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The Danish Federation
for Employees in the
Public and Private
Service Sector (FOA)

In Ghana, FOA collaborate with the Health and Service Workers Union (HSWU) and the national Trade Union Centre Ghana. The focus is on getting eldercare on the national agenda as a prioritised public health service, while at the same time ensuring decent living conditions for the elderly as well as decent work conditions and professional education for public and private workers in the eldercare industry.

The LO/FTF Council and PSLINK have cooperated since 1997 on capacity building of the public sector unions in Philippines. In the beginning, PSLINK focused on working conditions, the quality and delivery of public services as well as the promotion of anti-corruption. Subsequently, PSLINK has focused on promoting social dialogue in the public sector. Partner organisations were main employers' organisations and trade unions within the public sectors in Philippines and Denmark including key stakeholders in planning and implementing public education and healthcare services.

Today, PSLINK has disseminated the concept of social dialogue within the public sector and recently paved the way for the Philippine government to ratify the ILO Convention 151 on social dialogue in the public sector.



Ulandssekretariatet
LO/FTF Council



THE ROLE OF THE PUBLIC SECTOR IN DEVELOPING A SUSTAINABLE LABOUR MARKET

The public sector defines framework conditions that accommodates the private sector and its ability to generate economic sustainable growth and quality jobs. It thus plays a central role in setting and regulating framework conditions such as social, economic and physical infrastructure to provide quality public services.

Public sector investments into quality public services are long-term investments in children, health, and education and thereby the future labour market. Through this, and from a development perspective, the public sector affects job creation, a qualified labour force and a sustainable and inclusive economic growth with redistributive mechanisms – particularly in fragile and less developed countries.

Growth and employment, in their own rights, are not enough and may contribute to greater inequality, social unrest, indecent working conditions, informalisation, environmental problems etc. if not properly regulated by the state and an effective public sector. The Sustainable Development Goals cannot be reached without (private and) public sector investments to ensure access to quality social security, education, health and well-functioning justice systems for individual citizens.

Public sector unions play a key role in promoting the need for qualified and professional public employees with labour rights and decent working conditions, and demonstrate how they contribute to good governance, access to quality education and health, effective financial and legislative institutions as well as a regulated and stable labour market.

We therefore invite you to join us in strategically re-thinking the future roles of the public sector and framework conditions in light of recent years of structural adjustments, privatization and downsizing of the public sector in developing countries. Today, a particular focus will be on the education and health sectors in Ghana, Kenya and Philippines.

THE PARTICIPANTS/SPEAKERS ARE:



Mr. Idris Ibrahim
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Danish Union of Early Childhood Teachers and Youth Educators (BUPL)

In East Africa, BUPL collaborates with the Kenyan National Union of Teachers (KNUT) on early-childhood education (ECE) in Kenya.

Focus is on leadership education to implement early-childhood education, professional development, labour rights and facilitating the exchange of experience through Educational International (EI) network in Africa. BUPL also works with teachers' unions in Rwanda and Tanzania on similar strategies.

Danish Teachers Union (DLF) has – through the LO/FTF Council – collaborated for many years with the Kenya National Union of Teachers (KNUT) to educate union leaders and school representatives to secure public quality education and decent working conditions for primary and secondary school teachers in the public education sectors in Kenya, as well as in the EAC region. After a satisfactory collaboration in Kenya, the collaboration with KNUT continues through the regional Federation of East African Teachers Union (FEATU).

