

IAMREC - Inter-American Regional Executive Committee 07 June 2023 Report

Participants - 26 trade union officers: 15 women and 11 men PSI staff: 14 / Translators: 06

- 1. Federico D'Avila opened the meeting by explaining Janis Freeman Hochadel's absence. He commented on preparations for the 31st PSI World Congress to be held from 12-18 October 2023 in Geneva, Switzerland. He congratulated the Women's Committee meeting held the previous day, as well as the various SUBRACS that had already taken place. He stressed the importance of supporting Rosa Pavanelli as candidate for PSI President and Daniel Bertossa as candidate for General Secretary at the next Congress.
- 2. Jocelio Drummond reported on the purpose of the meeting: to discuss World Congress topics such as the Action Programme, other resolutions and nominations, the new composition of the region's representatives on the World Executive Committee, IAMRECON 2024 and reports such as the ILO Conference and the Women's Committee.
- 3. Rosa Pavanelli offered an update on Congress organizing and the global political situation, linking it to the PSI Programme of Action, including the multiple crises, the pandemic, the growth of corporate power and its influence on global governance, and the need to discuss multilateralism. She commented on PSI's progress in the gender debate, with the theme of care gaining prominence, particularly with the development of the "social redistribution of care", in contrast to others who see care as an economic theme. The World Congress will present a more in-depth development of the theme of care, which will guide a new way of shaping and orienting our social pact, giving priority to the well-being of people, reducing inequalities and improving the situation of women. She also highlighted digitisation as an area in which PSI has made progress in recent years, improving our ability to negotiate on this issue, as well as progress on the issue of tax justice, where global progress has not yet been consolidated, and highlighted discussions on the climate crisis.
- 4. Daniel Bertossa presented items relating to Congress: the resolutions, in particular the programme of action, statutory reforms, and resolutions. Concerning resolutions, he informed the meeting that 36 resolutions had been received from affiliates and that the deadline for sending final amendments to these resolutions was 13/06/23. On statutory reforms he noted that the changes were aimed at updating outdated information, making it more uniform and complete, and that this was being done in collaboration with the sub-regions, regions and the Women's Committee. Concerning the programme of action, all the areas and themes which make up the programme of action and which have been adjusted are intended to help our affiliates deal with impacts in their daily lives, by seeking a system which is more socially just, more inclusive and more democratic.

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PRESIDENT DAVE PRENTIS GENERAL SECRETARY ROSA PAVANELLI REGIONAL SECRETARY JOCELIO DRUMMOND

- 5. Marcelo Di Stefano reported on PSI's participation in the ILO's International Labour Conference, which he and others are currently attending. He underlined the negative impact of the presidency of the government of Qatar, which shows that financial power prevails over democratic and trade union values. He also informed the meeting that the Southern Cone sub-region supported the candidacy of Daniel Bertossa for PSI General Secretary and that of Rosa Pavanelli for President.
- 6. Margarita Lopez informed the meeting that the Andean sub-region supports the candidacy of Daniel Bertossa for PSI General Secretary and that of Rosa Pavanelli for President. She reported on the political difficulties in Colombia, with right-wing groups attacking the progressive government.
- 7. Luba Melo reported that the Brazil sub-region supports the candidacy of Daniel Bertossa for PSI General Secretary and that of Rosa Pavanelli for President. She reported on progress on gender equality and other policies in Brazil.
- 8. Geici Brig, Young Workers' Representative, emphasised that the process of drawing up the programme of action and resolutions for the World Congress was conducted democratically, and that young workers had contributed to this process. She highlighted the theme of digitisation and its importance for young people. She emphasised that the participation of young people in the PSI World Congress should not only be through project funding, but also through the funding of affiliates.
- 9. María de Lourdes Zea Rosales reported that the Central American sub-region supported the candidacy of Daniel Bertossa for PSI General Secretary and that of Rosa Pavanelli for President. Lourdes was also present at the ILC and supported Marcelo's report.
- 10. Angela Rifo, who was also present at the ILO ILC, recalled that Daniel's support was linked to Latin America's continued good work in PSI, and that this region must continue to receive all the support from PSI and retain the staff responsible for carrying out this good work, such as the Regional Secretary and at the sub-regional level.
- 11. Federico Dávila provided information on the organisation of environment and health issues in the region. He advocated for the creation of an intersectoral advisory committee, some of whose formats would be regional and sub-regional. He asked for the support of the whole region for Rosa Pavanelli and requested that this report include the continuation of the Inter-Americas Regional Secretary for the next period.
- 12. Carolina Espinoza reported on the resolutions of the Women's Committee meeting held on 06/06/23, the central themes of which were: Rebuilding the social organisation of care, the new digital agreement and public services, ILO Convention 190 on violence and harassment in the world of work, the programme of action and World Congress. The full report is available on the PSI website.

- 13. Christian Daigle reported on the tragedy of the series of fires occurring in Canada, linked to climate change and the lack of rainfall in the region, which is making everything drier and more prone to these disasters. This is the worst fire season ever recorded in Canada, with repercussions even in the United States.
- 14. The Canada and USA SUBRAC meeting for the year 2023 will be held in September and during this meeting the nominations for the positions of General Secretary and President of PSI will be discussed. Mark Hancock and Dave Kammerer pointed out that, as the affiliates of these two sub-regions had not yet been consulted, their representatives had not been able to commit to supporting candidates at this IAMREC.
- 15. On the World Executive Board the constitution is as follows: one full member for every 400,000 affiliated members in the region plus two vice-presidents. The Interamerican region currently has 1,632,675 affiliates, which entitles it to 4 representatives: 2 men and 2 women, plus the two vice-presidents: one man and one woman. In addition, there are 02 young worker members, also equally divided between men and women, making a total of 8 representatives. The sub-regions are represented as follows: Brazil (01), Southern Cone (01), Caribbean (01), Canada (01), USA (01), Central America and the Andes (01). Of these 06 representatives, 02 are co-presidents of IAMREC. At the next IAMREC meeting, the final list of these 06 names plus the 02 young people will be defined.
- 16. The next face-to-face IAMREC meeting will take place on October 13th in Geneva, prior to PSI World Congress. At this meeting, the list of the region's representatives on the World Executive Board will be finalised.
- 17. With regard to the IAMRECON to be held in 2024, the proposal was to hold it in October in Colombia, probably in Cartagena. Susana and Margarita presented the logistical aspects of organising the Conference in this city, which will give continuity to decisions taken at PSI World Congress, adapting what has been approved to the reality of the inter-American region. This conference will also define the new composition of IAMREC and Regional Committees.
- 18. SUBSTITUTION Cindy Rodriguez Sorto, from Honduras, is now a full member of IAMREC, young workers representative, replacing Claudia Denisse González Arias, from Chile, who has resigned for personal reasons.





