related to the 2010 PSI transfer to cover the cost of activities in Central and Eastern Europe was ring-fenced to be used by the PSI. PSI has now decided to use these funds to sponsor delegates coming from countries below the 100 % index.</p>

² The members of the SEE and NEE Constituency (the latter linked with a LRG Conference + Standing Committee) only meet after the Executive Committee. Comments and input received from these meetings will be transmitted directly to the PSI EB meeting of 30/5 – 1/6. The WGEC only meets on 11 – 12 June, any additional formal amendment from this meeting would have to be directly submitted to the PSI Secretariat before the Constitutional deadline of 27 July.

E	<p>LIST OF RELATED DOCUMENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PSI Constitution adopted at the 28th World Congress, September 2007 • EPSU Constitution adopted at the 8th EPSU Congress, June 2009 • Draft PSI Programme of Action, version January 2012 • Draft PSI Constitution, version 25 January 2012 • Extract draft minutes PSI extraordinary Steering Committee of 1 March 2012 • PSI Report of Activities 2007 - 2012
F	<p>RELEVANT FILE NUMBERS:</p> <p>EC files; PSI Congress files</p>